The National Coalition for Literacy

Necessary Tagline: Supporting Adult & Family Literacy, Adult Education and English Learning

Mission

➢ The National Coalition for Literacy works to advance adult and family literacy, adult education and English learning by advocating for adequate policies and funding, raising public awareness, strengthening collaborations with stakeholders, building system effectiveness and empowering learners to achieve educational, career and economic success.

Vision

➢ The National Coalition for Literacy envisions a nation where every adult can learn, work and thrive.

Core Values

Equity	Empowerment
Respect	Empathy
Lifelong Learning	Community
Truth	Innovation

The National Coalition for Literacy serves as a convenor of a national network of stakeholders to strategize around critical issues impacting the adult education and literacy field and speak with a unified voice. As a connector and think tank, NCL disseminates knowledge, promotes innovation and strengthens the field through advocacy, public awareness, collaboration and collective action.

Current environmental considerations:

- Decreasing literacy and numeracy rates in the U.S. for youth and adults
  - Approximately 30%, 60 million adults
  - U.S. falling behind in global competitiveness
  - Increasing need, mostly stagnant or decreasing funding
- Insufficient Funding
  - Broader investment: employers, philanthropic
- Changing political priorities
  - Less federal / more state and local support
- Increasing emphasis on training and workforce
  - Less emphasis on individual and education
  - Skills over credentials (skills-based economy)
  - Demand for education and training to be done better / quicker
  - Available job types and job desires are changing – more short-term, flexible, hybrid
- Increasing population of English language learners
- Importance of technology and digital literacy skills to both teaching and learning
  - How AI has and will influence teaching and learning
  - Emergence of hybrid learning models and the need for them
- Need for more / better data, research and innovation
  - Perceived idea that only a fraction needing services are getting services
  - How many served beyond AEFLA and progress beyond test scores
  - The need for more innovative approaches to services
- Increasing mobility of people which is both an opportunity and threat to teaching and learning
- System infrastructure
  - Part-time teachers
  - Limited access and resources
  - Need for more professionalization and better professional learning

Priorities

1. Operational Capacity
2. Advocacy
3. Public Awareness
4. Stakeholder Collaboration
5. Build System Capacity (Research and Innovation)