

The Vision

The Literacy Planning Team of Onondaga County developed a common vision that Onondaga County will be recognized as a world-class community for literacy. We believe that literacy is the foundation of full and rewarding participation in the social, economic and civic life of our community. We believe that literacy affects everyone—individuals, families, businesses, community organizations and government.



Objectives 2008

- Countywide Plan:** An Onondaga County Literacy Plan that will serve as the blueprint for all community activities supporting efforts to raise literacy levels.
- Coalition Development:** A Literacy Coalition and governance structure will guide the implementation of the literacy plan and its Action Agenda years one through three.
- Capacity Building:** The Literacy Plan will identify clear targets and specific strategies to increase the number of students at all ages successfully completing literacy program activities / raising literacy levels.
- Program Development:** The Literacy Plan and key indicators of literacy by definition demand new program development activities to achieve higher levels of literacy across the community.
- Fund Development:** Led by the Central New York Community Foundation through 2010, the Literacy Coalition will pursue sustainable funding.

The Planning Team

Abundant Life Christian Church
 Adult Student Learners
 Alliance for Quality Education
 Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse
 Allyn Foundation
 Apter & O'Connor Associates
 Barnes & Noble
 bmc (Beard Miller Company LLP)
 BOCES Consortium of Continuing Education
 Bond, Schoeneck & King, LLP
 Boy Scouts / Hiawatha Seaway Council
 C&S Worldwide Holdings, Inc.
 Center for Community Alternatives
 Center for New Americans
 Child Care Solutions
 City of Syracuse
 City of Syracuse - Office of the Mayor
 City of Syracuse - Dept of Community Development
 City of Syracuse - Department of Economic Development
 Clear Channel
 CNY Works
 Colonial Laundromat
 Commissioner Office/Dept of Social Services
 Communities United to Rebuild Neighborhoods
 Community Health Foundation of Western and Central NY
 Community Members
 Community Wide Dialogue (Interfaith Works)
 Children's Consortium, Inc.
 Cowley Associates
 Crouse Health Foundation
 CXtec
 Dr. King School
 Dunbar Association, Inc
 East Syracuse-Minoa Central School
 Rosalina Edwards
 Evangelical Church of God in Christ (Pres. IMA)
 Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield
 FLAGS
 FOCUS Greater Syracuse
 Former County Health Department
 Franciscan Collaborative Ministries
 Gifford Foundation
 Girl Scout Council of Central New York, Inc.
 Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce
 Geneva Hayden
 Health Advancement Collaborative
 Hillbrook / True Vine
 Honeywell
 HR 1
 Huntington Family Center
 Jail Ministry
 JOBSplus!
 Junior League of Syracuse
 L & J G Stickley Inc
 Learning Disabilities Association of CNY (LDACNY)
 LeMoyné College
 Liverpool Public Library
 Lockheed Martin
 Literacy Volunteers of Greater Syracuse
 M&T Bank
 Manufacturers Association of CNY (MACNY)
 Mercy Works: Vision Center
 Metropolitan Development Association (MDA)
 Morrow Graphics, Inc
 NYS Education Dept. - Adult and Family Literacy
 NYS Alliance for Family Literacy
 NYS Council on Children and Families
 NYS Economic Development Upstate
 OCM BOCES
 Office of the County Executive
 Office of the County Legislature
 On Point for College
 Onondaga Case Management Services
 Onondaga Central Schools
 Onondaga County Community College
 Onondaga County Community Development
 Onondaga County Public Library
 Onondaga County Sheriff's Office at Justice Center
 Onondaga County/Dept of Social Services
 P.E.A.C.E.
 Partners for Arts Education
 Partners for Education & Business
 People in Action
 PinckneyHugoGroup
 Pro Literacy Worldwide
 Rebuild Syracuse, Inc Syracuse Empire Zone
 Rescue Mission
 Rosamond Gifford Lecture Series
 S.U. School of Education: Reading & Literacy
 Salvation Army
 South Presbyterian Church
 Southside News Stand
 St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center
 Success by Six
 SUNY Upstate Medical University
 Syracuse 20/20
 Syracuse City School District
 Syracuse Common Council
 Syracuse Community Health Center
 Syracuse Housing Authority
 Syracuse Jewish Family Center
 Syracuse University - Child and Family Studies
 Syracuse University - School of Education
 Syracuse Women's Commission
 The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties
 The Learning Place
 The Post Standard
 Time Warner
 Trinity Assembly of God (Pres. GSAE)
 Tucker Missionary Baptist Church (Pres.COUP)
 United Way of CNY
 University College
 WCNV
 Westcott Community Center
 Westside Community School Strategy
 Westside Learning Center/Partners in Learning
 WISE Center
 Workkeys Center at University College
 YMCA
 Youth Day Barbecue - Mary Nelson



100% Literacy
 through
 100% Community
 Engagement



The Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County Action Agenda , Winter 2008

Guided by:



CENTRAL NEW YORK
 COMMUNITY
 FOUNDATION, INC.

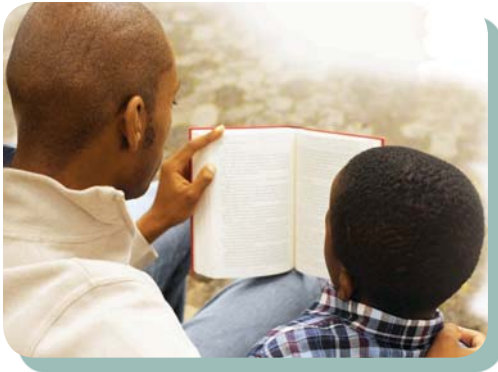
Where the Smart Money Gives.

CLIC Logo?

Family Literacy Alliance of Greater Syracuse **FLAGS**

Community Literacy Indicators

1. Increased number of incoming kindergartners prepared for school
2. Increased number of K-12 students meeting proficiency standards on New York State English and Language (ELA) assessment.
3. Increased high school graduation rates
4. Increased number of adult learners, including those who speak English as a second language, meeting national proficiency standards.
5. Increased number of children who read or are read to daily
6. Increased number of literacy and community programs using evidence-based practices to serve people with diverse learning needs and styles (Program Development)
7. Increased funding and community support for literacy-related programs and services
8. Increased number of adults employed at or above the predetermined literacy levels needed to succeed in the workplace



As developed by the Literacy Impact Task Force, Fall 2007.
Apter and O'Connor, Consultants

Priority Community Recommendations

Resource Development

- a. Organize a Fund Development Committee of the Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County
- b. Develop funding strategy using data from the Funding Analysis.
- c. Develop mechanisms for fund development and distribution.

Professional Development

- d. Create a training hotline (information and curriculum support center) for literacy instructors and volunteers in partnership with existing community organizations
- e. Economic development focus: Assist trainers / HR professionals / literacy providers to infuse business needs into training curriculum to meet employer's specific targeted competencies and provide a measurable return on investment.
- f. Develop online distance learning /self study; and include a support system of online assessment, monitoring, coaching and supports for program completion.

Performance Measurement

- g. Establish quality standards at a community level and begin using a comprehensive – yet simple to use – system for measuring literacy in Onondaga County across the lifespan.
- h. Research and select a centralized tracking and impact evaluation systems for implementation in Onondaga County. This system will also track broader literacy coalition and community change goals.
- i. Develop standards and measurable targets so programs will be able to track learner progress across funding streams and program types.

Advocacy

- j. Create a literate community by providing wrap around resources and support across the lifespan, linking adult and family education, literacy and vocational providers into a cohesive collaborative network..
- k. Advocate for changing the funding mechanisms for schools to promote secure resources necessary for student achievement and parent involvement.
- l. Support the CNY Reads, which is coordinated by Onondaga County Public Library. This program encourages the community read the same book and provides discussion opportunities that foster community building.

Marketing & Public Relations

- m. Develop a large scale, comprehensive media campaign to build public awareness of literacy. A Marketing & Public Awareness Committee of the Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County will create clear, targeted and compelling messages that will build support for literacy, linking people to resources.
- n. Keep school/student success on the public agenda
- o. Deliver a consistent, broad message about the need for lifelong learning.

Economic Development

- p. Conduct a study showing the economic impacts / costs of low literacy on the community, specific industry or business (turnover, productivity, lost time)
- q. Assist employers regarding opportunities available to increase worker skills base.
- r. Provide effective training for students, job seekers and incumbent workers in order to retain talent and grow our regional economy.

As developed in a Community Planning Toward Action process, Fall & Winter 2007-08. Margaret Doughty, Literacy Powerline, Consultant