



LITERACY LINKS

Welcome
Fall

Haverstraw Literacy Zone Family Welcome Center

Community Calendar/Info

- Haverstraw Collaborative
1st Wednesday of the
Month
845 429-5731
- Rockland Office for
New Americans
Legal Consultation Days
845 826-5022
- HLZ ESOL Classes
845 825-6141
- North Rockland Central
School District
845 942-3000
- BOCES Information
845 348-3500
- Haverstraw Elementary
School
845 942-3400
- Immigration Coalition
1st Friday of the Month
peacepoet@aol.com
- Literacy Solutions NY
Rockland Headquarters
845 499-5464

HAVERSTRAW LITERACY ZONE BEGINS 5TH YEAR OF SERVICE

It is difficult to believe that the Literacy Zone and Literacy Solutions have been part of the Haverstraw Village community since 2013. On one hand, it seems as if we have always been here; on the other, the time has flown quicker than we could have imagined. In our first four years, our services have included:

- ◆ Teaching English to more than 1,000 students
- ◆ Providing case management services to 700 families
- ◆ Providing 6,000 plus individual services, including emergency services, to case management clients & their families
- ◆ Hosting the first "HLZ Job Fair" introducing 77 men and women to potential employers
- ◆ Co-hosting the immigration centered "Know Your Rights" seminar with the Rockland Office for New Americans
- ◆ Providing, in cooperation with Haverstraw Center, 40 monthly seminars on topics of interest to parents and local residents
- ◆ Providing citizenship preparation classes to 101 hopeful citizens

Special thanks to our stakeholders and colleagues for your guidance and support. We could not have done this without you.

We are honored to be part of the Haverstraw family and look forward to collaborating with you and serving local residents for many years to come.

Partners in the HLZ

- The Haverstraw Center & Haverstraw Collaborative
- Catholic Charities Community Services
- Haverstraw King's Daughters Library
- Head Start of Rockland
- North Rockland Central School District
- Rockland County Dept. of Social Services
- Rockland County Workforce Development Board
- Rockland Community College
- Rockland County Career Center
- Rockland County YMCA
- Literacy Solutions NY

COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN HAVERSTRAW

Haverstraw residents live in a community filled with great resources.

Here are just a few!!

Haverstraw Center

50 West Broad Street
845 429-5731

Children /youth, educational programs, counseling, sports & recreation, and family services.

Rockland Community College

37 West Broad Street
Haverstraw, New York
845 786-2392

Rockland County Career Center

37 West Broad Street
Haverstraw, NY
845 406-6450

Head Start of Rockland

117 Route 9W
Haverstraw, New York
845 429-4122

Take advantage of the many opportunities Haverstraw offers you!!

REFLECTIONS FROM THE STAFF
OF
THE HAVERSTRAW LITERACY ZONE

“It has been both a challenge and an honor to help the HLZ grow from an apprentice program in Haverstraw to a vital community resource.

I am deeply grateful to our stakeholders and partner agencies who have worked closely with us, and welcomed us as a member of the Haverstraw Family.”

*Pat
Rajala
Pres/CEO*

I feel proud to be part of the HLZ which has contributed to the achievements of many of its participants. During the past 4 years I have witnessed the HLZ provide participants with the tools to better themselves and become productive citizens in their new homeland. *Gricelda Serrano, Lead Case Manager.*

After teaching ESOL for over 7 years, I'm still so moved to see the sincerity and earnestness in my students when they enroll in ESOL class. *Merrie Robin Moore, HLZ & ONA Teacher*

The greatest satisfaction for me as a teacher is seeing and witnessing the students learning their new language, and trying their best to adapt to their new country.

Celia Dizzine, HLZ ESOL Teacher

I am proud to be part of a program that not only helps students improve their English literacy, but also helps them overcome the challenges of adapting to life in a new country, and guides them to achieve their goals and aspirations as new Americans.

Anne Carey-Colorado, HLZ/ONA Communications Manager

Serving our students who appreciate it so much is our greatest reward. *Ana Diaz, Academic Coordinator*

It gives me great satisfaction to be part of an agency that does so much for the community. Knowing that I can improve someone's quality of life by teaching ESOL is very rewarding.

Evelina Lopez, HLZ Teacher/ONA Program Manager



Helping a new arrival learn the English language
is a wonderful way to say
Welcome to America!

Register, Participate, Pass Your Test, and Become An American Citizen

On Friday, October 6th, Jane Lemkin, our Citizenship Specialist, had the honor of attending the swearing-in of six of her citizenship preparation students.

Jane was not only their teacher, she was also their cheer leader, mentor and friend. Since the HLZ began in 2013, 7 Citizenship Preparation Courses (2 sessions per week for 4 weeks) have been offered. To date, over 100 local residents have participated and 80 have become United States citizens.

Helping new (or not so new) immigrants achieve American citizenship is not simply a job to Jane, it is her passion. She treats every citizenship student as an individual, not part of a class, and focuses

on her/his particular strengths and challenges. She helps them overcome their fears of taking the citizenship exam in English, guides them in methods of studying for the exams, rejoices in their success, and feels their pain if they do not succeed.

The six newest American citizens are "graduates" of Literacy Solutions Citizenship Preparation course taught by Jane. They, and participants of earlier sessions, have worked diligently to achieve their goal of American citizenship and many have achieved what seemed to be an unattainable goal.

We are honored to have the opportunity to help many new arrivals overcome the challenges they faced while adapting to life in their new homeland, and are thrilled to welcome them as new Americans. Immigrants from all over the world have always been part of the history of this county, and we hope that proud tradition will always be part of the American framework.

Thank you to Jane for her commitment to assisting new arrivals and congratulations to all new Americans.



*Congratulations
and
Welcome
to
Six
New
Americans*

Meet Evelina Lopez Program Manager

Rockland Office for New Americans

The Rockland Office for New Americans welcomed its new Program Manager, Evelina Lopez, on August 7, 2017.

Evelina, a Haverstraw native, brings a wealth of experience to her new position. She is keenly sensitive to the concerns and needs of new arrivals as she too is an immigrant. At the age of 13, Evelina left her native Dominican Republic with her siblings to join their mother in the United States. She flourished in

local schools and ultimately received her Masters degree in Education from Long Island University. Evelina became a proud American citizen at the age of 23.

Evelina's background and education make her an ideal program manager for the Rockland Office for New Americans.

She knows what it takes to succeed as an immigrant, and is eager to share her experience and knowledge with ONA program participants.

For Rockland Office for New Americans, please contact Evelina at:

845 826-5022

For citizenship class, please contact Jane:

845 558-4488

For English class, please contact Ana:

845 825-6141

Welcome Evelina!



Literacy Solutions NY, Inc.
Patricia Rajala
President & CEO

Westchester County Office
Yonkers Riverfront Library
1 Larkin Center
Yonkers, NY 10701

914 375-7964

Tutor/Volunteer Center
New City Library
220 North Main Street
New City, NY 10956

845 708-9072

Haverstraw Literacy Zone/
Office for New Americans
63 New Main Street
Haverstraw, NY 10927

845 499-5464

ESOL Class Information
Contact Ana Diaz,
Academic Coordinator

845 825-6141

Office for New Americans
63 New Main Street
Haverstraw, NY 10927

845 826-5022

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To Help Your
Neighbors

LITERACY
STUDENTS
and

CITIZENSHIP
HOPEFULS

YOUR DONATION
OF TIME CAN
CHANGE A LIFE!

Contact Christina
at:
845 708-9072

Literacy Solutions NY, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing student-centered adult literacy services in Westchester and Rockland counties. It offers specialized services through the Haverstraw Literacy Zone, the Tutor/Volunteer Center, and the new Rockland Office for New Americans. Literacy Solutions NY, Inc. is a community resource for the advancement of literacy in both counties.

All are welcome at the Haverstraw Literacy Zone Family Welcome Center.



Helping you towards a brighter future

SERVICES PROVIDED IN WESTCHESTER AND ROCKLAND

Literacy Solutions NY, Inc. has been providing services in Westchester County since 1983. In 2006, Literacy Volunteers of Rockland and Literacy Solutions NY joined forces to serve adult students in all areas of both counties.

Services offered by Literacy Solutions NY include:

- Citizenship Classes
- US Civics for Immigrants
- English Classes
- Basic Literacy
- One-to-One Tutoring
- Tutor Training
- Haverstraw Literacy Zone
- Office for New Americans Opportunity Center

Teresa Avila, Operations/Data Manager, and Jennie Mosquera, Yonkers Coordinator, work together to bring literacy services to all corners of Westchester County, and are now sharing their expertise with Rockland County. Our students hail from many communities, and we offer

services county-wide. For Westchester information, please call Teresa or Jennie at 914 375-7964.

Activities offered in Rockland County are similar to those in Westchester, but include the additional services offered by the Haverstraw Literacy Zone and the Rockland Office for New Americans.

HLZ and ONA activities include:

- ESOL Classes
 - Job Readiness
 - Community Workshops
 - Case Management
 - Citizenship Classes
 - Skills Development
 - Assistance with Citizenship Applications & Other Immigration Forms
 - Legal Consultation Days
- Annual Citizenship Drive

All Services Are Provided Free of Charge & Without Regard to Immigration Status

Rockland County Contacts:
Anne Carey-Colorado
Communications Manager
845 499-5464 ext. 3

Ana Diaz
Academic Coordinator
845 825-6141

Jane Lemkin
Citizenship Specialist
845 558-4488

Judy Levine
Education Specialist
845 708-9072

Evelina Lopez
ONA Program Manager
845 826-5022

Christina Mandara
Tutor Program Manager
845 708-9072

Gricelda Serrano
Lead Case Manager
845 323-3665