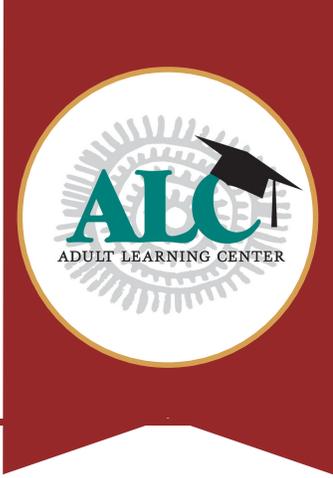


Summer 2021

ADULT LEARNING CENTER



Transforming lives through education since 1979



OUR NEW HOME!

This year has been one of transition and change--including our location!

Read on to hear about our recent move, see some pictures of our new classrooms and offices, and learn about our plans for the fall semester.

Our mission at the Adult Learning Center is to provide motivated adults with basic education, life-long learning opportunities and resources to transform their lives and contribute to their communities.

A LETTER FROM JON



Dear ALC Family,

Happy Summer! Hopefully you are staying healthy and cool on these hot days. Here at the Adult Learning Center, we're in a very different place than we were a year ago - in more ways than one!

First, we've completed our move, and we are enjoying the air conditioning in our new home at 2224 W. Kilbourn Ave! Second, we are beginning to emerge from the pandemic restrictions that moved our program online last March, and we are starting to have more in-person activities.

While our Summer Session (6/7 to 7/29) is officially "virtual", we are beginning to welcome students and tutors into the building to work together on academic goals. Our first 4 student/tutor pairs are working together one or two days a week, and I must say, it feels great to have that "face-to-face" energy back in the classroom! Fully-vaccinated tutors and students can now work together without masks on. We are encouraging all program participants to get a COVID-19 vaccine, and we actually have resources right here on-site in the "City on a Hill" building for folks to get accurate information from medical professionals. People can even participate in weekly vaccine clinics either here, or at other convenient local neighborhood locations. (If you are reading this and would like assistance connecting with these resources, please reach out to us!)

As the Adult Learning Center enters a new chapter, we will continue to embrace all the positive changes and new opportunities that technology brings to adult education. We also look forward to getting back to our "roots" of classroom-based, teacher-led, face-to-face instruction and one-to-one tutoring.

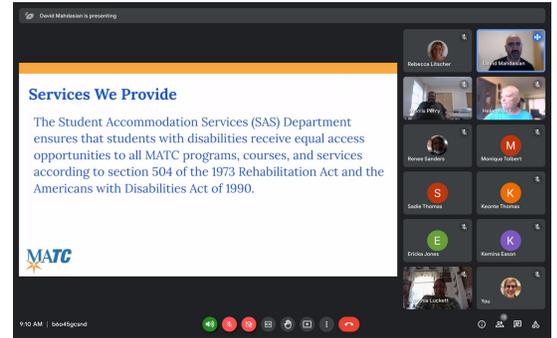
Thank you for your continued support of the Adult Learning Center and our mission. We believe in the power of education to transform lives, and your financial support allows us to continue helping adults in Milwaukee (and beyond!) gain the basic academic skills necessary to earn a High School Equivalency Diploma or "G.E.D." and succeed in careers and higher education.

Peace.

Jon Gilgenbach

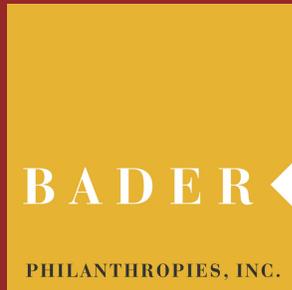
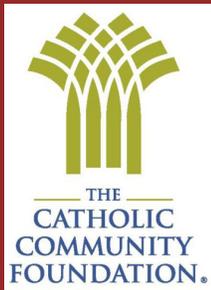
Summer Classes at The ACC

Our online classes started on June 7, and they have been going full steam ahead! We have two morning sessions that meet daily, Monday through Thursday: Math and Communications. As with all our classes over the past year, they consist of daily live sessions in Google Classroom with the teacher and students all joining from their own homes. Some students who may not have internet access at home or may simply not be comfortable using computers by themselves have been able to come on-site and “break in” our new classrooms, joining online here while we provide any technical support they may need to have a successful classroom experience.



Online classes are going well!

Thank You TO OUR FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS



Charles O'Malley Charitable Lead Trust
Erica P. John Fund
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Lawlis Family Fund
Holt Family Foundation
Lori & Rick Rosmann Foundation
Luber Foundation
Weiss Family Foundation



THE "NEW NORMAL"

Merging virtual learning with our traditional in-person environment

Over the course of the last 16 months, we have enacted dramatic changes to our program in response to the pandemic: exclusively virtual classrooms, online tutoring, and socially-distanced technology and computer skills training. While it seems run-of-the-mill now, the ALC had never had a comprehensive virtual learning option like the one we have now--it required a lot of creative thinking and problem-solving, community support, help from our wonderful volunteers, and determination and persistence from our students. The virtual program was a necessary step to continue our mission of providing quality adult education for those in our community and beyond (we've even been able to serve students who are hours away from Milwaukee--sometimes students who live in another state!).



Our students have excelled in the virtual setting! A few students have been able to join from our computers here at the ALC.

Even though it started out as a necessary step, our virtual offerings have become so much more than that for our students: a lifeline for students with busy work schedules, family obligations, or lack of mobility or transportation. And not only have we maintained a steady enrollment with students who normally would be in person, but through these innovative measures we have been able to serve a greater pool of students than ever before!

As we transition back to more in-person services, many of the factors that made our virtual learning option so appealing to some of our students will continue, or even increase, the desire for a virtual option. In light of this newfound opportunity to reach more students and provide greater accessibility to quality education, we are striving to merge our virtual learning system with our traditional in-person program in order to reach the widest number of students we can, all the while maintaining our commitment to providing the best possible education experience for learners of all levels.

Olabisi Ajibade joined our GED classes earlier this year and has only experienced the ALC through our virtual learning option. Within the past three months she has already passed three GED tests! When asked about what she appreciated most about the online option, she gave a long list of everything that makes this new program so valuable to our students: accessibility, flexible scheduling, more time with family, no commuting, less issues with providing childcare, etc. "It's improved my understanding of how to use computers," she also noted. Through the virtual classroom, our students are not only being well-prepared to earn their GED, they are also learning practical life skills--like computer and tech basics--that will continue to help them move forward with their goals well after they've earned their GED.

Olabisi also highlighted the core of our program: "having good assistance immediately from instructors/colleagues that we're in the same class with." We strive to provide every student with timely and comprehensive support, and we encourage them to work as a team with their classmates as they study and advance through the GED tests. Even in the virtual class, every student has a live instructor and support staff available to provide assistance and encouragement. Our virtual learning program may require physical distance, but it is no less personal or student-centered than our in-person classes. We are excited to move into a season of providing quality education to all our students in a variety of settings, whether at our new building or online.

**ALC SHOULD
CONTINUE THE ONLINE
CLASS . . . BECAUSE I
BELIEVE THERE ARE
MORE PEOPLE LIKE
ME.**

- OLABISI AJIBADE

THE MOVE

A new space for a new era!

As many of you know, earlier this year we made the decision to move our offices and classrooms to a new location. Not only did this move cut our rent and associated expenses nearly in half, but it also brought us closer to the students we serve, placed us in connection with other nonprofits with whom we share space, and put us in a community that does not have any other GED program in its immediate vicinity. Enjoy these pictures!



UPCOMING DATES

July 29, 2021

Last Day of Summer Semester

August 3, 2021

Start Fall TABE Testing

August 30, 2021

First Day of Fall Semester

THANK
YOU
Volunteers

Our work would not be possible without the volunteers that help our students day in and day out. Thank you all for the work you've done to go digital with us and for supporting our students. Together we can transform lives through education!

Do you shop on
Amazon.com?

**You can support the ALC with
your purchases through
Amazon Smile!**

If you identify the Adult Learning Center as your charity of choice, the Amazon Foundation will donate .5% of the purchase price to our organization. To use Amazon Smile, just log in by going to "AmazonSmile.com" and choose "The Adult Learning Center" in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.





GRADUATE CORNER

Congratulations to our Graduates and students who have passed tests!

Graduates:

Kanzetta Davis
Theresa Jackson
Lois McCreary
Vania Ngiebong

Students who have passed tests in 2021 at the ALC:

Olabisi Ajibade
Olatunde Ajibade
Whitney Bartleson
Elisheva Brown
Azusena Casiano
Carla Cox
Kemina Eason
Javier Gutierrez
Dawntae Lowe

Patricia Presberry
Renee Sanders
Jacob Stout
Monique Tolbert
Anita Walker
Jerel Washington
Joseph Watkins
Natasha West

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