



SDALL *Everlearning*

South Dakota Association for Lifelong Learning
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ASE?ABE
*Sinte Gleske
University*

The Adult Education program has been busy with the new college pathways incentive grant project. We are striving to help our students prepare for college, which will also give them a better idea of what to expect.

Supplemental learning materials are also being put together. This technique seems to hit all of the hard to reach areas. It targets the needs of all students, and they have responded well to these new materials.

In the eastern portion of our service area, our program has started to network with other agencies to identify new clientele in hopes of reaching more people.



GED
The Right Turn

This past August, The Right Turn implemented a managed enrollment system for our Adult Education and GED programs. This system runs on a 6-week session, with a session beginning every three weeks. Ideally, a new student will never have to wait more than 1-2 weeks before starting managed classes. While waiting, learners can pursue independent study in our computer lab Tuesday and Thursday nights to get a jump start on their course work.

The managed enrollment sessions have been working wonderfully. So far, 19 students have enrolled in the program with 15 of these studying for their GED. Only 4 students have dropped, usually due to family responsibilities and work commitments, and one student switched to our night classes.

We are grateful to Becki Lemke of the Huron CPC for sharing insights and tips from their experiences with managed enrollment.

Since we started managed enrollment on August 3rd, we have had 12 students take 36 GED tests with 1 student completing all 5 to obtain her GED. We hope this trend continues!



ESL

LSS Refugee and
Immigration Center

The past few months have been busy for the staff and students at the Refugee and Immigration Center (RIC).

- On Oct. 1-2, 2009 the RIC and Dakota TESL collaborated to present the Closer Connections Conference. SDALL was an additional sponsor for this conference which served 250 educators, social service providers and community leaders from North and South Dakota.
- Incentive Funds were utilized to hold an ESL Workplace Technology Class. Students learned how to attach documents to emails, open, close and save word documents and developed a resume for their future job searches.
- EL Civics Funds were utilized to hold an advanced level citizenship class with the final test being a mock citizenship interview which was video taped.

The RIC specializes in providing classroom based direct instruction for non-native English speakers. Students are offered English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at the beginning literacy, beginning, intermediate and advanced levels of English proficiency to improve their ability to communicate and promote self-sufficiency in the United States.

Most teachers are passionate about learning and helping their students to succeed. Our commitment to learning and helping our students often leads to a chronic case of ‘teacher burn-out’.

Before you can help a student, you have to take care of yourself. If you are feeling stressed and overwhelmed, you may want to look at the website www.teacherscount.org.

It has easy and positive steps you can take to cope with stress.

December can be a tough month for a lot of people, so be good to yourself!

Renee Peterson
SDALL, President



Guest Contribution