



**Please Support the AEL Network’s request for an additional \$1.4million in FY2023 to address both historic underfunding and ongoing expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

We, the undersigned, write to ask the Vermont Legislature to support the Adult Education & Literacy Network’s request for an additional \$1.4million in FY2023 to address both historic underfunding and ongoing expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Vermont’s four non-profit Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) service providers (Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, The Tutorial Center of Bennington County and Vermont Adult Learning) offer a broad range of services that build assets and change people’s lives. Their students are at the center of their work. Success looks different for every student, and the AEL programming and activities are specifically tailored to each student’s unique needs and goals.

Vermont’s AEL students are often the most vulnerable and underserved of our communities. We want to ensure that all people who live in Vermont have access to the free services and critical support that the AEL providers offer.

Adult Education and Literacy services help people build the assets they need to move out of poverty successfully, as well as the confidence to continue to move toward success throughout their lives. All the AEL providers work with students to improve basic skills in reading, writing and math in order for their students to further their education or get a better job. We hope you will support the AEL providers with additional funding in the FY2023 state budget. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alchemist Foundation  
 Bennington Free Library  
 Black River Innovation Campus  
 BPAC/Oldcastle Theatre Company  
 BROC Community Action  
 Capstone Community Action  
 Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region  
 Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity  
 Community College of Vermont  
 Community National Bank  
 Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation  
 Green Mountain United Way  
 North Country Hospital  
 Northwestern Counseling & Support Services  
 Orleans County Restorative Justice Center

Partnerships for Literacy and Learning  
 Randolph Area Community Development Corporation  
 ReSOURCE A Nonprofit Community Enterprise  
 Second Congregational Church, UCC  
 Solomon Wright Public Library  
 Southeastern VT Community Action (SEVCA)  
 Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union  
 The Bank of Bennington  
 The Center for Restorative Justice  
 United Way of Addison County  
 United Way of Rutland County  
 VABIR/Creative Workforce Solutions  
 Vermont Adult Career and Technical Education Association  
 Washington County Youth Service Bureau  
 Working Communities Challenge of Lamoille