IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Georgetown's Center for Education and Workforce reports that by this year, 63% of all U.S. jobs will require education beyond high school. Yet, nearly half of the U.S. workforce—about 88 million adults aged 18 to 64—has only a high school education or less, and/or low English proficiency. Adult education helps to close this gap and provide workers with the skills needed for the jobs of today and tomorrow, an important Educate & Elevate campaign message that resonated across the country with policy makers.

For the past 14 years, the ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada brought together more than 5,500 adult learners living in northern Nevada to educate in English language skills for an investment in America’s future. Our adult education programs not only teach these individuals the foundations of reading, math, and English, they also equip learners with college and career readiness skills that lead to employment or the transition to postsecondary education.

"Adult education is a critical component to making sure America has the skilled workforce needed to compete," said our Executive Director. "Surveys indicate that more than 90 percent of American businesses do not believe workers have the right skills; we have to ensure that all workers are ready to help employers compete."

We want to congratulate our New U.S. citizens:

- Beatriz Rosales (Douglas)
- Rossana Espinoza (Washoe)
- Ruth Noguera (Washoe)
- Ademar Saucedo (Washoe)
- Paulina Cibrian (Carson)
- Maria Macias (Carson)
- Claudia Cano (Washoe)
**ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY!!!!!!**

You should know about the latest with my Syrian refugee Marwa Zarour's online class to earn her pharmacy tech certification. Four months ago, Marwa contacted TMCC to see if they were going to have a pharmacy tech certification course this summer—they told her that they didn't know for sure but would contact her if one developed. Well, one did, and, of course, they didn't contact her; so she went ahead and signed up for an online course that was funded by JOIN. I have been assisting her with ESL tutoring to get through the tough translations for the past three months, but even though she is an advanced English learner, we have both had issues with the mechanics of translation and getting her homework and quizzes downloaded, and it has slowed us down considerably, enough so that she was concerned if she would be able to complete the course within the year timeline.

Then Marwa found out only last week through a friend that a pharmacy tech class IS being offered at TMCC and was starting on JUNE 11, plus she’s going to be taught by a person who speaks Arabic—what wonders! Not only would she be able to get her certification in only four months (vs. a year for the online course), but she would have live classes with an Arabic-speaking teacher and the possibility of a study group. She was upset that she had already committed to the online course, but I told her that I would go with her to the JOIN office and see if they would let her drop the online course, but I told her that I would go with her to the JOIN office and see if they would let her drop the online class and get a partial refund to transfer to TMCC. Glory be, but they agreed and approved the TMCC funding ($1500+), and she started class this past Monday—yay!!!

I am a persevering and tenacious Taurus (let’s not use the word stubborn-- 😊), and it makes me soooo happy when things work out. I will continue to tutor her when necessary, but I think this is going to be a MUCH better situation for her.

Cheers, Reno Tutor, Pat P.

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**Reno Tutor: Helen’s Success Story!!!!**

After I retired, I wanted to find a volunteer position in adult literacy. I contacted several organizations that I thought might be suitable, but none returned my calls. Shortly after, at one of my book club meetings, a member spoke up about her happy experiences with the ESL In-Home Program. I knew right away that it would be right for me.

In April, 2005, I met my first students, Maribel and Maricruz. They already knew each other from attending an ESL class at TMCC. I thought, "If they had done that and still come back for more, they were pretty serious about learning English." Over time a few more students dropped in and out, but M & M are still with me.

From the beginning, they were not bashful about trying to speak English and they had a pretty large vocabulary. Having had some Spanish in school, I was able to understand and explain some of the grammatical differences in the two languages they struggled with. Both working mothers, they are determined to be able to communicate with their children's teachers and medical and social service personnel not to mention employers, without expensive interpreters.

Through these women, I have come to appreciate the day-to-day difficulties they face in making a life in a new land. I have met their families. The women tell me sad stories and some happy ones, too. Every week, we have some good laughs. I look forward to each class because I never know what is going to come up. I was surprised at how much I enjoy the process of teaching. I think, also, that it has been beneficial for someone my age (76) to have to be at my best for two hours every week.

So that's my story. I hope you, too, will experience some of this joy in your volunteer roles.

Tutor, Helen W.
We want to share this story from one of our students from Yerington.

**Bridging the language gap**

Laura M. (right) has lived in Yerington for 15 years, but only in the past couple years has she begun to speak English semi-fluently. Laura, who is originally from Mexico, heard about the program from her husband, who works on a ranch owned by Theresa Snyder, one of Yerington’s three volunteer teachers. Laura spoke no English before she started taking classes through the program two years ago, and relied on her husband to speak for her. She said the language skills she’s learned through the program have helped her communicate with her children’s teachers and at her job as a house cleaner. (Left: Yerington Tutor Theresa S.) *Amy Alonzo, Mason Valley News*

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**Featuring new tutors:**
- Patricia St. George
- Courtney Hutchins
- Stephen Sterling
- Angelica Solano
- James Strange
- Lynn Johnson
- Margaret Repko (welcome back)
- John Lujan (welcome back)
- LDS Elders: Norman Flores, Robert Kunnz, Jackson Armstrong and Zachary Bell
- Elena and Samaria Brugger
- Mark Glenn (welcome back)

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**
TO OUR JULY AND AUGUST VOLUNTEERS:

- Kate Tangren
- Mary White
- Pat Smith
- Kathie Toigo
- Janet Flynn
- Helen Wood
- Cheryl Hawkins
- Joane Sandefier
- Ruth Orozco
- Martha Feliz
- Paige Ernst
- Elder Norman Flores
- Paul Corrado

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**ESL Program Updates**

Supporters, members, advocates, and friends: Thank you for helping us start out strong this summer. Your devotion to changing lives through literacy helps us continue to make a real and lasting impact for adult learners and our shared communities. We kicked this summer off with online programs, citizenship fund account, and a successful volunteer tutor recruitment and fundraising campaigns.

**ONLINE LEARNING:** We are excited to be launching a new program – online courses through Skype to help adults improve their literacy skills, obtain their high school equivalency diploma, and acquire workforce training. This will provide students the flexibility to learn and prepare at their own pace – they can utilize it from anywhere in the world and at any time our tutors are available. With the help of a tutor, adults will have the opportunity to learn basic literacy so they can pursue other educational goals for the first time in their lives, including learning English, passing the citizenship exam, and getting a better job. The program’s personalized components, helpful courses, educational games, and micro learning capabilities, will provide a more engaging, efficient, and effective approach to learning. Students will be able to work on their own, or with their tutors.

Our literacy program focuses on educating parents about the importance of early literacy, technology, and involvement in their family’s education. The project includes tutoring parents of ESL school children after dropping off their children at school and staying for a lesson, or coming earlier than their children need to be picked up for a lesson.

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**STUDENTS HELPING STUDENTS WITH LITERACY:**

FROM ESL Students who became ESL Volunteer Tutors:

Making a Lasting Impact on an Adult Learner’s Future:

1) “Watching another person grow is incredibly rewarding. I really enjoy working with people who want to change their life. Volunteering has taught me the immense satisfaction of giving your time and seeing a result.” Angelica (Fernley)

2) A MOST REWARDING EXPERIENCE: Ana T. (Carson) started as a student in the ESL In-Home Program of northern Nevada needing help developing her English language skills. Ana has 2 children: Vanessa who is now a UNR sophomore, and her son Tony a sophomore in High School. She received a computer degree from Mexico. Ana is tutoring computer programs, teaching Spanish classes to our ESL tutors, started working in the office as a clerk and now is Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director.
Community Volunteers are the heart and soul of northern Nevada. We wouldn’t be able to provide our services without their dedication and enthusiasm. You don’t have to be a teacher or have a background in literacy or have knowledge of a foreign language to be a ESL tutor. Our staff will provide you with all the training and support that you’ll need.

Please consider volunteering in one of the following ways:

1. **Tutors** – You will work one-on-one with an adult who is struggling to speak, read, and write English, helping them to identify and reach real life goals such as obtaining a GED, applying for a job, or reading with their child. 1-1 tutors meet one hour sessions twice weekly with their learner and ask that you make a minimum of a 3-month commitment.

2. **English Conversation** – You will provide support to adults by having practice classes in English conversation. Most of our foreign learners lack the self-confidence to speak English in public places; thinking they need to speak perfect English. They need the practice to give them self-esteem they need. This opportunity has a more flexible time commitment.

3. **GED Preparation** – The class is goal-oriented for those determined to find a job. Volunteers in this class help mainly with math.

4. **U.S. Citizenship Class** – You will be trained in how to help legal immigrants obtain citizenship.

5. **Event/Workshop Volunteer** – Assist our staff with fun events to recruit tutors for our wait-list of adults who are eager to learn English language skills.

To serve as a volunteer we ask that you meet the following requirements:

1. Be at least 18 years of age
2. Have good verbal communication skills
3. Agree to a background check
4. Attend an hour’s Volunteer Orientation & Training Workshop
5. Have cultural sensitivity to people of diverse backgrounds.

**Orientation & Training Calendar 2018 Tutor Training**

**Dates:** Any day/time/location you prefer according to your schedule.

Before taking this training you must go through an hour-long orientation at your convenience. This training is for anyone interested in volunteering to make a difference in someone’s life by helping with basic English. During this training you will learn about all of our different programs, how to teach English as a second language, how to tutor adults, as well as different strategies, tips, and tricks.

Please RSVP at: eslinhomennv@gmail.com and/or sign up for an orientation by contacting us at 775-888-2021.

Volunteers, like current Lyon County Tutor, Judy, really get to know the learners and are witnesses as the learning and transitions unfold. Here is a Q&A interview with her:

Q: What inspired you to volunteer with an adult literacy program?

A: I took literacy for granted. When I found out how many adults struggle with functional literacy, I was both humbled and motivated to make a change.

Q: What is your favorite part about volunteering?

A: My favorite part about volunteering is being able to see the progress in my learner and knowing that his progress in literacy translates into confidence and well-being in so many other aspects of his life.

Q: Is there anything you have learned from the students and would like to share?

A: Yes. I’ve learned that volunteering one-to-two hours a week can make a vast difference in someone else's life and in my own. I've also learned that it's never too late to try learning something new.

Q: If you could send a message to all adult learners, what would it be?

A: Asking for help in learning to read, or improving the literacy skills that you already have, is such a brave thing to do. Working and trying to better yourself through education, despite the obstacles and frustrations, is such an admirable goal. I hope you’re proud of the effort and progress that you’re making. It's not an easy thing to do.

Q: If you could share your experiences as a volunteer with other volunteers, what would you tell them?

A: Tutoring an adult learner has taught me a lot about communication. If someone isn't understanding you, don't just repeat the same question or sentence. Rephrase your ideas. Communication is so much about how our minds see and hear things. Challenge yourself to see and hear things in ways you don't normally see and hear them. It will help you teach a greater diversity of learners, and you might learn something about yourself and your ways of thinking and learning in the process.

Q: Is there anything else that you would like to share about your experience as an adult literacy volunteer?

A: I'm just really glad to be helping another person learn. Learning is one of my favorite things to do, and I'm so glad I can help someone else experience the magic of unlocking knowledge too.

Thanks so much for your interest in learning more about our program and for your support of our literacy efforts in Northern Nevada.
**From the Executive Director**

WE CAN’T HELP EVERYONE, BUT EVERYONE CAN HELP SOMEONE. (Ronald Reagan)

We have a lot of “someones” waiting for your help! The *Volunteering and Civic Life in America* report ranks Nevada 48th in the nation by volunteer rate. We have the power to change Nevada's volunteer story. Please *Take it Personally.*

**Mission Statement:** ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada, a nonprofit volunteer educational organization, provides free adult educational programs that empower people, especially those of low-to-moderate income, to become more productive members of their local communities by providing them with the language and cultural skills necessary for life in America.

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**STATISTICAL UPDATE**

Current Tutors……. 155  
Current Students… 266  
U.S. Citizens……… 296

Potential Students Waiting for a tutor:  
Carson…………. 349  
Douglas………… 20  
Lyon…………….. 73  
Churchill……….. 18  
Washoe………….418

Total Students Waiting all Counties: **878**

ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP ONE OF THESE ADULTS WHO IS EAGER TO LEARN ENGLISH?  
CALL 775-888-2021 or EMAIL:  
eslinhomennv@gmail.com

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**If you would like to be taken off our mailing list please Email us at:**

eslinhomennv@gmail.com  
with “Remove”, and your name and city in the Subject box.

**TUTORS:** Invite your friends to become an ESL volunteer tutor! Tell them why you enjoy the experience. Invite them to learn more about our program on our website:  
www.eslinhome.org.

It is not necessary for tutors to know a foreign language nor have prior teaching experience. We train at no cost……one hour on your preferred day/time/location.

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Our Mailing Address:  
1894 E. William St. #4-125  
Carson City, NV 89701  
775-888-2021  
eslinhomennv@gmail.com

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Please consider a **tax-deductible donation** to the ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada to help purchase books and train new tutors for non-English speaking adults on our wait-list who are eager to learn English language skills.  
Go to:  
www.eslinhome.org/donations

WE NEED YOUR HELP.....EVEN $5.00 FOR OUR ESL CITIZENSHIP FUND BANK ACCOUNT TO HELP A STUDENT WITH THE CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION FEES (USCIS COST: $725)