

ADULT LITERACY COMMUNITY CHANGE DRAFT

Definitions:

Adult Education: the practice of educating adults where adults cumulate a knowledge and experience to add value to the learning experience and where adults apply their knowledge in a practical fashion in order to learn effectively.

-Wikipedia.com "Adult Education"

Comprehensive Family Literacy: integration of four areas of education

- 1) Adult education
- 2) Early childhood education
- 3) Parent groups
- 4) Parent and Child Together Time (PACT)

-National Center for Family Literacy

"Learnings from the Group"

2. GED/ESOL should be offered at times and location that meet the needs of residents.
3. Athens Tech needs to coordinate with GED/ESL programs to develop transitional support services.
- ... 5. Training and professional development is needed to adequately train instructors
6. Adequate pay for GED/ESL instructors."

-excerpt from Education Committee Summary 7/24/06

Funding opportunities and challenges:

"Even Start Family Literacy Program, [is] a federal initiative whose future is in jeopardy because current funding will end next year...because of its age, the program - which has received funding for 11 years - can no longer apply for federal money to pay its \$586,690 budget. The federal government doesn't fund these programs in perpetuity, but forces established programs to find other funding sources...The program might survive, but only under a new name and only if organizers find other funding to replace federal sources"

-Athens Banner Herald, "Even Start Fears its Finished", by Jeffery Whitfield, pb. 10/06/06

What do people needing adult education see as their needs?

"With pregnancy, you need [someone] to take care of the baby... there is no day care at the school for teen parents who want to continue with their schooling.

-NAACP Youth Council, 7/22/2006

What are the barriers in continuing your education?

-"No one is stopping me. But I need a babysitter I can trust."

-EHS Community Assessment, 2/1/2006

One man enrolled at Athens Tech, in an ESL class, but couldn't continue because of tuition costs... it's difficult to apply for scholarships or attend school because you must meet requirements like having a SS card... this is a particular problem for people without documents.

-Youth Group at Catholic Church, 7/14/2006

"ESL and GED classes should be offered on weekends and in afternoons"

-Youth Group at Catholic Church, 7/14/2006

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-Early Head Start Parents meeting, 7/13/2006