

***Literacy Services &
Partnerships in Pima County***

***Public Library Literacy
Programming to Meet
Community Needs***

Common Definitions of Literacy

- The ability to read & write
- The ability to understand, interpret, & use printed materials
- The ability to learn in order to achieve one's goals & to participate fully in society



Community Literacy or Literacy Infusion

- Basic reading, writing, & numeracy
- English fluency
- Family Literacy
- Health Literacy
- Financial Literacy
- Computer & Technological Literacy
- Workforce Literacy
- Civic Literacy



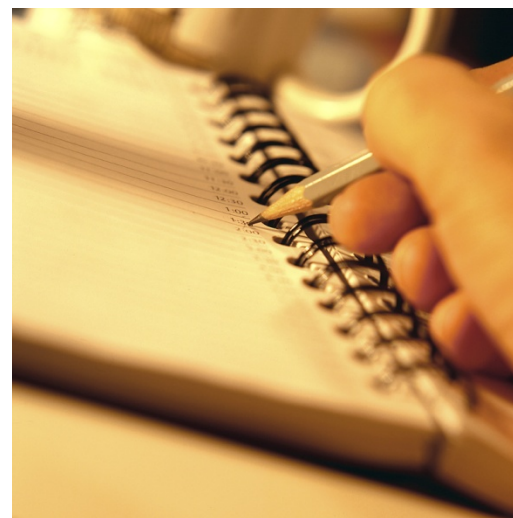
Public Library – Current Contributions to Community Literacy

- Equal Access to All
- Books, Print Materials, & Information
- Computers, Databases, & Online Resources
- Storytimes
- Homework Help & GED Classes
- Computer Classes
- English Language & Citizenship Classes
- Health, Financial, & Civic Education Programs



Public Library - Potential Contributions to Community Literacy

- Within a collaborative effort, take inventory of community resources & services
- Oversee the big picture & connect the dots
- Fill the gaps the library is qualified to fill; include community's gap services in your library's strategic plan
- Help community groups do their jobs



Pima County Public Library (PCPL) Literacy Collaborations

- Literacy for Life Coalition (LLC)
- Literate Worker Initiative - referral & tracking system for clients looking to improve employment options
- Refugee & Immigrant Service Providers Network (RISP-Net)
- Pima County Community Health Task Force (PCCHTF)
- Financial Education Collaborative of Southern Arizona (FECSA)

Literacy for Life Coalition

- Tucson Regional Town Hall – Literacy
- Community Foundation for Southern AZ
 - Formed a planning council
 - Hired Literacy Consultants – Literacy Powerline
 - Hired Executive Director of Literacy for Life Coalition
- Tucson Area Literacy Coalition merged into Literacy for Life Coalition

Literacy for Life Coalition

- Mission: Create a Sustainable Culture of Literacy
- Goal: 100% Literacy through 100% Community Engagement
- Teams: Awareness, Advocacy, Capacity Building
- Provider's Network & Funder's Network

COALITION



LITERACY
FOR LIFE
COALITION



Literacy for Life Coalition Success Story

- Rosalinda Gallardo speaking at the Coalition's Press Conference – February 2009



<http://www.youtube.com/user/LiteracyForLife>

Pima County Public Library Literacy Partners

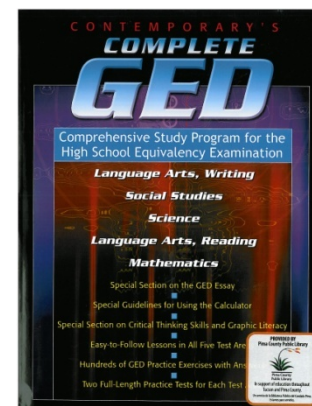
- Literacy Volunteers of Tucson
- Pima Community College Adult Education
- Pima County Adult Probation / LEARN Centers
- Pima County ONESTOP Career Centers
- Tucson & National OASIS
- United Way of Tucson & Southern Arizona
- AARP in Tucson & Pima County
- League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson

State & National Literacy Partners

- Arizona Department of Education
- Arizona State Library
- Arizona Library Association
- American Library Association - Office for Literacy & Outreach Services / American Dream Grant / www.buildliteracy.org
- National Institute for Literacy
- Literacy Powerline

Pima County Public Library Literacy Services & Partnerships

- Print & Online Resources / Multiple partners
 - High/Low Materials
 - Picture Dictionaries
 - CDs for Language Learning
 - Databases for Homework, Skills, Language Learning, & Test Preparation
- English Language Classes / Literacy Volunteers of Tucson
- GED & Citizenship Classes / Pima Community College Adult Education



English Language Class at a Branch Library



Literacy Volunteer Helping a Student



Literacy Volunteers of Tucson / PCPL Success Story

- Cesar attended Literacy Volunteers of Tucson's English Language Classes at a PCPL branch library
- Showed his certificate of completion to his employer
- Cesar was given a \$2 per hour raise for his initiative to learn English, as well as his leadership, good attitude, and job skills



GED Class at a Branch Library



Pima County Public Library Literacy Services & Partnerships (cont'd)

- Computer Classes / OASIS
- Tax Help & Financial Education/
United Way & AARP & FECSA
- Voting Info Tables, Issues Forums, & Mock
Elections / League of Women Voters
- Health Literacy Programs / PCCHTF & Pima
County Health Department
- Employment & Job Search Help / ONESTOP



Pima County ONESTOP Career Center



History of Literacy Partnerships at PCPL

- Tucson Area Literacy Coalition – Literacy for Life Coalition
- Urban Libraries Council Executive Leadership Institute
- Adult Education & Public Libraries Collaboration
- PCPL receiving American Dream Grant – summer 2008

ALA's American Dream Literacy site

<http://www.buildliteracy.org>

Basics of Partnerships

- Focus on partnership directive
- Know your community & your library
- Research organizations & identify major partners
- Build relationships & trust
- Read Hildy Gottlieb's Friendraising & Community Engagement books
- Utilize Asset Based Community Development
- Brainstorm, set goals, determine action steps, define roles

PCPL / Literacy Volunteers of Tucson Partnership at Santa Rosa Branch



Partnership Tips

- Assume nothing
- Take the time to nurture relationships
- Compromise
- Ensure partnership is mutually beneficial
- Remember limitations
- Set boundaries
- Learn from mistakes
- Realize when change is necessary

**Quote Robert Martin, former Director of the
Institute of Museum & Library Services**

“Collaboration is an
unnatural act, practiced by
non-consenting adults.”

Summary

- Definitions of Literacy
- Library Contributions to Community Literacy
- PCPL's Literacy Collaborations & Partners
- PCPL's Literacy Services & Partnerships
- History of Literacy Partnerships at PCPL
- Basics of Partnerships

Questions???

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