

# Clatsop Community College Volunteer Literacy Tutor News

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## Tutor Training UPDATE February 21, 2014

This training was geared towards new and prospective tutors. We discussed barriers to literacy, and watched a good training video on how to work with beginning level ESL students. It's about 40 minutes long and gives good advice about dealing with complicated grammar and how to present information to people with low English skills. That video is available at You Tube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6K8SJsMLBRO>

### OREGON LAW CENTER LEGAL CLINIC:

There is free legal consultation available for our students (in English and Spanish) if they need advice on **civil** matters (no criminal or immigration issues). Oregon Law Center sends representatives to our area on a regular rotation. The newest dates, times and locations are listed below:

**ASTORIA:** Community Action, 364 9th St

Dates: 3/20 and 5/22

11:00-12:00 walk-ins without appointment

1:00-4:00 with appointments

**SEASIDE:** Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A

Date: 4/24

11:00-12:00 walk-in without appointment

1:00-4:00 with appointments

**How it works:** the client can get a walk-in consultation and will be given a longer appointment in the afternoon if the Law Center can help with the case. The client can also call to make an appointment prior to the visits @ 503-640-4115 or toll free @ 877-296-4076. Callers can use Spanish or English to communicate.



### NEW TUTORS

Marilyn S.    Stephanie J.    Mark P.

*There are a few more prospects in the wings . . .*

We are still recruiting . . . If you have friends or family who would like to learn about the program, call me.

### New ESL Materials:

- **Hands On:** A collection of ESL Literacy Activities (from Canada); good for beginners
- **MetLife Foundation:** ESL Health Units: good for beginners and intermediates with dialogs, vocabulary, pictures

### SPANISH GED CLASSES:

*PLEASE INFORM YOUR STUDENTS THAT THERE IS HELP AVAILABLE TO PREPARE FOR THE SPANISH GED.*

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN ASTORIA at CCC**

6-8:00 (Columbia Hall room 117)

**THURSDAY NIGHTS IN SEASIDE**

6-8:00 (1455 N. Roosevelt, room 2)

Call Percy @ 503-338-2557 or

Jorge at the Hispanic Council 503-325-4547

*Percy can assess the students' reading and math levels so they have some idea where their skills are before they begin classes.*



## Keys to Language Learning

### USING ORAL HISTORIES and WRITING to Build Literacy Skills

I know some of our tutors have used oral histories to get their students writing and communicating about family history. Why not try it yourself? This is an excellent way to generate conversation before students begin writing as you discuss questions the student may want to use to interview family members. The student will have a chance to practice note-taking and then start to develop paragraphs. For lower-level students, make a simple timeline for recording significant life events. This is a project that you can revisit as the student learns editing and revision skills. The tutor gains from learning more about the student's background. Our students tend to have fascinating histories, immigrant or not.



Federal, state and local funds combined for adult literacy (ESL and GED) are:

- Less than one-twentieth of higher education funding
- Less than one-tenth of K-12 funding
- Less than one-eighth of Head Start funding
- Less than one-twelfth Early Head Start funding

Adult ed funding serves about 3 million of the 93 million adults who could benefit from services, or three percent of the adults in need. The U.S. spends a fraction of the funding that goes to schools and colleges on adult education. And there's been a 17 percent drop in funding since 2002. On top of that, the 2013 sequester imposed another 5 percent cut in adult education monies. From NPR:

[http://www.national-coalition-literacy.org/advocacy/act\\_funding.html](http://www.national-coalition-literacy.org/advocacy/act_funding.html)

*LITERACY VOLUNTEERS ARE CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR STUDENTS AND THE WELL-BEING OF OUR SOCIETY.*

## MANGO



If you live in Astoria or have a library card for the Astoria Library there is a language-learning resource available at the Astoria Public Library. It's called **Mángo** and can be accessed online from home. There is even a mobile app available for smart phones and tablets. Mángo has English for Spanish speakers (instructions in Spanish) and Spanish for English speakers (instructions in English). There are other languages available for study, too. Please inform your students about this free resource. Let me know if you need help getting started with it.

*You cannot use a Passport Card (a sharing agreement among local libraries if you already have a CCC library card) because the licensing agreement doesn't accommodate this.*

**Remember: all literacy tutors get a free CCC library card.**

*Has your student shared a confidential problem with you that falls outside the scope of literacy tutoring? Over the years we have made referrals to other agencies that address some of the problems our students often confront. Please contact the coordinator if your student expresses a need that the literacy program cannot address. Some of the **agencies** we make referrals to are:*

- Women's Resource Center/Hutchens House
- Community Action
- NWRESD Migrant Education
- Head Start/ Astoria, Warrenton and Seaside
- Tongue Point Job Corps
- TANF (Temporary Assistance for needy families)
- Local food banks
- Legal Aid/Hillsboro
- HEP (A free live-in GED program in Spanish and English at the U of O in Eugene)
- Lower Columbia Hispanic Council
- Healthy Kids/Health Department
- Lions Club

