



Empowering Adults to Achieve Their Education and Career Goals

SEPTEMBER 2025

CASAS NATIONAL NEWS AND UPDATES WEBINAR



Join CASAS for the
National News and Updates Webinar!

- November 12, 2025, 11 a.m. PT
- Reserve a seat

NEDP NATIONAL TRAINING IS UNDERWAY

Nearly 30 new and returning NEDP advisor/assessor trainees are now participating in online training with NEDP Director Margaret Kirkpatrick and Janita McNemar, NEDP's National Trainer. We're excited to see them complete the program and join the NEDP team.

NEDP FALL TRAINING



NEDP ON THE MOVE: ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO



NEDP Trainer Janita McNemar attended the **New Mexico Adult Education Association Conference** in Albuquerque, New Mexico in September. Along with connecting to NEDP practitioners at the booth, Janita and New Mexico State Trainer Erin Clark hosted a well-attended session on NEDP as a pathway to the New Mexico Adult Equivalency.

NEDP WELCOMES THE CHAVEZ EXTENSION PROGRAM



We are pleased to welcome the **Chavez Extension Program** from YOLO County as a new NEDP site.

NEDP Director Margaret Kirkpatrick and National Trainer Janita McNemar recently visited YOLO County to provide comprehensive training for the new staff. We're confident that their dedication will be a great asset, and we are glad to have them join our NEDP community.

ENCOURAGE ADULT LEARNERS TO ADVOCATE FOR FUNDING



Advocate today!

As NEDP advisors and assessors, you see firsthand how adult education changes lives. Every year, more than a million adults build literacy, math, digital, and workforce skills, earn a diploma or equivalency, and strengthen their communities through these programs.

However, the future of adult education funding is uncertain. The delay in Fiscal Year 2025 funding caused real challenges, programs had to freeze enrollment, postpone services, and consider staff reductions. Without strong and timely support for Fiscal Year 2026, we risk facing even deeper disruptions, fewer classes, and longer waitlists for the learners we serve.

You can play a key role in encouraging adult learners to advocate for themselves and their communities. **By guiding learners to speak up, we amplify their voices and ensure decision-makers hear how critical these programs are.**

Additionally, this activity could be used to fulfill your client's Civic Participation task.

Please share this link with your learners: **Fund Our Futures – COABE Action Form**

This information is adapted from the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE).

NEW NEDP SOFTWARE AND CONTENT ISSUES FORM



New Digital Form for NEDP Staff

We've replaced the NEDP Software and Content Issues Form with a new digital version, making it easier to access and submit your requests. The new form will be housed on the NEDP Professionals page for quick reference.

Please use this updated link moving forward: **NEDP Software and Content Issues Form.**

SKILLBLOX: FREE RESOURCES FOR ADULT EDUCATORS

SkillBlox, an initiative of World Education, is a digital resource tool that brings together free educational content from a variety of sources all in one place.

It's designed to help educators easily **find, organize, adapt, and share** quality learning materials with their students.

You'll find resources on a wide range of topics, including:

- **Civics Education**
- **Digital Literacy**
- **Financial Literacy**
- **Math**
- And more!

To get a better understanding of how it works, you can watch the **"What is SkillBlox?"** video or read the **Instructor Tutorial** guide, which shows you how to integrate these free online resources into your lessons. Visit www.skillblox.org for more information.



NEDP AGENCIES - WE SEE YOU!

Gerard Place is leading the way with creative outreach by producing short videos to highlight the NEDP. In a recent feature, Amanda Hibbard shares how the program is making an impact. These videos not only encourage new clients to explore NEDP but also serve as a great example for other agencies looking for fresh marketing and outreach ideas.

Check it out below!



SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS: TINA DUFF

Culver City Adult School celebrates their first graduate from NEDP, Tina Duff! This milestone highlights both the determination of the graduate and the dedication of the staff who supported her along the way.

For Tina, the decision to join the National External Diploma Program came quickly: "It was offered to me by my teacher at the adult school and I instantly agreed." While on disability leave from work, she committed herself to finishing the program as efficiently as possible. Like many NEDP participants, she encountered challenges along the way. Some assignments required multiple revisions, but she refused to give up: "One really stands out of them all. I had to do it over several times, but once it came back demonstrated/confirmed I was thrilled."

Tina's perseverance paid off. Just days after earning her diploma, she was offered the job she had long been striving toward. "Earning my diploma has had a powerful impact on my life. Now I have it, nothing can stop me. I plan on advancing in my career and continuing my education. I finally have opportunities to achieve at a higher level."

"I don't believe I would have finished without NEDP. This program changed everything for me." ~ Tina Duff



Culver City Adult School Celebrates First NEDP Graduate

Tina's advisor, Shannon, has witnessed this transformation firsthand. Having learned about NEDP through CASAS Summer Institute, Shannon quickly became an advocate for offering the program at Culver City Adult School. "When I first met my client, she was working very hard toward the GED, but the testing pathway was frustrating. Once she was accepted into NEDP, I could see her confidence grow as she mastered each competency."

Shannon believes the strength of the NEDP lies in its structure and support: "I feel confident that a client will complete the NEDP if they keep working through the competencies and refuse to give up. I try to celebrate successes along the way and



leave encouraging feedback, so clients stay motivated. Seeing my first client graduate has made me more passionate than ever about NEDP."

Together, Tina's persistence and Shannon's guidance reflect the transformative potential of NEDP. Their story demonstrates how this program not only provides a diploma, but also builds confidence, opens doors to career opportunities, and creates lasting change.

NEDP extends heartfelt congratulations to Tina and Shannon on this inspiring milestone!

Do you know an inspiring client or a dedicated staff member who deserves recognition?

Help us highlight NEDP's finest by completing the **NEDP Spotlight Form!**

You can also email your nomination to **aditto@casas.org**.

Let's celebrate those making a difference!



#NEDP #NEDPAdultEdu #CASAS #AdultEducationChangesLives
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