



Nebraska Workforce Development Board Meeting

June 9, 2023, 9:00a – 12:00p Administrative Services Building Nebraska Public Media (Formerly NET) Building 1800 N 33rd Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68503

Agenda

1.	Call to Order	Mark Moravec
2.	Roll Call	Nicole Schaefer
3.	Notice of Publication	Nicole Schaefer
4.	Approval of Minutes ¹	Mark Moravec
5.	New Business	
	a. Catholic Social Services	John Soukup
	b. Lutheran Family Services	Nizar Rasho
	c. Lincoln Literacy	Bryan Seck
	d. Nebraska Workforce Development Excellence Award Presentation	Mark Moravec
6.	Member Updates	Board Members
7.	Next Meeting – Date, Time, and Location	Mark Moravec
8.	Public Comment	Mark Moravec
9.	Adjournment ¹	Mark Moravec

¹ Requires a motion and roll call vote





Nebraska Workforce Development Board

Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2023, 9a – 12p
Nebraska Public Media Building
1800 N 33rd Street
Lincoln, NE 68503

Agenda item 1. Call to Order

Chair Mark Moravec called to order the meeting of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board (the Board) on March 10, 2023 at approximately 9a at the Nebraska Public Media Building, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Before taking up the business of the Board, Chair Moravec welcomed members of the public and encouraged the public to sign in at the registration table; indicating, however, that members of the public are not required to sign in. In addition, Chair Moravec stated that members of the public would have an opportunity to comment on agenda items requiring formal action by the Board. Chair Moravec also stated that members of the public would also have an opportunity to comment at the end of this meeting. In both cases, individuals are permitted five minutes to speak during the public comment period to allow all who wish to comment time to do so. Chair Moravec also indicated that members of the public may submit written comments, which would be made part of the permanent record for this meeting.

Agenda item 2. Roll Call

Chair Moravec asked Nicole Schaefer to call the role for purposes of establishing quorum (minimum of 14 out of 24 Governor-appointed Board Members). Nicole called roll and advised Chair Moravec that quorum was established.

Members in Attendance

- 1. Brian Deakin
- 2. Gary Dixon, Jr.
- 3. Lindy Foley
- 4. Michael Geary
- 5. Jim Hansen
- 6. James Hanson, Jr.
- 7. Cindy Johnson
- 8. Tate Lauer
- 9. Mark Moravec
- 10. Don Nordell
- 11. Terri Ridder
- 12. Becky Stitt
- 13. Paul Turman
- 14. Lisa Wilson

Members Absent

- 15. John Albin
- 16. Kyle Arganbright
- 17. Elizabeth Babcock
- 18. Anthony Goins
- 19. Senator Ben Hansen
- 20. Susan Martin
- 21. Kyle Nixon
- 22. Governor Jim Pillen
- 23. Bradley Schroeder
- 24. Jennifer Sedlacek
- 25. Dannette Smith
- 26. Jim Smith
- 27. Courtney Wittstruck

Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) Administrative Staff in attendance

- 1. Derek Ahrens, State Monitoring Unit Supervisor, Division of Reemployment Services
- 2. Erick Carrillo, Program Analyst, Division of Reemployment Services
- 3. Jana Dye, Administrator, Division of Reemployment Services
- 4. Lucas Miller, Program Coordinator, Division of Reemployment Services
- 5. John O'Keefe, Director, Division of Reemployment Services
- 6. Ashley Pick, Administrator, Division of Reemployment Services
- 7. Nicole Schaefer, Administrative Programs Officer, Division of Reemployment Services

Agenda item 3. Notice of Publication

Nicole Schaefer announced that the Notice of Public Meeting was duly published, in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, in the Beatrice Daily Sun, Columbus Telegram, Grand Island Independent, Hastings Tribune, Kearney Hub, Lincoln Journal Star, Norfolk Daily News, North Platte Telegraph, Omaha World-Herald, and Scottsbluff Star-Herald. Nicole also announced that notice of the meeting was posted on the State of Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar.

Agenda item 4. Approval of Minutes

Chair Moravec called the next order of business, which was the approval of the draft meeting minutes from the September 16, 2022 meeting of the Board. The draft minutes from the September meeting were emailed to Board Members on March 9, 2023. The meeting minutes were also included in Board Member meeting packets as Handout 1.

Chair Moravec opened the floor to Board Members for discussion on the draft minutes. Board Members had no comments on the draft minutes. Chair Moravec opened the floor for public comment on the draft minutes. No public comments were made.

Michael Geary motioned to approve the June minutes as provided, and Brian Deaken seconded the motion. Members of the Board in attendance voted on the motion by roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda item 5. Old Business

a. 2022 Modification of the 2020 – 2023 Combined State Plan

John O'Keefe provided a short update to the board on Federal approval of the 2022 modification of Nebraska's Combined State Plan. His presentation was included in the meeting packets as Handout 2.

b. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services - ARPA Projects

Rick Gray, the Executive Strategic Advisor for the Office of the Chief Executive Officer of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services presented on ARPA projects implemented by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. His presentation was included as Handout 3.

a. Institute for Career Advancement Needs

Aileen Warren, President and CEO of the Institute for Career Advancement Needs presented on developing inspired, authentic leaders who transform companies and communities. Her presentation was provided as Handout 4.

b. State Level Monitoring and Oversight

Derek Ahrens, State Monitoring Unit Supervisor with the Nebraska Department of Labor Reemployment Services Division presented on the state's monitoring and oversight activities. His presentation was included as Handout 5.

c. Program Year 2021 - Annual Performance Report

d. Program Year 2022 - Upcoming Local Area Activities

John O'Keefe, Reemployment Services Director, presented an overview of the Annual Performance Report Narrative for Program Year 2021, as well as updated the board about upcoming local area compliance activities related to certification of American Job Centers and submission of 2023 modifications of regional and local area plans. His presentations were included as Handout 6 and Handout 7.

e. Subcommittee Reports

James Hanson, Jr, Chair of the Policy and Oversight Committee and Michael Geary, Chair of the Strategy and Innovation Subcommittee gave brief updates on Subcommittee activity progress.

f. Subcommittee Appointments

Chair Moravec presented the board with lists of who was assigned to which subcommittees, which was also provided to the board members as Handout 8.

Agenda item 7. Member Updates

Chair Moravec asked Members of the Board for updates on their respective industries or organizations and local workforce development area activities for the Members who also serve on local workforce development boards. Members of the Board provided updates as requested.

Agenda item 8. Next Meeting – Date and Time

Chair Moravec reminded the Board that the next meeting of the Board is scheduled for June 9, 2023 from 9a to 12p, at the Nebraska Public Media Building, 1800 N 33rd Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. If the date, time or location of the meeting changes, Chair Moravec advised the Board that Members would be notified by email.

Agenda item 9. Public Comment

Chair Moravec opened the floor for public comment. Public comments were not made.

Agenda item 10. Adjournment

Chair Moravec asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board. Jim Hansen motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Lisa Wilson seconded the motion. Members of the Board in attendance voted on the motion by roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11a.





Nadia Peterchuk Refugee Case Manager

John Soukup

Development Officer





Community Services, Refugees and Immigrants



Refugees Resettlement Overview



Who is a Refugee?

A refugee is someone who has fled from his or her home country and cannot return because he or she has a well-founded fear of persecution based on religion, race, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.







*Refugee Convention, 1951 *Refugee protocol, 1967



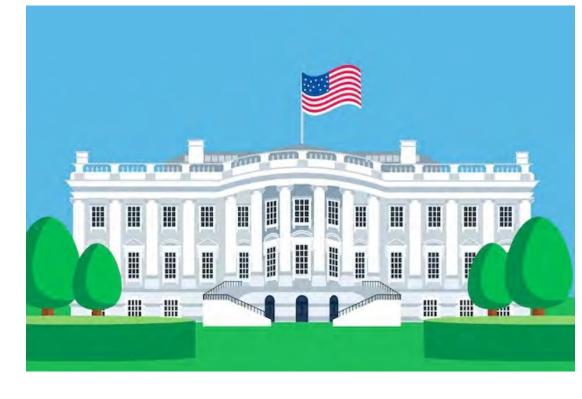
1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol

- ★Legal protections: a refugee should not be returned to the country they face prosecution
- ★The Convention defines a refugee's obligations to host governments
- ★Outlines basic standards for treatments of refugees: right to work, to education, housing, etc.
- ★Universally applied to refugees all over the world



Refugee Act, 1980

- ★Aligned US definition with international
- ★Standardized resettlement services for refugees



- ★Mandated the establishment of annual refugee admission ceilings (Presidential Determination)
- *Required annual consultations between Congress & administration.



SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA



UNHCR Identification and Referral



RSC Africa Interviews





Medical Examinations



Denial



Cultural Orientation









Travel to the United States

Pre sidential Determination



Each fiscal year, US President releases a Presidential Determination which determines the processing priorities, designated nationalities and arrival ceilings for the USRAP (US refugee admission program).



FY 2023 Regional USRAP Ceilings

In FY 2023, President Biden set the refugee admissions target to

125,000.





Presidential Determination by fiscal year

Year	Presidential Determination USA	CWS arrivals to Lincoln, NE
FY 2016	85,000	367
FY 2017	110,000	386
FY 2018	45,000	70
FY 2019	30,000	68
FY 2020	18,000	38
FY 2021	16,000	8
FY 2022	125,000	Link 149 (+Lexington 3)
FY 2023	125,000	Link 125 (+Lexington 28)



UHP

Afghan Placement and Assistance

Lincoln 283, Lexington 48



Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees (UHP);
Private sponsorship

979 number of applications submitted to USCIS.
Denied(less than 4%).





EFS programs overview



Who we serve?

- > Refugees: Approved through USCIS
- > Asylum seeker/ Asylum granted
- **≻** Cuban/Haitian entrants
- ➤ Special Immigrant Visa (SIV)
- >APA (Afghan Placement and Assistance)
- > UHPs (Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees)
- > Victim of Human Trafficking



Resettlement and Case Management (R&P)

Economic Empowerment and Education

Immigration Legal Services

Global Language Solutions

Refugee Health Promotion



Resettlement and Case Management

Economic Empowerment and Education

Immigration Legal Services

Global Language Solutions

Refugee Health Promotion



Resettlement & Case Management

1. Reception and Placement (R&P)

1. Preferred Communities (PC)

1. PC Gap (UHP)



1.Reception & Placement (R&P)

90 days of resettlement services:

- Home visit (24 hours, 30 days)
- Intake (5 days)
- Change of address AR- 11 (10 days)
- Social security (7 days)
- Housing (30 days)
- Identification Documents (90 days)
- Medical (30 days)
- State Benefits (7 days)
- School Enrollments (30 days)
- Employment and ESLReferrals (10 days)
- Cultural Orientation (90 days)
- Family reunification (90 days)





2. Preferred Communities (PC)

Prim ary Vulnerable Population:

- Minors (Under 18)
- Young adults without parents
- Single-parent households
- Elderly refugees
- LGBT refugees
- Refugees with social/Psychological conditions
- Substance Abusers
- Disabled or ill
- Secondary migrants
- Survivor of Torture
- Gender-based violence





3.PC GAP (UHP)



As sists eligible Ukrainian residents and their non-Ukrainian immediate family members within 90 days of services.

Services include, but not limited to:

- 1- Case management services
- 2- Mental Health (if needed).
- 3- Housing assistance.
- 4- Medicalassistance.
- 5 Financial assistance
- 6- Schoolenrollments.

On the case closure, If UHP client is not self-sufficed yet he/she will be referred to PC ICM (Preferred Communities Intensive Case Management) for further assistance.



Resettlement and Case Management (R&P)

Economic Empowerment and Education

Immigration Legal Services

Global Language Solutions Refugee Health Promotion



Economic
Empowerment
& Education

- 1. Matching Grant
- 2. Refugee Employment and Education Services
- 3. Career Ladder



Economic Empowerment



Provides and supports to achieve selfsufficiency and identify possible career opportunities.

- Job readiness class
- skills training
- prepare to enter the workforce
- connect to education or training opportunities
- refer to ESL
- help to enroll in vocational program or community college
- support to progress towards their longterm career prospects.



Economic Empowerment



States can provide services to refugees who have been in the country up to 60 months (5 years), except for referral and interpreter services and citizenship and naturalization preparation services, for which there is no time limitation.



1. Matching Grant

Federal program, helps ORR-eligible populations overcome barriers and quickly find jobs. The intent is for refugees to become economically self-sufficient through employment within **240 days** and without accessing cash assistance.

Program provides:

- Case Management
- Employment Skills training
- Family budget planning
- Job placement
- Job Readiness

Also help with

- Housing, utilities, and food
- Transportation
- Health and Medical
- English language training
- Social adjustment and other services

Available for new arrivals only (refugees) to be enrolled with 30 days of arrival.

Parolees; 90 day of arrival as eligible.



2. Refugee Employment & Education Services

- Intake assessment
- Goal setting and personalized service plan
- Survival Job/Transitional Job
- Career Counselor for higher skilled refugees
- Vocational training and skills recertification
- Training and job development
- Transportation/Bus passes
- Post hire follow up & on-going support
- 90 days check job retention

- Survival Job / Transitional Job
- Assistance with childcare
- Upgrade job
- Career pathways
- Job Development
- Job application
- Interview coaching
- On-going support through6 months and one-year FSSP





3.Career Ladder

Career Ladder connects skilled im m igrant and refugee professionals in Nebraska to career pathways, digital resources, and a professional network while fostering economic opportunity and restoring dignity through work. Case managers at partner agencies are ready to support you in utilizing your work experience and education in fields including nursing, law, accounting, education, and engineering. Services include case management, referrals, guidance about credential evaluation and state licensing processes.

Website: Careerladderne.org

Referral: https://airtable.com/shr0gMDBVuD3o43iM





Resettlement and Case Management (R&P)

Economic Empowerment and Education

Immigration Legal Services

Global Language Solutions

Refugee Health Promotion



Immigration Legal Services

Low cost or free im m igration legal services

- As ylum application
- Citizenship
- EAD
- Legal Permanent Status
- Citizenship
- Removal proceedings
- Family reunification cases
- Consular process



Resettlement and Case Management (R&P)

Economic Empowerment and Education

Immigration Legal Services

Global Languages
Solutions (GLS)

Refugee Health Promotion



Global Languages Solutions

Free, in-person or remote interpretation & translation, offered in a variety of languages and dialects, focusing on the most commonly spoken a mong Nebraska's new populations

- Am ha ric
- Arabic
- Burmese
- Da ri
- Din ka
- Farsi
- French

- Ka re n
- Karenni
- Kikongo
- Kinyarwanda
- Kirundi
- Lingala
- Luganda
- Nepali

- Nepali
- Nuer
- Pashto
- Somali
- Spanish
- Ura n ia n
- Swahili



LFS programs

Resettlement and Case Management (R&P)

Economic Empowerment and Education

Immigration Legal Services

Global Languages
Solutions (GLS)

Refugee Health Promotion



IFS programs

Refugee
Health
Promotion

- Men and Women wellness groups
- Connect refugees to peer support
- Identify refugee specific health needs
- Provide orientation workshops & sem in a rs
- Train refugee health navigators
- Afghan community events
- Cultural Adjustment & Emotional Wellness course
- Home visiting social support



Employer Partnership & Outreach

Contact with Business Services and Outreach Coordinator

Omaha, Council Bluffs, and Eastern Nebraska: Carol Tucker (402) 201-3958 carol.tucker@onelfs.org

Lincoln & Greater Nebraska: Ele n a Toftul (402) 510 - 8789 <u>elena.toftul@onelfs.org</u>

Refugee Economic Empowerment Program Statewide Director Niza r Rasho (402) 598 - 4135

nizar.rasho@onelfs.org

- Establish partnerships
- Site tours
- Job fairs
- Addressing job retention challenges
- Upward mobility opportunities





Global Roots Program Omaha

• Gain access to urban farm land

- Grow cultural crops and receive ongoing technical farming support
- Provides farmers with technical support to maintain the farm's utilities and infrastructures.
- Access to culturally relevant foods
- 2022 season served 70 families, 3 farms sites

Individual Development Account Omaha

- Sa vings are matched 1:1 up to \$2,000 (individuals) or \$4,000 (for families).
- Home ownership
- Rental Assistance
- Business capitalization
- Vehicles for educational or work purposes (Justification needed)
- Professional certification









https://forms.office.com/r/9U7TcHyxnY





Lutheran Family Services English
Language Learning Referral Form

https://forms.office.com/r/9U7TcHyxnY





Employer Needs Assessment



https://forms.office.com/r/jzmcs0m4VN

LFS Resettlement Services Organization

Matt Martin

AVP, Community Services, Refugee & Immigrant programs

matthew.martin@onelfs.org 402.850.4543

Niza r Ra sho

Director, Economic Empowerment & Education

nizar .rasho@onelfs.org 402.598.4135 Ma do Juare z

Director, Resettlement Services

mado.juarez@onelfs.org 402.213.0421 Bashar Karim

Director of Immigration Legal Services

bashar.karim@onelfs.org 402.968.8395 Deb Kuklish

Director, Integrated Nursing Services • Health & Wellness

deb.kuklish@onelfs.org 402.506.9322





Our Mission:

Delivering Client centered
Services and building
collaborative partnerships that
cultivate opportunities for all
people to flourish

Thank you for your time

Questions?



The World on Our Doorstep



Bryan Seck, Executive Director



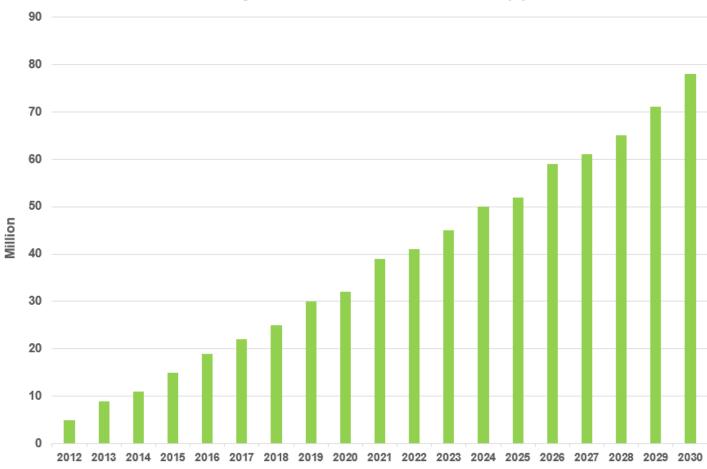


L NCOLN L TERACY

Students and Population

- Lincoln is 9% foreign-born
- Lincoln Literacy served a record
 1,109 adults & 296 children in 2022
- Students are from 48 countries with Latino and Asian the highest percentage ethnicity

Baby Boomers Over 65: 2012 - 2030(e)



Source: Mauldin Economics @ 2017

V elcoming America, a national grassroots immigration group, has named Lincoln one of the Top 10 most Welcoming Cities in America.

- Between 2014 and 2019, the County's population increased by 6.5%, while the immigrant population grew by 16.2%, meaning over 18% of the total population growth was attributable to immigrants.
- In 2019 alone, immigrants in the region held \$455.7 million in spending power and paid \$89.2 million in federal taxes and \$60.1 million in state and local taxes.
- Despite making up 8.2% of the area's overall population in 2019, immigrants represented 11.7% of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) workers; 21.1% of manufacturing workers; 11.8% of hospitality workers; 11.7% of education workers; 9.9% of essential food service workers; 9.3% of essential construction workers; and 8.2% of essential healthcare workers.
- As of 2019, immigrants are 29.7% more likely to be of working age than those born in the U.S., helping Lancaster County to meet its labor force demands.
- In 2019, immigrant households contributed \$70.4 million to Social Security and \$17.2 million to Medicare.
- Immigrants helped preserve or create 1,200 local manufacturing jobs that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere by 2019.



Our Mission:

To strengthen our community by teaching the English language and a variety of literacy skills to people of all cultures.

We Are **Not** an Academy or School.



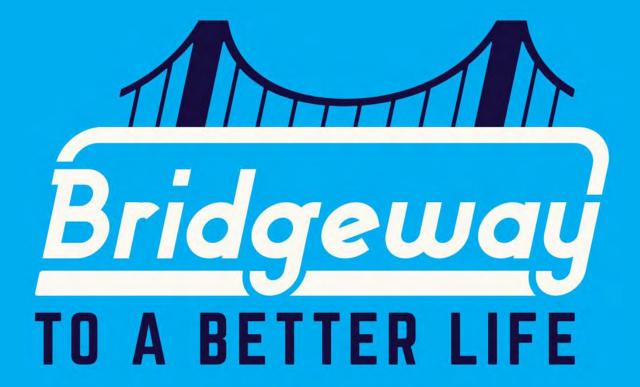
We Are a Community of Learning and Caring.

Sunday Start date 1/10	Monday Start date 1/4	Tuesday Start date 1/5	Wednesday Start date 1/6	Thursday Start date 1/7	Friday Start date 1/8	Saturday Start date 1/9
2:00-3:00pm Citizenship Jaafar 4:00-5:00pm Eng Convo. Group Jennifer	9:30-11:00am CNA/Med Aide Prep I-1 timings vary 10:00-11:00am English Convo Group Jennifer 11:00-12:00pm High Beginner Elena 12:00-1:00pm Computer Literacy Summayia 12:00-1:00pm FLAIR(Age 2-5) Erica 4:30-5:30pm High Beginner FLAIR(Age 2-5) Erica	10:00-11:00am English Convo Group Jennifer 10:00:1100am Cltizenship Sandra 11:30-1:00pm Kurdish/English Jaafar 12:00-1:00pm Health Literacy Summayia 12:00-5:00pm ELL Intermediate Elena 4:00-5:00pm ELL Intermediate Elena 4:00-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 5+) Erica 4:30-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 5+) Erica	10:30-11:30am High Beginner Ngoc 11:00-12:00pm High Beginner Elena 12:00-1:00pm Computer Literacy Summayia 4:30-5:30pm High Beginner Ahmed 4:30-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 2-5) Erica	9;30-10:30am EL.I. Advanced Rik 10:30-11:30am English Convo Group Jennifer 11:30-1:00pm Kurdish/English Jaafar 12:00-1:00pm Health Literacy Summayia 12:00-1:00pm FLA1R(Age 2-5) Erica 4:00-5:30pm ELL Advanced Camille 4:30-5:30pm FLA1R(Age 5+1 Erica 4:30-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 5+1 Erica 4:30-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 5+1 Erica 4:30-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 5+1 Erica 4:30-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 5+1 FILE FILE 4:30-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 5+1 FILE FILE FILE 4:30-5:30pm FLAIR(Age 5+1 FILE FILE FILE FILE FILE FILE FILE FILE	9:30-10:30am Math vocab/Skill Sarah 11:00-12:00pm Reading/Writing Sarah 12:00-1:00pm FLAIR(Age 2-5) Erica 2:00-3:00pm Citizenship Jaafar	9:30-10:30am ELL Advanced Maria 10:30-11:30am ELL Intermediate Maria 11:00-12:90pm English Convo Group Jaafar 12:00-1:00pm ELL Beginner Azhar 2:00-3:00pm Family Life Caitlin/Azhar
	6:00-7:00pm ELL Beginner Rik 6:30-8:00pm GED Language Arts Stacey 7:00-8:00pm Spanish/English 2 Maria 7:30-8:30pm Ukrainlan/Engllish Elena	6:00-7:00pm Para Prep Shari 6:30-8:00pm GED Math Stacey 7:00-8:00pm Spanish/English 2 Maria 7:30-8:30pm ELL Intermediate Sandra 6:00-7:00pm ELL Advanced Ahmed 6:30-7:30pm French/English Erica 7:30-8:30pm Karen/English Shari	6:30-8:00pm GED Soc/Sci Stacey 7:00-8:00pm Vietnamse/English Family Life Caidin/Azhar 7:00-8:30pm Money & Me Elena	6:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm Reading/Writing Sarah 6:00-7:00pm Reading/Writing Sarah 6:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm French/English Erica G:00-7:30pm French/English G:00-7:30pm French/English G:00-7:00pm G:00-7:00pm French/English G:00-7:00pm French	6:00-7:00pm ELL Beginner Camille 7:00-8:00pm Spanish/English 1 Maria	5:00-6:00pm Vietnamese/English Ngoc

Not shown above: Employer-based classes, jail-based classes, Teacher Prep, 1-1 tutoring and Job mentoring. Class timings and days subject to change.

12/04/2020







Many English & Adult Skills Classes

Online or In-Person! Free!

- English classes at different levels
- English conversation practice classes
- English classes focused on job preparation
- Citizenship classes
- Preparation for the GED
- Reading and writing classes
- Introduction to the use of the computer
- Helping our children to learn
- Certified Nursing Assistant preparation classes
- Teacher assistant preparation classes (paraeducator)
- Commercial Driver's License (CDL) preparation classes



What Do We Achieve?

- Large numbers served (over 1,000/year)
- High satisfaction rates. (Above 90%)
- High rates of student progress. (Above 68%)
- High rates of student goal-achievement. (Above 80%)
- Large numbers of students attaining jobs. (25% 40%)
- Strong community support (Top 10 most years in G2LD)
- But most of all, we...

Lift families out of poverty and help them achieve their dreams.

Success Stories





WIOA Incumbent Worker Program





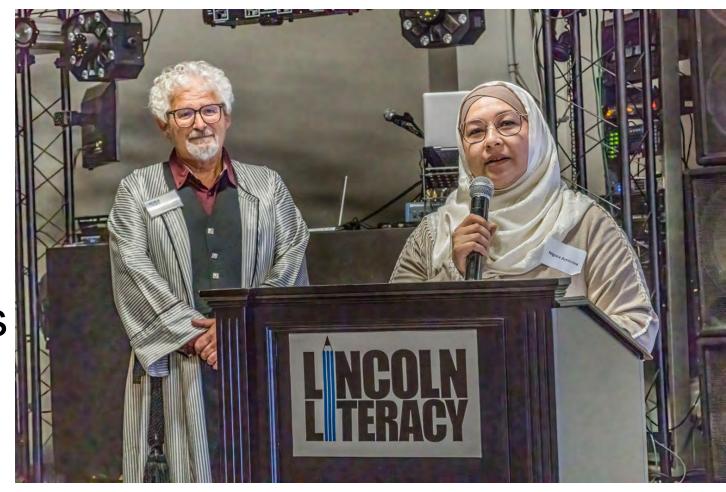








Helping
Our
Newest
Neighbors



...Will Help Us All





From all of us at ...

