

Make it Happen! Develop a Literacy Program at Your Library

Thursday, April 27 | 10 am to 1 pm

Southern Adirondack Library System: [22 Whitney Place, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866](#)

Lunch (pizza & salad) is included (no fee)

Limit: 10 UHLS Participants.

Registration is required: [click to register](#).

Workshop Description:

According to the State Education Department, more than 2.7 million New Yorkers over the age of 16 do not have a high school diploma. An additional 1.2 million adults do not speak English well (or at all), and 22% of New Yorkers have “Below Basic Literacy Skills” -- no more than the most simple and concrete literacy skills.

As educational institutions dedicated to literacy and lifelong learning, what can public libraries do to meet the needs of our neighbors? Find out how to create a community-based literacy program when three public libraries discuss how they meet the literacy needs of their respective communities. Hear how Jennifer Bollerman, head of Adult Services & Reference at Patchogue-Medford Library, Betsy Kennedy, director of Cazenovia Public Library, and Tara Truett, literacy program coordinator from Oneida Public Library/Madison County Reads Ahead, launched successful, library-grown adult literacy programs.

After the presentation, our panelists will lead breakout sessions, designed to help libraries of any size identify ways they can work to help adults become readers.

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Understand how other libraries have created community-based adult literacy programs
2. Evaluate the need for adult literacy in the community served by their library
3. Identify potential community partners
4. Create an adult literacy implementation plan

This workshop is made possible due to a collaboration between Mohawk Valley Library System, Southern Adirondack Library System, and Upper Hudson Library System.

