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# MCAE NEWS



The Voice of Adult Education in Massachusetts

March 11, 2010

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Northeast  
Region  
Advocacy  
Meeting  
scheduled for  
Monday  
March 22,  
2010 at 1pm.

## Crittenton Women's Union Releases Two Reports that Focus on Jobs and Economic Independence

Crittenton Women's Union (CWU), a Boston-based innovator in breaking the cycle of poverty, released on Monday, March 8th, the Massachusetts Economic Independence Index (Mass. Index), which reveals a single parent with two children needs an annual income of \$61,618 in Massachusetts just to get by. Its companion report, "Hot Jobs 2010," also released today, identifies just 11 hot jobs-occupations requiring two years or less of higher education, pay at the Mass. Index level, and have more than a 100 vacancies statewide-down from 26 three years ago.

To view the reports click [Massachusetts Economic Independence Index 2010](#) and [Hot Jobs 2010](#). Visit [www.liveworkthrive.org](http://www.liveworkthrive.org) for more information.

## Adult Literacy Awareness Day - March 18, 2010

Massachusetts Alliance for Adult Literacy (MassAAL) and Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education (MCAE) are pleased to announce that Adult Literacy Awareness Day (ALAD) will be held next Thursday March 18, 2010. Hundreds of adult learners statewide will visit the State House to ask their legislators to support funding for Adult Basic Education (ABE) in the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget. Adult learners will share their stories on why it is important to fund ABE particularly during these difficult fiscal times.

Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz (D-Boston) will kick-off the event and speak in support of ABE. Representative Marie St. Fleur (D-Boston) will speak briefly and introduce Frandy Boyer a Haitian adult learner speaking at the event who attends an ABE program at Haitian Multi-Service Center in Dorchester. Additionally, MCAE will give Representative Daniel Bosley (D-North Adams) the MCAE Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding dedication to adult basic education and his many years of service advocating for funding for ABE and the needs of adult learners statewide.

To register for Adult Literacy Awareness Day please [click here](#) for the registration form and send it to Teha Woodrow, MassAAL Associate, by fax at (617) 445-5989 or by email [teha.woodrow@yahoo.com](mailto:teha.woodrow@yahoo.com).

## Tips to Make Adult Literacy Awareness Day A Success

Adult Literacy Awareness Day (ALAD) is always an exciting day for students and MCAE wants to make sure your day is a success. Since the event attracts hundreds of students statewide here are some tips to make your day go smoothly.

- Arrive early. There are only two State House entrances and you must pass through metal detectors. This always takes longer than you plan for.
- Metal belts and jewelery set off the metal detectors and you will be asked remove these items.
- Pack light. Encourage students to leave backpacks, or metal items at home.
- If there is a long line at the front Beacon Street/Hooker Statue entrance you should walk around to the entrance located on the plaza on the back side of the State House.
- Schedule an appointment with your legislators either before or after the ALAD event in Gardner Auditorium. Look up who your elected officials are at [www.wheredoivotema.com](http://www.wheredoivotema.com).
- Call and reserve a formal State House tour either before or after the ALAD event in Gardner Auditorium. To reserve call 617-727-3676. You can also lead your own tour using the [State House Tour Information](#).

Remember the most important thing to do on ALAD is visit legislative offices and ask them to support level funding of \$28 million for ABE in the FY11 budget!!

Please feel free to contact Jennifer McAllister at [jmcallister@mcae.net](mailto:jmcallister@mcae.net) or 508-208-0130 with any questions or concerns.

## Roxbury Community College Green Jobs Initiative

Do you know students who have earned their GED and have an interest in an environmental management career? Roxbury Community College's Drinking Water Operator Skills Training program is now enrolling participants to prepare for a career of Environmental Management as a drinking water professional. Participants must be a Boston resident, 18 years or older, eligible to work in the US, have high school diploma or GED, and meet income guidelines. Classes begin on March 31, 2010. Please contact Omesa Spencer at 617-933-7490 for more information.

## Changing Lives: Precious, Policy and Education Lecture at MCLA in North Adams March 23, 2010 at 7pm

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA) will use the Oscar-nominated film Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire as a platform to consider issues regarding race, class, economic and social oppression, and the power of education to transform and redeem lives.

Precious focuses on an illiterate, horrifically abused young African-American woman who, with very little help, enrolls in an alternative high

school to try to turn her life around. Although the film is set in the 1980s, the situations it describes persist.

Lisa Cortes, executive producer of *Precious*, and author, educator, and activist Jonathan Kozol will participate in a panel discussion moderated by Emmy Award-winning journalist Carole Simpson, Leader in Residence at Emerson College's School of Communication.

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

7:00 p.m.

MCLA Church Street Center

Free and open to the public. No reservations required.

For more information call (413) 662-5185.

[http://www.mcla.edu/About\\_MCLA/notablespeakers/publicpolicylecture](http://www.mcla.edu/About_MCLA/notablespeakers/publicpolicylecture)

### Northeast Region Advocacy Meeting - March 22, 2010

Join MCAE to discuss Fiscal Year 2011 advocacy efforts. This year's efforts will be focused on maintaining funding for ABE in line item 7035-0002 of the state budget during these difficult fiscal times and seeking increased federal funding of ABE in Title II of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), which is expected to be reauthorized by Congress in the spring of 2010.

The public policy meeting is open to anyone interested in ABE advocacy efforts, and Central region Program Point People are strongly encouraged to attend. The meeting will be facilitated by Jennifer McAllister, MCAE Public Policy Field Organizer.

Northeast Region Advocacy Meeting  
Monday, March 22, 2010, 1:00pm-2:30  
Northern Essex Community College  
45 Franklin Street, Room L251, 2nd floor  
Lawrence, MA 01840

Please RSVP to Jennifer McAllister:  
[jmcallister@mcae.net](mailto:jmcallister@mcae.net) or (508) 208-0130

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