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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Cape Fear Literacy Council Receives Grant from the Corning Incorporated Foundation

Cape Fear Literacy Council has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Corning Incorporated Foundation to support Adult Literacy (AL) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) instructional programs, with a particular focus on building job-readiness skills for students with job-related goals.

CFLC's objective is to maximize adult learners' chances and likelihood of success in building their literacy/ language /math/computer skills so that they can reach the life goals they have set for themselves. Of prime importance is increasing employability by helping them: study for/earn their GED/high school equivalency, getting/keeping/being promoted on a job, pursuing additional education such as certificates or associate's degrees, and earning US citizenship.

For many adult students, the first steps of job readiness skill-building include improving their basic reading, writing, math and English language skills. CFLC's objective is to achieve more of these kinds of results, as evidenced in student and tutor comments.

"Because CFLC had materials that are for adults, I was finally able to learn to read well enough to pass my certification tests. I have all the real work experience from when I lived in another state, but the written tests were a stumbling block here. Now that I have read and passed the tests, I am back to being an EMT and Firefighter, the jobs I love and have made my career." Ray, Adult Literacy student

"My friend said that there's a shut-down coming up at [a local company] and asked me if I wanted to do some cleaning work for three weeks. I went to the Safety Class this morning. At the end, I had to take a 25 question test on the computer, and I got all but one right. My tutor is going to be surprised -- we were filling out job applications together and now here I have a job!" Joe, Adult Literacy Student

Executive Director, Linda Lytvinenko states, "Cape Fear Literacy Council is grateful for the Corning Incorporated Foundation's investment in our work to reach and teach more adults. This community support is invaluable in making it possible for these motivated students to build the literacy and language skills they need to do what they want and need to do in life."

CFLC's instruction for adults includes free and confidential, individualized, 1-to-1 and small group instruction to (1) native-born adults working to improve their reading, writing, spelling, and math skills (the components of literacy); and (2) international adults working to improve their English communication skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing). In addition, students have a variety of complementary learning opportunities for both

acquiring and improving skills and meeting short-term and long-term individualized goals: self-paced computer learning, study skills and writing classes, GED/High School Equivalency preparation, citizenship, out-of-the-classroom community-based learning, and special topic classes as indicated by students' needs. Adult learners also increase their ability to be a positive influence on their children's literacy skill-building and success in school, thereby breaking the cycle of illiteracy and its negative effects.

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