

Literacy Volunteers of East Bay

An Affiliate of ProLiteracy America



~Fighting for literacy one person at a time~

December 2009/January 2010

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Thank you for recently contacting us about becoming a literacy volunteer. Literacy Volunteers of East Bay provides free, confidential literacy tutoring to the adult communities of Bristol, Warren, Barrington, and East Providence. Tutoring is done at the libraries in these communities, where it is most convenient for the tutor and student to meet, and each library has a collection of literacy materials that may be used. Most tutors spend about two hours per week tutoring their student, but this varies widely among tutor/student matches; we ask that prospective tutors plan to commit to one year (100 hours) of tutoring.

Participants become certified tutors after completing 16 hours of tutor training under the direction of Dr. Jean Marrapodi. Because many of our students are English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), also referred to as ELL, English Language Learners, our workshop includes teaching techniques for working with ESOL as well as for basic reading, spelling and writing. Tutors are assigned a student on the last day of the training and after tutoring for one month, we will re-gather for a reunion/debriefing. We generally offer the tutor training once every three months.

Our next Tutor Training will take place in late September, early October at our LV East Bay office at 17 Croade, in Warren. We are the little white house directly behind the Warren Library. Sessions are scheduled for the following dates:

Tuesday, January 12, 6:30-9 pm

Saturday, January 16, 9 am-3 pm (w/ a break for lunch)

Tuesday, January 19, 6:30-9 pm

Tuesday, January 26, 6:30-9 pm

Tuesday, February 2, 6:30-9 pm

While the training is free, we do ask prospective tutors to pay \$25 to cover the cost of each tutor binder and manual, which will be yours to keep and use after the workshops. If you wish to enroll, please complete the enclosed intake form and return it by mail with your \$25 material fee.

Incidentally, LVEB has an In-Service, scheduled for our tutors on Saturday, January 30th, from 9-3pm. All tutors (including those in training) are welcomed to attend. Topic to be announced.

We also strongly suggest that before training begins, you complete a short, free online tutorial 'Orientation to Volunteering in Literacy' through Thinkfinity Literacy Network. The URL is <http://literacynetwork.verizon.org/TLN>. Find enclosed (or attached) directions on how to register for this online course. You are welcomed to complete any other courses.

Feel free to call me at 247-2177 if you have any questions. Again, thank you for your interest; I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Jolene Hamil-Cole, Program Director

