Dover Adult
Learning Center
of Strafford County
61 Locust St., Dover, NH 03820

Board of Directors

Jenna Anand, Pres.
Andrew Odor, VP
Laura Baxter, Sec.
Kim Belair, Treas.
William Badgley
Anna Boudreau
Barbara Cotta
Charlene Hoyt
Rollins L. Janetos
Anne Kisil
Tereza Leite
Shawn Mahoney
Karen Parry
Robert Renshaw

NONPROFIT
U.S. Postage
PAID
Dover, NH 03820
Permit # 602

Thank you to our supporters!

Community Literacy Center

Rotary of Dover, NH
Doing Good. Very Good!

Hannaford

First Seacoast Bank

AARP New Hampshire

Granite United Way

New Hampshire humanities
Connecting people and ideas

COAST

Chipotle

Carol McEntee Student Assistance Fund

Friends of the Center

Andrew Aimesbury Memorial Fund

Revo Casino and Social House

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

Walmart

DOVER ADULT LEARNING CENTER NEWSLETTER

DALC
Learning. About You.

Fall 2025 Volume 25, Issue 3

In the Spotlight—The Future of Adult Education

As our students return to the classrooms and settle into the routine of a new school year, we reflect on the tumultuous start to this year. For our students, it is business as usual. Counselors continue to help them navigate their educational journey and teachers, staff and volunteers offer the same warm, welcoming and supportive environment. However, just a few months ago, a substantial portion of our funding and thus programs and services, were in jeopardy.

At the federal level, adult education is part of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which supports workforce development and helps people find jobs, acquire skills, and connect with employers. The President has proposed the elimination of this federal program in the next fiscal year, which for us is FY27. With the workforce shortage we face in New Hampshire, that would be crippling to business success and economic growth. This work must continue, despite federal changes.

The New Hampshire State Legislature severely reduced its support of the adult high school program, our signature program, in its latest budget. A high school credential is the foundation of all employment, training and further education, opening doors to opportunity for everyone, so it too must continue.

For most of its history, Dover Adult Learning Center (DALC) has benefitted significantly from state and federal funding. However, we recognize how important it is for a nonprofit to be connected to and supported by the community it serves and not be overly reliant on government funding. A solid network of individuals and organizations is necessary to secure and sustain our future.

DALC is fortunate to have a generous community of support from both businesses and individuals. Individual donations have been steadily increasing over the last few years. Businesses like Walmart and Kennebunk Savings Bank have supplied funding for childcare. The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation funded the launch of our new transportation program. Partner organizations like ProLiteracy, New Hampshire Humanities and Granite United Way have kept our vital Civics and US Citizenship program going for years now. Large private donations have been established for student support and scholarship assistance.

Partnerships not only allow us to help students overcome barriers to learning, such as transportation and childcare, but also to provide accessible technology training, making sure no community members are left behind or excluded.

Meanwhile, our board is always looking for ways to expand community engagement and support and we remain committed to serving our constituents while building long-term sustainable funding sources. If you are receiving this newsletter, you are probably part of our community. We thank you for your support and generosity.

Learning. About You.

Around the Center

All Aboard!

After years of trying to solve the transportation challenge so many adult learners face, DALC has finally landed on what we hope will be a lasting solution. In a partnership with Commute with Enterprise, DALC is leasing a 12-passenger van and in late October 2025 began transporting students from Rochester, Somersworth and Dover to their classes at the McConnell Community Center.

In its inaugural run, seven students took advantage of the opportunity. By the second week of the program, it was 11 and the van was at capacity. At the start, Executive Director Deanna Strand was driving the van two days a week. In the second week, we recruited a volunteer to drive the route on Thursdays, and in the third week, we added two more volunteers allowing us to add a Wednesday route.

All of this is possible because of a tremendous community of partners and a generous donation from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. We are now getting 16 people to DALC in a van leased from CWE using COAST bus stops.

Welcome new staff member:

Maggie Barker is the counselor and site coordinator for Dover Adult Learning Center in Rochester whose experience includes management and supervision, non-profit development, project management, client assessment and advocacy and integrated healthcare.

Welcome new board members:

Bill Badgely has been teaching since 1973. He has been with DALC since 2004. After retiring, he continues to teach as a volunteer at DALC. He also facilitates the Connections NH Humanities program for reading and discussion of books in Adult ESL classes.

Karen Parry is an income tax professional of 32 years, specializing in personal, trust and estate tax-return preparation and tax planning. She is also a licensed private pilot and aircraft owner and has flown to 48 contiguous states over 22 years.

In Memoriam

Tony Induisi (the husband of long-time DALC teacher, Minnett Induisi) died Sept. 20, 2025. When Tony was sill in school, his family moved to Lindenhurst, NY, where he met Minnett, the girl who became his lifelong partner. Tony asked her to the junior prom, and from then on, their story was written. A passionate volunteer, Tony dedicated his time to numerous organizations, including End 68 Hours of Hunger, the United Way, the Chamber of Commerce, Dover Children's Home, The American Red Cross, St. John's United Methodist Church, Dover Adult Learning Center, and, most dear to his heart, the Masons, where he was a proud member for 48 years.

Center Stars

Hannah entered DALC in hopes of accomplishing her GED. She would be the first one to tell you, "I am only doing this because my mom wants me to."

Hannah doubted herself and her ability to stay consistent and pass tests. Not only did she worry about her tests, schedules and classes, she had to prepare her daughter to be away from her for the first time in her life.

Hannah had Brooklyn at the young age of 14. Due to childcare barriers Hannah was not able to finish school the traditional way and became a full time stay at home mother.

Hannah and Brooklyn were very attached to each other and the thought of Brooklyn in the care of someone else was a lot on the mind of a young mother.

Brooklyn would cry for Hannah and ask repeatedly, "where is my Hannah?" at the beginning of her journey at DALC. Childcare staff reassured mom, Brooklyn was able to be redirected and self-regulate to enter group play and engage in activities.

As the days passed, Hannah's trust for the childcare staff grew and she began to confide in staff members about her fears and dreams for the future.

Brooklyn quickly felt a sense of belonging and loved being a part of the childcare community.

Hannah took impeccable notes in class and studied late hours. She coached her child through transitions and shared in the joy of Brooklyn's crafts and creations in the classroom.

Hannah stayed consistent and passed each test of the GED on her first attempts. Each test she passed she would enter the Childcare classroom to tell Brooklyn.

She would celebrate her triumph in the safety of true happiness in a space that welcomed her presence and genuinely cheered for her accomplishments.

She completed her high school equivalency in a few short months and plans to apply at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Hannah exited DALC with a diploma, confidence and pride for the pathway she is paving for her and her daughter's future.

Our Programs

English Language Learning

Academics & High School Completion

College, Training & Workforce Prep

Integrated Education & Training

Tutoring

Computer Training

Support Our Work

Become a Friend of the Center

Scan the code below with your phone.
Or got to: doveradultlearning.org/donate