

## EL Civics Making a Difference in the Community Award

### About the Award

A key focus of the California federally funded English Literacy and Civics Education (EL Civics) program is for adult students to acquire the language and literacy skills to become citizens, exercise the rights and duties of citizenship, and effectively interact with, and enrich, the communities in which they live. EL Civics students demonstrate these skills in many ways.

This award identifies those agencies that have fostered and encouraged their students to actively use their newly acquired language and literacy skills to interact with their communities in life changing ways — ways that are making a difference to them, their families, and their communities.

EL Civics: Making a Difference in the Community awards are posted in the resources section of the EL Civics Web site. CASAS is managing the award process for EL Civics: Making a Difference in the Community.



*A Los Angeles Community Adult School EL Civics student displays information she received during the school's May 2005 Community Resources Fair. EL Civics students first created a Directory of Community Services, then organized a fair that showcased 55 community agencies listed in the directory. More than 1,250 students and community members participated. The agency received one of the 2004-05 EL Civics — **Making a Difference in the Community Awards**.*

### Criteria for EL Civics: Making a Difference Award

- Potential student activities are identified through various sources, including staff in Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title II funded agencies, CDE Consultants, EL Civics Program Specialists, and the WIA II Program Evaluation Survey and submitted to the CASAS Evaluation Team. The team, along with EL Civics Program Specialists, reviews the submissions and refers them to the CDE for final approval.
- Each of the exemplary activities addresses a specific learning objective, including an additional assessment component in which a class or classes participated, and provides a description of student outcomes that demonstrate how the students applied their learning to make a positive difference in their communities.
- Learning outcomes should demonstrate a positive community impact involving one class, several classes, or a group of students.

For more information contact CASAS at 1 (800) 255-1036.