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Providing Staff and Program Development for Boston-Area Adult Basic Education Programs

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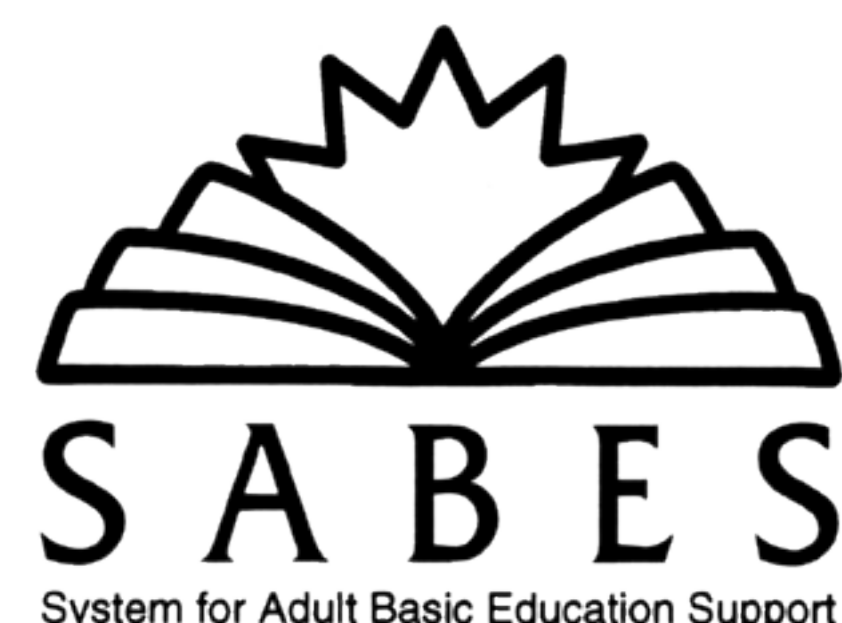


Providing Staff and Program Development for Boston-Area Adult Basic Education Programs

Adult Literacy Resource Institute/SABES Greater Boston Regional Support Center
College of Education and Human Development

Summary/Abstract

The Adult Literacy Resource Institute (part of UMass Boston since 1983, and 100% grant-funded) serves as the Greater Boston Regional Support Center for SABES, the state's System for Adult Basic Education Support. We provide a variety of staff and program development services to adult basic education programs in the Boston area, especially the approximately 40 programs in the region (most located at community-based organizations) that are funded by the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and that offer ESOL, basic literacy and numeracy, GED preparation, and other classes (including family literacy, civics education, career pathways, and college transition).



Goals and Objectives

The mission of the A.L.R.I. and of SABES as a whole is to promote high-quality adult basic education services through professional development, program support, and other resources that improve the skills and knowledge of practitioners and that strengthen programs. Each year, SABES collaborates with its funder, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, to develop a workplan that determines and guides our work for the year.

Results/Impacts

For 28 years the A.L.R.I./SABES Greater Boston RSC has provided necessary staff and program development support to adult basic education programs in the Boston area. The programs we primarily work with currently include:

Downtown Boston: -ABCD LearningWorks Community Center -Bridge Over Troubled Waters -International Institute of Boston -Jewish Vocational Service Allston/Brighton: -Crittenton Women's Union -Jackson/Mann Community Center Charlestown: -Charlestown Community Center Chinatown: -Asian American Civic Association -Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center Dorchester: -BPS Adult Learning Center -College Bound Dorchester -Haitian Multi-Service Center -Mujeres Unidas en Accion	South Boston: -Notre Dame Education Center -NDEC/Julie's Family Learning Program South End: -Blackstone Community Center -United South End Settlements HydePark/W.Roxbury -Jewish Vocational Service/Hyde Park -Ohrenberger Community Center Cambridge: -Community Learning Center -Concilio Hispano Somerville: -SCALE Other: -Suffolk County House of Correction -Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts -Worker Education Program -Voice and Future Fund Workplace Ed,
East Boston: -Harborside Community Center Fenway: -YMCA International Services Jamaica Plain: -El Centro del Cardenal -Jamaica Plain Community Center Mattapan: -ABCD/Mattapan Adult Education North End: -ABCD Neighborhood Service Center Roslindale: -ABCD/SouthSide Headstart Roxbury: -Dimock Center -ESAC/GED Plus -La Alianza Hispana -WAITT House	

Approaches and Methods

The A.L.R.I./SABES Greater Boston RSC provides a wide range of free professional development activities and other support services to teachers, counselors, and administrators at adult basic education programs in the Boston area. We provide mini-courses, workshops, sharing groups, program-based support, on-line activities, and individual technical assistance related to teaching and learning, curriculum and assessment, counseling and student support, program management and planning, workforce development and college transition, technology and data reporting, and other areas. Beginning this year, the A.L.R.I. is also focusing specifically on developing and providing professional development on teaching writing to adults. Additionally, the A.L.R.I. maintains and operates the statewide SABES Literacy Library, which serves all ABE practitioners and programs throughout Massachusetts. The SABES website (www.sabes.org) provides information on the SABES system and on the individual centers, including the A.L.R.I., and provides numerous resources for ABE practitioners statewide.

Additional Partnerships, Interests, Information and/or Contacts

Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education/Adult and Community Learning Services and by the City of Boston/EDIC/Office of Jobs and Community Services. Contact information--A.L.R.I. Director: Steve Reuys, 7-4071, steve.reuys@umb.edu