

For Immediate Release:
July 25, 2019

For More Information Contact:
Rachel French

Jesse White Awards Over \$5.6 Million in Adult Literacy Grants

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White awarded over \$5.6 million to the Adult Literacy Grant Program to help learners develop and enhance their reading, math, writing and English-language skills.

“An estimated 2.1 million Illinois residents need adult literacy and/or English-language instruction,” White said. “I am pleased to provide funding for 113 local literacy projects that will allow adult learners to achieve their utmost potential in the upcoming year. I will continue to do all I can to ensure that every citizen of this state has access to quality literacy programs.”

A total of 14,352 learners will be served by adult literacy programs around the state. A total of 6,086 volunteer tutors will provide training for learners putting them on the path to lifelong learning. Adult literacy projects help adults who read below the ninth-grade level or speak English at a beginning level to improve their reading, writing, math or use of English as a new language.

The Secretary of State’s Illinois State Library Literacy Office administers the Adult Literacy Grant Program that supports services in the following areas:

- **Adult Volunteer Literacy Project** — Provides training for volunteers who tutor individuals ages 17 and older in basic reading, math, writing or language skills. Participating literacy providers may include libraries, volunteer tutoring organizations, community-based organizations, community colleges, regional offices of education, schools (individual and public), preschool programs, school districts, domestic violence shelters and correctional facilities.
- **Penny Severns Family Literacy Project** — Provides educational services to parents and children to enhance basic reading, math, writing or language skills. Programs must partner with an adult literacy provider, a child-at-risk agency and a public library.
- **Workplace Skills Enhancement Project** — Provides on-site instructional services to employees of participating Illinois businesses, enabling them to enhance their basic reading, writing or language skills, and improve their chances for promotion. Eligible employees must read at or below the ninth-grade level. Grantees must match the grant award and provide instructional services to prospective employees. The fiscal agent and submitting agency may be either the educational partner or the business partner.

People interested in becoming volunteer tutors are encouraged to contact the Illinois Adult Learning Hotline at 800-321-9511.

(A list of grant recipients is enclosed.)

###

Secretary of State Literacy Program Awarded Grants

CITY	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE	GRANT TYPE	AMOUNT AWARDED
Arlington Heights	Township High School District 214	Read to Learn Adult Literacy/Volunteer Program (RTL) - A Certified Service Enterprise	Adult Volunteer	\$100,000
Arlington Heights	Township High School District 214	Family Literacy at the Women's & Children's Center (WCC) with the Arlington Heights Memorial Library (AHML)	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Arlington Heights	The Center	Illinois Adult Learning Hotline	Literacy	\$85,000
Aurora	Dominican Literacy Center	Dominican Literacy Center, Aurora	Adult Volunteer	\$47,760
Belleville	Southwestern Illinois College	Project READ Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$36,094
Bloomington	Regional Office of Education	STAR Adult Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$70,235
Blue Island	Corazon a Corazon	Corazon a Corazon ESL Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$25,000
Canton	Spoon River College	Spoon River College Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$54,000
Carol Stream	World Relief Refugee Services, DuPage	The World Relief Literacy Project	Adult Volunteer	\$100,000
Carol Stream	World Relief Refugee Services, DuPage	World Relief and AJR Filtration English Classes	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$20,000
Carterville	John A. Logan College	JALC AVL Makes a Difference	Adult Volunteer	\$30,000
Centralia	Kaskaskia College	The Reading Link	Adult Volunteer	\$66,272
Champaign	Parkland College	Project READ	Adult Volunteer	\$99,845
Champaign	Parkland College	Parent and Family Learning Lab	Family Literacy	\$35,517
Chester	Regional Office of Education	Monroe Randolph Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$29,850
Chester	Regional Office of Education	Monroe Randolph Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$37,415
Chicago	Aquinas Literacy Center	Aquinas Literacy Center	Adult Volunteer	\$45,000
Chicago	Chinese Mutual Aid Association	Chinese Mutual Aid Association Immigrant and Refugee Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$40,000
Chicago	The Learning Center/House of Connections	The Learning Center: Equip, Enrich, and Empower through Holistic Education	Adult Volunteer	\$45,230
Chicago	Poder Learning Center	Integrated English: An Immigrant Integration Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$60,000
Chicago	Literacy Volunteers of Illinois, Inc.	Jump Start at IYC St. Charles	Adult Volunteer	\$47,900
Chicago	Family Legacy Foundation	Learning for Life	Adult Volunteer	\$50,000
Chicago	D & H Literacy Center	Read To Dream	Adult Volunteer	\$25,570

Chicago	Heartland Human Care Services	Heartland Human Care Services Adult Volunteer Literacy Project	Adult Volunteer	\$70,000
Chicago	Howard Area Community Center	Adult Volunteer Literacy Program (AVLP)	Adult Volunteer	\$62,647
Chicago	Instituto del Progreso Latino	Latino Civics and Employment English Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$25,000
Chicago	Jane Addams Resource Corporation	Adult Learners Programs and Services (ALPS)	Adult Volunteer	\$53,457
Chicago	Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center	Anixter Center's Jack Ehrlich Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$44,260
Chicago	Centro Romero	Teaching Literacy, Building Hope	Adult Volunteer	\$76,936
Chicago	Vietnamese Association of Illinois	Adult Literacy Advancement Program	Adult Volunteer	\$50,000
Chicago	D'Estee, Inc.	Delta Literacy Project	Adult Volunteer	\$14,259
Chicago	Indo American Center	Adult Volunteer Literacy Program FY20	Adult Volunteer	\$69,483
Chicago	South-East Asia Center	Building Bridges ESL Program	Adult Volunteer	\$35,275
Chicago	Saint Joseph Services, Inc.	Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$35,000
Chicago	Albany Park Community Center	Adult Literacy Tutoring Program	Adult Volunteer	\$99,991
Chicago	Hanul Family Alliance	Speak English with Hanul	Adult Volunteer	\$40,275
Chicago	Hana Center	HANA Center Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$35,087
Chicago	Metropolitan Asian Family Services, Inc.	ADULT LITERACY ACADEMY (ALA)	Adult Volunteer	\$35,000
Chicago	Erie Neighborhood House	Community Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$75,000
Chicago	Safer Foundation/PACE Institute	Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$59,004
Chicago	Universidad Popular	Adult Volunteer Literacy	Adult Volunteer	\$42,350
Chicago	Literacy Chicago	Literacy Chicago Adult Literacy Program "You owe it to yourself"	Adult Volunteer	\$100,000
Chicago	Touch Gift Foundation	Impacting Literacy Lives	Adult Volunteer	\$30,000
Chicago	United For Better Living, Inc.	Adult Higher Learning	Adult Volunteer	\$29,245
Chicago	Instituto del Progreso Latino	Latino Family Literacy	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	De La Salle Institute	Tolton Center/Little Village Library ESLI @ Our Lady of Tepeyac Head Start	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Association House of Chicago	Family Literacy Program (FLP)	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Centro Romero	Centro Romero Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$42,796
Chicago	Asian Human Services, Inc.	The LEAF Early Childhood Family Literacy Project	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Howard Area Community Center	Howard Area Community Center's Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Asian Human Services, Inc.	LEAF School Age Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Chinese Mutual Aid Association	CMAA Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$45,000
Chicago	Family Legacy Foundation	Family Literacy	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Family Legacy Foundation	Family Literacy	Family Literacy	\$25,000
Chicago	Heartland Human Care Services	Immigrant Family Literacy Project	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Heartland Human Care Services	Refugee Family Literacy Project	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Asian Human Services, Inc.	Passages School Family Literacy Project	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Universidad Popular	Families Learning to Teach - Little Village (FLT-LV)	Family Literacy	\$35,000

Chicago	Universidad Popular	Families Learning to Teach - West Lawn (FLT-WL)	Family Literacy	\$35,000
Chicago	Arab American Action Network (AAAN)	Arab American Family Literacy Project	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Chicago	Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition	CCLC - Coalition Coordination Project	Literacy	\$15,000
Chicago	Literacy Works	Community Literacy Program	Literacy	\$20,000
Chicago Heights	Prairie State College	Prairie State College Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$67,758
Cicero	Morton College	Project CARE	Adult Volunteer	\$30,000
Crystal Lake	McHenry County College	We Teach One Another	Adult Volunteer	\$52,660
Crystal Lake	McHenry County College	Workforce Literacy Skills Enhancement at Guardian Electric Manufacturing Company	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$20,000
Danville	Danville Area Community College	The Reader's Route	Adult Volunteer	\$63,345
Decatur	Richland Community College	Project Read Plus Adult Literacy	Adult Volunteer	\$100,000
Decatur	Baby TALK	Baby TALK Family Literacy	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Dixon	Sauk Valley Community College	Project VITAL (Volunteers in Teaching Adult Literacy)	Adult Volunteer	\$49,529
Effingham	CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation	CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$71,524
Elgin	Literacy Connection	Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$91,346
Elgin	YWCA of Elgin	ESL Family Literacy, children 2-5 years	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Elgin	YWCA of Elgin	ESL Family Literacy, infant/toddlers	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Elgin	Literacy Connection	Lakewood Elementary Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$48,866
Elgin	Literacy Connection	Meadowdale Elementary Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$48,866
Fairfield	Frontier Community College	IECC Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$75,670
Freeport	Highland Community College	Highland Community College Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$72,205
Godfrey	Lewis and Clark Community College	Project READ	Adult Volunteer	\$63,300
Godfrey	Lewis and Clark Community College	Alton Area Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Joliet	Joliet Junior College	Joliet Junior College Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$84,621
Joliet	Joliet Junior College	Joliet Junior College Family Literacy Program	Family Literacy	\$26,454
Kankakee	Kankakee Community College	ALIVE Literacy Program (Adult Literacy Initiative Volunteers Expanded)	Adult Volunteer	\$55,000
LaGrange	School and Tutors on Wheels	TEACH Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$67,274
Mattoon	Mattoon Public Library	Community Family Literacy	Family Literacy	\$34,849
Melrose Park	Dominican Literacy Center	Dominican Literacy Center, Melrose Park	Adult Volunteer	\$30,000
Monmouth	Regional Office of Education	Regional Office of Education 33 Adult Volunteer Literacy	Adult Volunteer	\$37,797
Monmouth	Regional Office of Education	Knox County Family Literacy	Family Literacy	\$49,549
Monmouth	Regional Office of Education	Warren County Family Literacy	Family Literacy	\$50,000

Mt. Vernon	Southtown Youth Programs Center	Adult Volunteer Literacy Grant Application	Adult Volunteer	\$40,000
Mt. Vernon	Southtown Youth Programs Center	Penny Severns Family Literacy Grant Application	Family Literacy	\$50,000
Naperville	Literacy Volunteers of DuPage	Accessible and Customized Adult Tutoring Program	Adult Volunteer	\$100,000
Naperville	Illinois Business Innovation Services	Hearthside Workplace Skills Enhancement Project	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$19,993
Pekin	YWCA Pekin	YWCA Adult Literacy & Learning	Adult Volunteer	\$85,947
Peoria	Regional Office of Education	ROE Adult Literacy	Adult Volunteer	\$60,627
Peoria	Common Place Family Learning Center	Adult Volunteer Literacy Program (AVLP)	Adult Volunteer	\$51,488
Quincy	John Wood Community College	John Wood Community College Adult Volunteer Literacy Program	Adult Volunteer	\$32,588
River Grove	Triton College	Access to Literacy	Adult Volunteer	\$25,000
Rock Island	Black Hawk College	Adult Volunteer Literacy	Adult Volunteer	\$43,852
Rockford	The Literacy Council	Adult Volunteer Tutor Program	Adult Volunteer	\$72,877
Saint Charles	Literacy Volunteers Fox Valley	One-to-one English tutoring for adults	Adult Volunteer	\$46,960
Schaumburg	Midwest Asian American Center	Literacy for Opportunity and Options Project (LOOP)	Adult Volunteer	\$40,000
Skokie	Oakton Community College	Volunteers In Teaching Adults	Adult Volunteer	\$96,034
Skokie	Oakton Community College	Workplace Skills Enhancement at LSG Sky Chefs	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$19,500
Skokie	Oakton Community College	Workplace Skills Enhancement at Trim Tex Dry Wall Products	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$8,710
South Holland	South Suburban College	South Suburban College Adult Volunteer Literacy	Adult Volunteer	\$40,000
South Holland	South Suburban College	Get "S.E.T." (Sterling Employee Training) Program	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$14,200
South Holland	South Suburban College	"The Sky's the Limit!" English as a Second Language and Adult Basic Education Program	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$20,000
South Holland	South Suburban College	Carl Buddig's "M.E.A.T." (Meaningful Education and Training) Program	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$18,430
Springfield	Fishes & Loaves Outreach	Springfield Literacy Project	Adult Volunteer	\$92,669
Springfield	Lincoln Land Community College	LLCC Adult Volunteer Literacy	Adult Volunteer	\$60,721
Urbana	Urbana School District #116	Salt and Light & UAEC Educational Partnership Program	Workplace Skills Enhancement	\$6,634
Waukegan	Waukegan Public Library	Adult Literacy Tutoring Program	Adult Volunteer	\$76,655