MCAEL FY15 Adult English Literacy Program Grants & Literacy Access Grants

PURPOSE

In partnership with Montgomery County Government, MCAEL offers grant resources to support adult English literacy programs. The objective of MCAEL’s grants program is to increase the availability of adult English literacy services offered to diverse populations and to improve the quality of those services in Montgomery County. MCAEL thanks the Montgomery County Government for supporting literacy.

For FY2015, funding was made available to support Adult English Literacy Programs in Montgomery County in order to increase, and improve delivery of adult English literacy services to Montgomery County residents and workers.

In addition, MCAEL offered Literacy Access Grants to support a drop in class and/or classes with under 120 hours per year in order to: (1) access and leverage ongoing/new partnerships and resources; (2) create access to English classes for underserved populations; and (3) develop access points to link individuals to the larger ESOL system that exists in Montgomery County. Eligible organizations must be or partner with a non-profit, 501(c) (3) or have a similar designation from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service organization. For more information, please see the RFPs on MCAEL’s website: http://www.mcael.org/grants.

Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington
ESOL Program (Literacy Access Grant)
To support an English program for limited English proficient residents of Silver Spring/Takoma Park in order to enable unemployed or underemployed individuals and families the opportunity to gain the skills necessary to grow and become self-sufficient.
$5,900

Ana A. Brito Foundation Inc.(formerly Epworth United Methodist Church)
Language and Computer Program (Literacy Access Grant)
To support efforts by non-English speaking immigrants to adapt to their new environment and empower them to lead productive lives as Montgomery County residents.
$11,250

Briggs Center for Faith and Action
English as a Second Language (Literacy Access Grant)
To support a program offering English classes at no cost to a diverse population of learners in the greater Bethesda area.
$5,300

CASA de Maryland, Inc.
Evening ESOL Program
To support an evening ESOL program focused on improving participants' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, so adult learners may become more financially independent, increase their employability, better integrate into American society, and achieve their personal goals.
$174,750
CASA de Maryland, Inc.
Workforce ESOL Program – Shady Grove (Literacy Access Grant)
To support the operation of drop-in English classes at the Welcome Center in Shady Grove, so adult learners can learn English and improve their employment prospects and increase their earnings
$10,650

CASA de Maryland, Inc.
Workforce ESOL Program – Silver Spring (Literacy Access Grant)
To support the operation of drop-in English classes at the Welcome Center in Silver Spring, so adult learners can learn English and improve their employment prospects and increase their earnings
$10,650

CASA de Maryland, Inc.
Workforce ESOL Program – Wheaton (Literacy Access Grant)
To support the operation of drop-in English classes at the Welcome Center in Wheaton, so adult learners can learn English and improve their employment prospects and increase their earnings
$10,650

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Inc. (Spanish Catholic Center)
ESOL Program w/Family Literacy Component
To support an ESOL program with a family literacy component, located in Gaithersburg, focused on increasing the language and literacy skills for low-income, limited English proficient members of the Hispanic community and other immigrant communities in Montgomery County
$82,000

TIMELINE: FY15 GRANT PROCESS
February 4th MCAEL issues RFP
February 5th MCAEL RFP workshop
March Optional MCAEL staff reviews of applicants’ draft proposals
April 15th Final submissions due
May 14th/16th Applicant Interviews
May 30th Panel convenes, reviews grants and makes recommendations
June 2014 MCAEL Board final approval
June 2014 Final grant awards announced
June 2014 Staff available for debriefings

OUTREACH
MCAEL conducted targeted outreach to ensure a wide circulation to all Montgomery County adult literacy and ESOL providers through MCAEL’s provider list and local non-profit and government networks.

TOTAL REQUESTS RECEIVED
19 organizations, 23 programs and over $1,000,000 in requests

TOTAL AWARDS
$910,000 in grants awarded to support 18 organizations and 22 programs
Chinese Culture & Community Service Center
Adult English Literacy Program (Literacy Access Grant)
To support an ESOL program for Chinese Americans and other county residents focused on assisting seniors in overcoming the English language barrier in order to become active participants and contributors to the community
$9,419

Community Ministries of Rockville
Language Outreach Program
To support an ESOL and literacy program for limited English speaking, low-income, adult residents of Rockville and Montgomery County focused on helping immigrants better assimilate into American culture and improve the quality of their lives
$106,302

Family Services Inc. (formerly MHA)
Family Discovery Center (formerly Families Foremost Center) – Adult English Literacy Classes
To support an ESOL program for low-income Montgomery County parents with young children (birth-4) in order to support parents in learning English, completing their educational goals and strengthening parent-child bonds, so the parents can become more self-sufficient and better support their children
$27,300

George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy
Watkins Mill Saturday School Adult Literacy Classes (Literacy Access Grant)
To support an ESOL program offering a network of family-friendly adult English literacy classes at George B. Thomas Learning Academy Saturday School Program on the weekends in order to increase parents’/school engagement and a parent’s ability to support their children’s academic success
$9,293

IMPACT Silver Spring
English Learning Circles – Wheaton and Long Branch (Literacy Access Grant)
To support English literacy classes focused on empowering low-income adults of diverse immigrant backgrounds while creating sustainable place-based support networks to improve their quality of life
$11,688
Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington
Gateways ESOL Classes (Literacy Access Grant)
To support ESOL classes to a primarily Russian-speaking senior population in Montgomery County in order to assist them with their transition to life in America by helping them become more active, engaged and responsible citizens
$4,140

Korean-American Senior Citizens Association, Inc.
English Program (Literacy Access Grant)
To support an ESOL program for first generation Korean seniors in order to help them become more self-reliant and contributing members of their local communities
$8,600

Literacy Council of Montgomery County, Maryland, Inc.
ESL Class Program
To support an ESL program, offering classes throughout the county with an expansion in the Gaithersburg area, for Montgomery County adult residents and workers who wish to develop functional English literacy skills, so they can get/retain jobs, secure better jobs, assist their children’s education, become educated consumers, become more active members of the community, and improve the quality of their lives
$149,393

Literacy Council of Montgomery County, Maryland, Inc.
Family Literacy Access Classes Through English for Daily Living (Literacy Access Grant)
To support family English literacy classes for parents focused on improving their language skills while also engaging the entire family in order to increase the amount of reading parents do with children and provide a path for parental involvement in the school and their children’s lives.
$10,630
Montgomery County Public Schools Education Foundation, Inc.
**Linkages to Learning Adult English Literacy Program**
To support an ESOL program offering a network of family-friendly adult English literacy classes in high needs MCPS schools during the week in order to increase parents’/school engagement and a parent’s ability to support their children’s academic success
$205,593

**Muslim Community Center**
**English Language Program (Literacy Access Grant)**
To support ESOL classes that will enable adult learners who are members of the Muslim faith community and those of other faiths to learn English more proficiently in order to gain knowledge and self-confidence, so they can be more independent in their daily lives
$3,550

**Rockville Seniors, Inc.**
**Rockville Senior Center English Program**
To support an English program developed to help immigrants over age 60 learn practical speaking, listening, reading, and writing English skills that will enable learners to function more independently in the community
$34,860

**Seneca Creek Community Church**
**Seneca Creek Community Church ESOL Program (Literacy Access Grant)**
To support English conversation classes to adults focused on improving English proficiency as part of the Seneca Creek Community Church community outreach efforts in the Gaithersburg area
$6,200

**Workforce Solutions Group of Montgomery County, Inc.**
**Workplace English for Employment (Literacy Access Grant)**
To support an ESOL program that provides English language instruction focusing on employment vocabulary, job searches and resume-building in order to support Montgomery County language learners in finding employment opportunities and applying to jobs
$11,882