

VT State House testimonial from Sunghee Jones at ELL class.

April 7th, 2017

My name is Sunghee and I'm an ELL, English Language Learner student at VT Adult Learning. I've made good friends at VAL including people from China, Ecuador, Japan, Russia, and Syria. Every Tuesday, when I walk in to VAL, teachers and staff welcome me with warm smiles. They are always happy and enthusiastic to provide this great opportunity to anyone in the community who wishes to learn.

Living in the US for 17 years with only foreign education from South Korea, I made the same mistakes in English everyday, over and over. I was looking for a class that fits my needs. Class at VAL is fulfilling my need for English skill and continuing to improve it. It helps me to understand better daily news on VPR radio and guide me to the next level of comprehension. Especially, this era, there're so many things have happened and are happening which I'd like to be engaged with daily.

I'm a full-time mom as well as a part-time graphic designer, landlord/property manager and provide housing to mainly low-income families and single parent. ELL program helped me to develop more confidence in my English and enhanced communication skill with my clients and tenants.

Some of teachers and staff at VAL inspired me to give back to the community with what I have received from VAL. I've become a volunteer driver and provide rides to seniors age 60 and over as well as physically challenged adults for medical appointments.

VAL not only gave me a chance to learn and improve my English but also gave me an opportunity to think how I can give this gratitude back to the community and to think deeply how I could be a better mother, wife and person and consider others like all the staff at VAL.

This gratitude motivated me to come to the VT state house to speak on behalf of VAL.
Thank you.