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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Celebrating Adult Education and Family Literacy Week: September 19-25**

The National Center for Educational Statistics reports that fifty-two million working-age adults (ages 16-65) have low literacy skills. Low-literacy is associated with high unemployment, low wages, greater food insecurity, increased homelessness and lower educational achievement of dependent children. In Vermont, approximately 40,000 adults lack a high school credential.

Vermont Adult Learning (VAL) helps adult learners, ages 16 and older, acquire reading, writing, math and computer skills to earn a high school diploma/GED. VAL also offers academic advising and workforce development, linking students to college and/or continued job training. Services are free.

“As we celebrate National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week, it’s important to remember the vast untapped potential these individuals represent,” said Hal Cohen, VAL Executive Director. “We help students define their educational and career goals, mapping out a path to success.”

VAL’s Mission is to create an innovative, inclusive and equitable learning environment that provides personalized opportunities for education and career development for Vermont residents by building relationships, strengthening communities and fostering life-long learning. Learn more at [www.vtadultlearning.org](http://www.vtadultlearning.org).

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Note: Vermont Adult Learning serves the following counties: Franklin, Grand Isle, Chittenden, Addison, Rutland, Windsor and Windham

#### **Central Office**

46 South Main Street  
Waterbury, VT 05676  
802-244-0634

#### **Chittenden County**

77 College Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
802-846-7245

#### **Rutland County**

16 Evelyn St., Ste. 101  
Rutland, VT 05701  
802-775-0617

#### **Windsor County**

225 Maple Street, Unit 6  
White River Jct., VT 05001  
802-299-2469

#### **Addison County**

99 Maple Street, #18  
Middlebury, VT 05753  
802-388-4392

#### **Franklin & Grand Isle**

5 Lemnah Dr., Ste. 5  
St. Albans, VT 05478  
802-524-9233

#### **Windham County**

999 Putney Road  
Brattleboro, VT 05301  
802-257-9449

#### **Windsor County**

100 River Street, Ste. 102  
Springfield, VT 05156  
802-546-0880

