Texas Workforce Press Release

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TWC Awards \$4.7 Million to Texas A&M for Adult Education and Literacy Support

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has awarded a \$4.7 million, two-year grant for a statewide Adult Education and Literacy Professional Development Center to the Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy and Learning (TCALL) at Texas A&M University. The center in the College of Education and Human Development includes the Training, Resources and Innovation Network Professional Development (TRAIN PD) @ TCALL, which provides professional development, resources and networking opportunities for adult education and literacy professionals statewide.

"By the end of the 2016-2017 project year, TCALL will have worked with all programs to ensure every Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) teacher statewide has access to a state-of-the-art Learning Management System, the Texas AEL Professional Development Portal, to manage their professional development and learning," said TRAIN PD Center @ TCALL Director of Information Resources and Publications Federico Salas-Isnardi.

TRAIN PD @ TCALL will provide centralized training for adult education providers through face-to-face, online and webinar instructions related to the principles of adult learning. The resources and training exercises ensure that adult educators can enhance the instruction of students who are working to improve their English language skills, obtain a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency or broaden career opportunities.

"In Texas, we recognize the importance of adult education and literacy services and continue to support an educated and trained workforce which is great for our economy and Texas employers," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs.

TRAIN PD @ TCALL is responsible for deploying statewide events, recruiting additional contract trainers and serving as a central dissemination point for information. Key services, research and the Texas AEL Professional Development Portal can be accessed on the <u>TCALL website</u>. Assistance can also be obtained by calling the hotline at 800-411-READ.

"The Texas workforce will benefit from the increased resources provided to adult educators who bring these services to more Texans that need the skills to obtain employment and earn a steady income," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez.

TWC's AEL programs expand opportunities through the support of workforce training efforts, and align occupational skills with today's high demand jobs. Individuals interested in TWC's AEL program can learn more online at <u>TWC's AEL Programs</u> web page or by emailing <u>adulteducation@twc.state.tx.us</u> for more information.

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our email updates.

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