

**FRIDAY FACTS**  
**FROM JEFF GOVE, ACTING STATE ABLE DIRECTOR**  
**ADULT BASIC AND LITERACY EDUCATION**  
**March 5, 2010**

**Ohio Advocacy And Partnerships Symposium**

Mark your calendars now for a great opportunity!

Join The National Coalition for Literacy, the Ohio Literacy Network and the Ohio Association for Adult and Continuing Education on April 21, 2010 for a symposium on grassroots advocacy and transitions partnerships strategies. This One-Day Event at the Embassy Suites Columbus in Dublin, Ohio is free. In addition, breakfast and lunch will be provided at no charge to the event participants.



Supporting the  
ABLE system to enhance  
student achievement

The event will feature practical, hands-on strategies for planning and implementing a successful grassroots advocacy program. Participants will discuss strategies and tactics and then have the opportunity to create action plans that integrate advocacy as part of local and regional collaboration/partnerships planning. Speakers and panelists will include national advocacy experts from the adult education field, policy makers from Ohio, and representatives of successful local partnerships and collaborations.



Due to high demand, pre-registration is required and participants will be required to attend both half-day sessions. Certificates of participation will be issued at the end of the session to add to your professional portfolio. Professional development credits will not be offered.

Through the generous support of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, the Coalition will offer two competitive \$5,000 grants to participants to help them build their advocacy capacity.



This event along with the OAAACE (Ohio Association for Adult and Continuing Education) Annual Event on Thursday, April 22, 2010 and the ABLE Spring PD Day on Friday April 23 is a wonderful opportunity for you and your colleagues to share your knowledge and expertise in serving adult learners.

For more detailed registration and presenter information about this and the other events in the April three-day series of trainings, please see the attachments.

## **Stackable Certificates**

Several people have asked whether the official GED test is an acceptable supplemental test for awarding the stackable certificates. The official GED test can be used as a supplemental test.

Please note the Guidance Document for the Stackable certificates is being revised and will reflect this information.

## **The Developmental Education Initiative**

As many of you know the Ohio ABLE Program is overseeing the Developmental Education Initiative (DEI) state level project funded by MDC, Inc. with funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Lumina Foundation for Education. The purpose of DEI is to improve outcomes of developmental education students by reforming the way developmental education is delivered and by forging state policies that support reform efforts.

Nearly 50% of students entering Ohio's community colleges are in need of some remediation in math, English or both. Unfortunately, the majority of students entering college who need developmental education do not succeed in earning a degree or certificate, transferring to a four- year institution, or earning 30 or more hours of college credit. (The attached Developmental Education Initiative communication piece provides an overview of developmental education data and the initiative.)

One area of focus for DEI will be on ABLE-developmental education partnerships. We know of several formal relationships that have been formed between ABLE and community colleges for the purpose of referring students to ABLE for some academic remediation. If you have developed or are in the process of developing such a relationship, please contact Karen ([kscheid@regents.state.oh.us](mailto:kscheid@regents.state.oh.us) or 614-644-6767).

## **A Cool Math Resource**

Check out the Khan Academy <http://www.khanacademy.org/>. There are many good online resources to help students acquire math skills and concepts, but Khan Academy is one of the most comprehensive and suitable for adults as well as children and teenagers. Lessons delivered via YouTube are divided into 10-minute segments.

Salman Khan, the creator and teacher of the site, has degrees from MIT and Harvard Business School. He has been featured in several media stories (Karen learned about this resource in a segment of the PBS News Hour). Check it out.

## **FY 2010 Promising Practice Document Available**

The FY 2010 version of the Promising Practice document is now available on the ABLE website at <http://www.uso.edu/able>. The document is included under a new section of the site—Best Practices. Included in the document are the Best Practices contained in the FY 2009 edition and new promising practices in the areas of reading, writing, ESOL and special needs. In the next issue of Friday Facts, we will begin again to feature individual practices from the document.

## **Search the Transitions Repository!**



The Transitions Repository now has 140 resources in it, and another 133 are in the review or cataloging process.

Items in the Repository are classified into six defined categories: academic skills, career pathways, career/workplace transitions, contextualized curriculum, post-secondary transition, and professional development. Resources are a mix of electronic and hard copy resources with notations on which resources are available through the Resource Center Network.

All resources are reviewed on the categories of application to student transition goals; contextual content; and information presentation. Each resource is also rated on at least one of the following audience-specific categories: student engagement; instructional application; and enhancing the knowledge base of teachers and administrators.

Resources are reviewed by at least two reviewers and must meet both a minimum score and have agreement on the core audience(s) in order to be approved.

Reviewers are all ABLE staff and include teachers, administrators, and state leadership staff. Reviewers provide comments about the resources and may include instructional ideas, cautions, or general thoughts on the resource.

Some of the newest resources are:

- *Food, Wholesale and Retail Vocational Numeracy Lesson Plan* - this group of lesson plans is intended to provide students with the numeracy skills to prepare for a career

in the food, wholesale and retail industries. It covers a number of topics, including problem solving, calculation, and measurement. This resource is available online.

- *The Potential of Community Colleges as Bridges to Opportunity for the Disadvantaged: Can it be Achieved on a Large Scale?* This publication highlights the need for the restructuring of remedial education programs. It looks at the role that community colleges play in creating a bridge to opportunity for the poor and disadvantaged. It looks at the reasons these students are often overlooked, and the steps that can be taken to make sure that those who need help the most aren't overlooked by the adult education system. This resource is available online.
- *Opening Doors: Students' Perspectives on Juggling Work, Family, and College* - this publication looks at the barriers to obtaining a college education from the perspective of the students. Things they cite as the major problems to an education include child care, personal support, accommodating employers and the cost of education, including the effect of lost wages. It brings to light many of the issues that need to be addressed to increase the number of students who attend and finish college. This resource is available online.

Visit the Repository by going to:

[http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/uso/resources\\_all\\_bytopic.cfm](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/uso/resources_all_bytopic.cfm)

Feel free to send comments or resource suggestions to [repository@literacy.kent.edu](mailto:repository@literacy.kent.edu).

### **Reminders**

1. The videoconference for the Innovation Conference will be held on Friday, March 19, 2010 from 2 – 4 p.m. The details for how to register will be made available as soon as all of the viewing sites have confirmed their participation.
2. The Spring ABLE Administrators' Meeting will be held on Monday, May 24, 2010. The location has not been confirmed but it will be in the Columbus area.
3. The FY 2011 Instructional and EL/Civics renewal grants should be released within the next two weeks. You will be notified when the CCIP link is opened.

## Quote of the Week

### Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday

The more that you read, the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

Dr. Seuss

Did you know that Dr Seuss won the Pulitzer Prize Special Citation Award in 1984 "*for his contribution over nearly half a century to the education and enjoyment of America's children and their parents?*"

Dr. Seuss was born on March 2, 1904 and died on September 24, 1991.

