

# **KANSAS Adult Education Narrative Report 2010-2011**

## **Successful activities, programs and projects supported with State Leadership Funds.**

### **Learning to Achieve**

Six Kansas instructors and local program coordinators completed the NIFL/LINCS *Learning to Achieve* Train-the-Trainer workshop in the fall of 2010. They will offer two-day regional workshops in four sites in Kansas during the fall of 2011.

### **Teknimedia Digital Literacy Project**

Teknimedia is a web-based digital literacy curriculum with both knowledge and performance-based assessments and instruction. It was fully implemented in fall of 2011.

### **Standards-in-Action Project**

During this year, Kansas carried out a substantive evaluation of the project and designed a plan for sustainability. The plan includes completion of Innovations 2 and 3 in five programs and expanding participation in the Curriculum and Instruction for Instructors and the Curriculum and Instruction for Directors training

### **Program Improvement Plans**

In FY 2011, Kansas disseminated up to 5% of the State Leadership funds to local programs for site-determined professional development activities linked to their program's annual improvement plan. Local programs are required to submit a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) with an objective that can be measured as having a significant impact on learner outcomes. Professional development activities are then linked to the PIP objective and progress reviewed quarterly as well as annually.

## **Effectiveness of the adult education and literacy activities based on the core indicators of performance**

The Kansas *Indicators of a Quality Adult Education Program* are used as a basis for monitoring and evaluating performance in adult education program. Kansas Board of Regents Adult Education contracted with Cary Brinegar, a former special education director, to conduct on-site monitoring visits and to evaluate programs' effectiveness based on the twenty-five measures of the ten quality indicators.

### **Educational Gains**

Kansas learners exceeded both the negotiated targets and last years' percentages in all ABE/ASE levels, except ASE Low. In that level, the percent of learners completing level improved by seven percentage points, but that was not enough to reach the target of 58%. Overall, 68% of ABE/ASE learners completed a level.

In ESL, the picture is not as clear or positive. Although the percentage of learners completing a level improved in all ESL EFLs, Kansas met its target only in ESL Beginning Literacy. The disparity between target and outcomes was 2% or less, except in EAL Advanced, where Kansas had set an aspirational target which was 15% higher than its 2009-10 achievement. Overall, 63% of ESL learners completed a level

The improvement in level completion during the past year must at least in part be attributable to the improvement in the portion of students who were post tested from 67% in 2009-10 to 74% in 2010-11

### **Employment**

Forty-five percent of Kansas learners who had the goal of entering employment did so. That is identical to last year's percentage, but 3% short of the target. Kansas fell just 1% short of its targets for Retained Employment this year, but was 20% lower than last year's achievement of 79%.

### **GED or secondary Certificate**

Kansas exceeded the target of 82% GED achievement by 3%.

### **Transition to Post secondary Education**

Kansas exceeded the target for transition to postsecondary Target was 78%, and Kansas achieved 89.9%, a 15% increase over last year.



## **Integration of activities sponsored under Title II with other adult education, career development, and employment and training activities, including integration and coordination with Workforce Investment Act partners.**

### **A. Coordination with Workforce Investment Act partners:**

#### **ABE to Credentials/Accelerating Opportunities**

The Kansas Board of Regents was awarded a planning grant for *ABE to Credentials: a Breaking through Initiative*, which is designed to promote improved academic access and economic opportunity for low-skilled adults. The Kansas Design Team brought together the Department of Commerce (state WIA administrator), Department of Labor, the Technical Education Authority, LWIBS, representatives of the Wichita Manufacturers Association and Kansas Hospital Association, and KBOR workforce development, financial aid, and adult education leaders to plan how partnerships will develop career pathways, integrated instruction, dual enrollment strategies, comprehensive student support, and a longitudinal participant data system in order to meet the goal of 450 students at eight colleges earning marketable, stackable credentials by the completion of grant's implementation phase in fall 2014.

#### **KansasWorks State and Local Boards**

The KansasWorks State Board was established in 2006 to function as the State Workforce Investment Board. The state director is an appointed member of this board. This appointment by the Governor is an example of a reinvigorated relationship at the state level with our Title I partners. Three of five LWIBs also include representation from adult education programs.

#### **Keeping Kansas Competitive: Career Pathways Summit**

Over 160 representatives of private employers, K-12 schools, postsecondary education, nonprofit organizations, state and local governments, and Workforce Investment Boards from across Kansas participated in learning and dialogue focused on the challenge of preparing workers with the basic and technical skills demanded by industries. With funding support from Preparation for Advanced Career Employment System (PACES) and a Career Pathways grant from the U.S. Department of Labor the Summit produced statements on career pathways from different perspectives. Several were especially relevant to ABE.

- From the employer perspective: employers need an integrated approach to ABE, soft skills development, and relevant technical training that is structured around nationally-portable certificates.

- From the education perspective: Community and Technical Colleges have a vital role in integrating ABE with technical career training in order to move students further and faster on a career pathway.

**KHPOP**

The Kansas Department of Commerce (Commerce) received a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide health care education, training and employment for those who will be losing SRS benefits within 12 months and those who are at or below 200% of the poverty level. In partnership with Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program and Kansas Board of Regents, Adult Education (AE) program, the Kansas Health Profession Opportunity Program (KHPOP) is helping to address the labor shortage in health care occupations while providing career pathways for candidates that traditionally face obstacles in finding well-paying jobs. Commerce specifically provided Kansas Board of Regents AE \$108,800 to develop and implement career pathway programs modeled after I-BEST programs (Washington State). The nine funded adult education programs must include a 25% instructional overlap between basic education and skills training. The one-stops will have career coaches who will help the participants through every phase of their education and training plan.

**4. Successful Activities and Services Supported with EL Civics Funds.**

Although the number of programs receiving EL Civics funding was reduced in FY 2011, the outcomes increased as evident in the table below: .

	<b>Completed an Educational Level</b>	<b>Achieved Citizenship Skills</b>	<b>Entered Post Secondary Education</b>	<b>Achieved GED</b>	<b>Total</b>
2009-2010	566	359	7	1	933
2010-2011	657	611	39	7	1314