



# NEDP News

March 2024



## 2024 CHANGING LIVES SCHOLARSHIP

The NEDP scholarship provides tuition assistance to attend an **accredited public or nonprofit** postsecondary institution that offers a vocational certificate, associate's degree, or four-year degree. Those who have completed all NEDP requirements from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, are eligible. Additional details, the application, and the letter of recommendation forms are available on the NEDP website.

**Please share this opportunity with eligible graduates!**



## 2024 NEDP CHANGING LIVES CONFERENCE

Check the [NEDP website](#) for updates on the 2024 NEDP Changing Lives Conference to be held in beautiful Niagara Falls, New York.

**September 30 to October 1, 2024 - Mark your calendars!**  
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel – Niagara Falls, New York

Join us for a two-day conference packed with informative sessions, panels, and time to spend with NEDP practitioners from across the United States. All of this within walking distance of Goat Island, where you can see the mighty falls and New York State's beautiful fall foliage. You also will be within walking distance of Canada, so bring your passport!

**Registration links and call for presentations will be open soon.**



## NEDP TRAINING

The training for non-NEDP staff was successful, with sixty-three participants over the two available sessions. This training provided a working understanding of the NEDP for instructors, administrators, and support staff at NEDP agencies. Certificates of attendance have been sent to all attendees; if you have not received your certificate, please email [aditto@casas.org](mailto:aditto@casas.org).

**Spring National Training** is nearing its final week. Updates will be shared in next month's newsletter.

## CASAS IN THE NEWS



## NEWS AND UPDATES WEBINARS

CASAS National News and Updates Webinar, April 17, 2024. [Reserve a seat today.](#)

Find current and past webinar links and information on the CASAS website [HERE](#).

## CASAS NATIONAL SUMMER INSTITUTE 2024 - REGISTER TODAY



**June 17-20, 2024**

Registration is now open for the 2024 CASAS National Summer Institute at the Hyatt Regency Orange County, California. With more than 120 training sessions, workshops, hands-on labs, and panels, the Summer Institute is an exceptional adult education professional development event you won't want to miss. Visit the [CASAS website](#) for more information on this year's conference.

[REGISTER HERE.](#)

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## NEDP UPDATES

### FIELD TEST



### CULTURAL LITERACY FIELD TESTS ARE UNDERWAY

Past NEDP graduates were emailed with the opportunity to participate in a two-part field test for NEDP's Cultural Literacy competency. Testing should be complete within the next month. Thank you to those who encouraged past clients to partake in this process.



### NEDP PROFESSIONALS PAGE

An updated NEDP Policy Manual and NEDP Information Kit are now posted on the NEDP Professionals Page. The Policy Manual is under Administration > NEDP Policy and Manuals and the Information Kit is under Resources > Marketing. The Information Kit is also available on the NEDP website for potential providers. We encourage you to share and use the updated infographics for your classrooms.

Welcome

### NEDP UPDATE ON NEW MEXICO VISIT

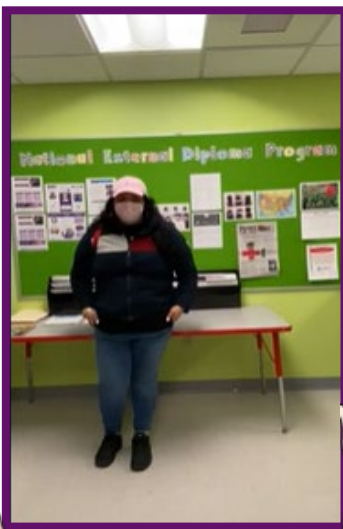
We'd like to give a warm NEDP welcome to Los Alamos UNM, a new NEDP provider in New Mexico. Six New Mexico NEDP staff were trained at the beginning of March.

## NEDP ON THE WEB - WE SEE YOU!

### CONGRATULATIONS HARTFORD ADULT EDUCATION CENTER

While browsing the internet for NEDP news, the [Hartford Adult Education website](#) popped up. The program has utilized Google sites to create a website for their program. Some best practices that stand out on this site are listed below:

1. A separate page for the National External Diploma Program
2. NEDP resources from the Professionals Page
3. Clear information on what NEDP is and how to register
4. Contact information is easy to find
5. [Student success stories](#)
6. The video below is on the success story page - using their best marketing tool – their students!



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NEDP News, March 2024

★  
*Changing  
Lives!*



**Karla  
Ramos**



Prince  
William  
County  
Public  
Schools  
~  
Virginia

Do you have an inspiring client whom you would like to nominate to be in the spotlight?

Do you know a staff member who goes above and beyond and deserves to be in the spotlight?

Please complete the [NEDP Spotlight form](#) so we can shine some light on NEDP's finest!

You may also email: [aditto@casas.org](mailto:aditto@casas.org)

Karla Ramos, an NEDP 2023 scholarship finalist, encompasses the true essence of *Changing Lives*. Karla, a hard-working mother of three, shares her story of perseverance, commitment, and success.

Getting my high school diploma at 37 took a lot of determination, perseverance, and self-discipline. It wasn't easy to balance my family responsibilities, personal commitments, finances, and studies, but I stayed committed to my personal growth. As a parent, earning my diploma meant a lot to me, especially in terms of being a positive influence on my children.



I have a 4-year-old, a 15-year-old, and an 18-year-old who just graduated in the class of 2023. It was important for me to show them the importance of education and be a role model they could look up to. Having the chance to get my diploma at the same time as my teenage daughter was a unique and exciting experience. I had to carefully plan and manage my time to balance my own studies and support my daughter during her senior year and college preparations.



The NEDP introduced me to different subjects and expanded my knowledge, giving me valuable skills that have been useful in various areas of my life. Overcoming academic challenges in the program sharpened my analytical abilities, helping me approach problems from different perspectives and make informed decisions. It provided great opportunities for personal growth, learning important skills, and a commitment to lifelong learning. The program equipped me with essential life skills, including public speaking, which are highly relevant in today's job market. I am also grateful for the unwavering support and motivation from my NEDP advisor/instructor. Her guidance throughout this challenging journey has been crucial to my success. Recognizing the importance of a supportive mentor is essential, and her presence has played a critical role in keeping me motivated and determined to overcome obstacles along the way.



Now that I have achieved this significant milestone, I aspire to become a source of inspiration for individuals who may be encountering similar obstacles or considering pursuing higher education later in life. My personal journey stands as a testament to the transformative power of education and highlights the significance of adult programs, such as NEDP offered by my agency. I hope my achievements can motivate others to embrace opportunities for growth and personal development that education can provide, regardless of age or circumstances. I am confident this experience will shape me into a more empowered and enlightened individual because through the program I learned by effectively balancing my responsibilities and prioritizing my education, I can achieve my goals.



The NEDP team would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Karla and her advisor, Heidi Wethered, of Prince William County Public Schools. Karla's dedication and hard work are truly commendable, and we admire her determination to pursue her goals, change her life, and inspire her children and others who relate to her story. We wish Karla continued success and fulfillment as she continues her journey of learning and growth.



The NEDP 2024 Changing Lives Scholarship is currently accepting applications and recommendations. Please share the website information with your 2023-2024 graduates.



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