Dakota Breen

Adult Education Thread

Comment here with your questions, thoughts, and take-aways related to adult education.

Missy Slaathaug

Do you expect any new refugee groups in the near future? What kind of heads-up are you getting from the powers that be?

Laura Smith-Hill

At this time national refugee resettlement at large is on hold, so that resources can be directed to resettling Afghan Human Parolees and Special Immigrant Visa holders (military aides). Prior to this hiatus, the SD State Refugee Coordinator was receiving regular updates about newly arriving families from Congo, South Sudan and Spanish-speaking parolees, for...
example. SD was predicted to receive refugees from these locations as well as Eritrea in this program year.

Missy Slaathaug

@Laura Smith-Hill So interesting. I have a friend in St. Paul who is a retired lawyer, who is volunteering to teach English to Afghan refugees. I wonder if SD will get many.

Laura Smith-Hill

@Missy Slaathaug It is hard to say if SD will get many. The SD state government is in discussions with the State resettlement agency about the topic. Nice that you friend is getting to experience Afghan students. I have had good experiences working with them in previous years - as with all our students!

Laura Smith-Hill

What victories have you had in your Adult Education program in the past year?

Laura Smith-Hill

Tell us about one of your recent student victories! No names are needed, just the accomplishment and maybe the country of origin. :)

Sarah Jones

Per Rihoko: TSTM!

Laura Smith-Hill

@Sarah Jones Thanks Rihoko! Can you talk about what TSTM is and how it helped for those who may not know about it?
I attended the session lead by Jane Hanneman this morning. It was excellent to hear how this school district is welcoming families and including parents in their children's education in such a warm and informed way. Did others attend this session? What were your thoughts pertaining to your work with Adult Learners?

Dyanis Conrad (she/her)  
Nov 06

Embracing and engaging older learners can be critical in helping a family adjust to cultural and linguistic differences. I loved listening to Jane's presentation because of how they are including families in those conversations.

Laura Smith-Hill  
Nov 05

Another Adult Ed question: What has worked very well for you in your teaching during the past year or so? Social distancing needs have impacted how many of us are delivering ESL instruction. What are you doing differently that is working well for you and your students today?

Sarah Jones  
Nov 05

Per Kate: We could consider a joint project between LSS-CNA and Jane Addams for family literacy initiatives.

Laura Smith-Hill  
Nov 05

@Sarah Jones Good question and idea, Kate! I would like to hear more of your thoughts. Let's talk about that further.

kit anderson  
Nov 06

Has anyone found any good resources online to use to teach reading? I have several newer Americans that speak beautifully but reading is so low. They are lucky once I get them reading they should move along quickly due to being able to comprehend so much language.

Pik Wah Lam-Chesnut  
Nov 06 · Edited: Nov 06

I have found a library's site that listed a lot of resources online for adult English users and even TOEFL.
Hope this helps :)
Erica mentioned in the adult ed session that she uses podcasts for listening practice - I am so interested in this! Does anyone else do this? She recommended these:
wow in the world
past and the curious
circle round folktales around the world
mystery recipe
kids listen podcast home

Does anyone else have podcasts to recommend? Erica, how do newcomers do with this? Do you have summarizing or discussion or any other structured activity after you listen?