



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BEACON for English Language and Literacy to Partner with Manassas Baptist Church to Expand Access to English and Citizenship Classes

Prince William County, Virginia, July 21, 2023 — BEACON for English Language and Literacy is excited to announce a new partnership with Manassas Baptist Church to expand access to their English and Citizenship classes for adult learners in Prince William County, Manassas, and Manassas Park.

BEACON's Executive Director Jennifer Katac noted that the partnership was needed because the organization has struggled to meet an increased demand for English language classes, especially for in-person classes. BEACON had more than 260 adult learners enrolled in the spring class session which ended in early June. BEACON's new student registration for the fall class session will begin on July 31, 2023, with 140 returning students already preregistered. Students who wish to register, must schedule an appointment via BEACON's webpage: <https://beaconliteracy.org/registration/>

"We are profoundly grateful for our invaluable partnership with Manassas Baptist Church. This collaboration brings with it a crucial expansion of in-person classroom space, empowering adult

learners who are eager to enroll in our classes. Enlisting more volunteers is also vital to support our program's growth and we are hopeful that community members will rise to the occasion and create a positive and meaningful impact." shares Katac.

BEACON is in urgent need of volunteers 18 and older to help teach classes for the fall session. Classes will begin on August 21, 2023. Teaching experience is not required as BEACON provides training and ongoing support. There are morning and evening volunteer opportunities to teach on-site at one of BEACON's four classroom locations (in Manassas and Manassas Park) or online. Interested volunteers can learn more or apply on BEACON's webpage at: <https://beaconliteracy.org/get-involved/volunteer-application/>

For more information, please email Jennifer Katac at beacon@osbva.org or call (703) 331-5513.

BEACON aims to empower Prince William County adult English Language Learners to achieve their educational and employment goals by offering low cost English and Citizenship classes. The non-profit community-based literacy organization was founded in 1992 by Sister Eileen Heaps of the Benedictine Sisters of Virginia and has been named *One of the Best Charities* by the Catalogue for Philanthropy for the past three years. BEACON offers eight levels of English classes from Pre-Literacy to Advanced Grammar and Composition, in addition to Citizenship classes in three 12-week sessions each year and also offers three-week summer conversation classes. When possible, BEACON also provides tutoring to meet unique needs. Volunteers teach BEACON's morning and evening classes in-person at four locations in Manassas and Manassas Park and also online. In the past year students from 48 different countries, speaking 25 native languages have enrolled in classes.

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