



## Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education

**Steven L. Beshear**  
Governor

**Kentucky Adult Education**  
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 250  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-8204  
Phone: 502-573-5114  
Fax: 502-573-5436  
[www.kyae.ky.gov](http://www.kyae.ky.gov)

**Robert L. King**  
President

**Reecie D. Stagnolia**  
Vice President

December 15, 2014

Dear Kentucky Adult Educators and Public Librarians:

The Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives (KDLA) and Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE), Council on Postsecondary Education, are working together to encourage effective collaborations between local libraries and adult education programs. The goal of this joint effort is to enhance the skills, employability, and quality of life for Kentuckians with low skills.

Likewise, Kentucky public libraries and adult education centers can improve the lives of many Kentuckians by working together. We encourage local public libraries and adult education programs to consider one or more of the following partnership opportunities:

- Refer students and patrons, promoting partners' services;
- Share resources, from lists of educational/digital literacy websites to hosting satellite sites for adult education programs; and
- Co-host relevant, shared-interest events.

Our state-level collaboration began similarly, more than a year ago, as librarians participated in a KDLA-facilitated webinar session featuring KYAE staff sharing information about the 2013 KYAE GED® testing closeout campaign. Since that time, two more joint KDLA/KYAE webinar sessions have been held, and some local adult education programs and public libraries co-sponsored activities for the National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week this past September. A newly created library/adult education partnership pilot will launch in January 2015, and we look forward to future collaborations between KDLA and KYAE.

We are proud to report that Kentucky's collaborative efforts were ahead of the national curve. On June 23, 2014, Susan Hildreth, director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Johan Uvin, acting assistant secretary of the Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, distributed a joint letter encouraging the types of collaborations we had already begun doing in Kentucky.



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We can do more for our low-skilled residents together than we can as individual entities. As Hildreth has said, "Public libraries are great equalizers, making services and information available to all learners in their communities. This joint initiative combines the strength of libraries, often providing the only free source of Internet access, with the strength of the adult education system, which provides training expertise, tools, and resources for youth and adults with low literacy. Working together, we can improve the lives of many Americans."

Therefore, your local partnership will help ensure that more of your community's residents are aware of and have access to services that are critical for both your county's and Kentucky's educational and economic growth. Thank you for your assistance in strengthening the collaboration between public libraries and adult education programs.

Handwritten signature of Wayne Onkst in black ink.

**Wayne Onkst**

State Librarian and Commissioner  
Kentucky Department for  
Libraries & Archives

Handwritten signature of Reecie D. Stagnolia in blue ink.

**Reecie D. Stagnolia**

Vice-President  
Kentucky Adult Education,  
Council on Postsecondary Education