

NEWS & NOTES - SEPTEMBER, 2025

Dear Delco Literacy Community,

This summer, Delco Literacy expanded our impact through powerful community partnerships. Together with our collaborators, we:

- Co-hosted a Pop-Up Literacy event with The Chester Exchange
- Connected with families at the Back-to-School Resource Festival in Chester
- Donated school supplies to Teachers' Teammates
- Launched a new collaboration with MVP Recovery
- Participated in the Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Festival

While federal funding changes required staffing adjustments in June, we're grateful for every team member's contribution and remain committed to our mission.

Here's how you can help us continue:

- **Volunteer - Tutor, help with events, or share your skills**
- **Spread the word - Tell others about our impact**
- **Donate - Support quality programming for more community members**
- **Partner with us - Explore collaboration opportunities**

Thank you for being part of the Delco Literacy family. Together, we're changing lives and strengthening our community.

In partnership and gratitude,

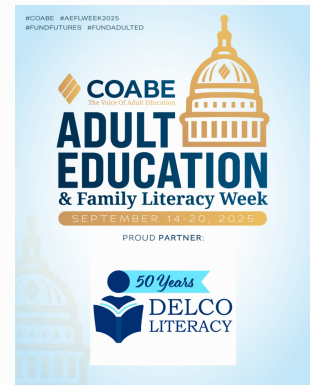
Colleen Duran

Adult Education & Family Literacy Week

This September 14-20, we celebrate National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week, recognizing the transformative power of education for adults and families in Delaware County.

This important week highlights the millions of adults working to improve their literacy skills, earn their high school equivalency, learn English, or develop job skills. When adults advance their education, the benefits extend to their families and entire communities—creating stronger families and local economies.

But as we celebrate, adult education faces unprecedented challenges:



Federal Budget Threats: The President's FY26 budget proposal calls for the complete elimination of federal funding for adult education. More than 75% of adult education programs nationwide depend on this funding to serve learners.

State Budget Delays: While Congress has announced the release of federal adult education funds, Pennsylvania can't access them until a state budget is passed, keeping essential resources in limbo.

Department Transition: Oversight of adult literacy programs is moving from the U.S. Department of Education to the U.S. Department of Labor. However, new compliance requirements haven't been released, leaving questions around programs and operations.

These programs are essential lifelines for millions of learners in our communities. **Please help us advocate by adding your voice to protect adult education programs. Click on the Take Action Now button to add your support.**

Take Action Now!



Delco Literacy Welcomes Ronette Long to Board of Directors

Ronette is a dedicated nonprofit leader, community advocate, and property management professional with a passion for empowering families and youth. She currently serves as the Program Coordinator for **Making A Change Group**'s Connected Families program, where she oversees family engagement initiatives, youth mentoring, and community-centered events. Ronette also manages residential properties through Dominion Realty Group, ensuring quality housing and responsive support for tenants. Welcome, Ronette, and thank you for your service!

FMFCU Foundation Supports Our Mission

We're thrilled to announce that Delco Literacy has received a generous \$5,000 grant from the FMFCU Foundation!

"We are incredibly grateful for FMFCU Foundation's investment in our mission," said Executive Director Colleen Duran. "This partnership demonstrates the power of community organizations working together to transform lives through education."

This support comes when community partnerships are more vital than ever. The grant will directly fund our free literacy programs, helping Delaware County adults build essential skills for employment, family support, and personal growth.

Your support makes the difference too. As we navigate ongoing funding challenges, individual donations help us continue serving those who need literacy support most. Every contribution—whether \$25 or \$250—helps keep our programs strong.



Pictured (left to right): Danielle Griffin, FMFCU's CSR and Foundation Program Manager, AVP; Delco Literacy's Tutor Coordinator Karen Hamilton; Executive Director Colleen Duran; FMFCU Vice President Director of Corporate Social Responsibility & Government Affairs Rick Durante; Instructor Nancy Travers; Enrollment Coordinator Jenny LaPorte

Ready to join supporters like FMFCU Foundation? Visit the **Give** page on our website to learn how your donation can impact adults in Delaware County.

Ready to Learn Something New This Fall

That back-to-school energy is in the air – you know the feeling. Fresh notebooks, new possibilities, and the excitement of diving into something meaningful. This September, why not channel that learning spirit into something that truly makes a difference? Delco Literacy is looking for **volunteer adult literacy tutors** to help neighbors in our community unlock the power of reading and writing.

No teaching experience required – just patience, compassion, and a few hours a week. We'll provide the training and support and materials you need to help an adult learner achieve their goals.

Submit this form <https://delcoliteracy.org/volunteer-tutor-application/> or reach out to Volunteer Coordinator, Karen Hamilton at khamilton@delcoliteracy.org.

Special thanks to Ed Rose of **eRose Web and Business Services, LCC**, for designing the Delco Literacy website. Your generous contribution of time and expertise makes a real difference in supporting literacy efforts in our community!



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