

Forum: The Power of Partnership

Conclusion of the Forum

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There are many reasons why our field needs to expand the kinds of partnerships described here by Anne Pyzocha and Sylvia Boateng; Jacqueline Aguilera and Federico Salas-Isnardi; and by Kathy Harris; these kinds of partnerships can increase adults' awareness of the existence of adult (foundational) education classes in their communities; they can meet adult learners' needs that may not align well with the priorities of current public funding but, nevertheless, are important to adult learners, and can achieve worthwhile public goals such as increasing democracy participation skills, intergenerational literacy,

technology literacy, reducing corrections recidivism, and reducing poverty. They are a way to expand the number of adults who receive adult (foundational) education services, to significantly increase services to the 48 million adults in the United States who need them. These partnerships can meet the needs of those who cannot take advantage of the services as currently offered because of where and when they are available, and how instruction is provided; and they can help adult (foundational) education providers do their jobs more effectively or provide better service for their clients.