

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



The Learning Connection

Under the banner of the Learning Connection (TLC), SERRC provided opportunities for Southeast Alaskans to learn new skills and build a better life through education. In FY16, TLC greatly expanded rural tutoring services across the region. Students use a variety of programs to achieve their career and educational goals.

- ✓ 1,213 SE Alaskan residents received education and employment services
- ✓ 24 volunteers donated 348 hours

ADULT EDUCATION AND GED

- *Instruction in reading, writing, and math*
- *GED(R) preparation and testing*
- *Education and career mapping*

JOB ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGED 16-21 (JOBX)

- *Education support*
- *Career and job readiness training*
- *Job search assistance*
- *Paid internships*

JOBS FOR ADULTS AGED 55+ (MASST)

- *Job placement assistance and paid job training*



JUNEAU CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY

- *Free training opportunities in construction and trade careers*
- *Networking with employers*
- *Connections to apprenticeships*

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE AND CITIZENSHIP PREPARATION

- *English classes and tutoring*

COMPUTER TRAINING

- *Beginning and intermediate computer classes*
- *Job training and resume building*
- *Open computer labs*

DRIVER'S TRAINING (AK DRIVE)

- *Classroom, simulator, and behind-the-wheel training*

FAMILY LITERACY

- *Adult education*
- *Family nights*
- *Toddler and preschool programs*
- *In-school support for K-3 children*
- *After school and summer school programs*

DAWN HOUSTON ADULT EDUCATION SUCCESS STORY



The Learning Connection staff made it easy to have fun. You know they're caring, and they went out of their way to make sure I was prepared for my math test.

I came into TLC to improve my math skills. I am over 50 years old and didn't have a job. I thought, who would hire somebody my age, with a 6th grade math level? I wanted to find a stable career and be part of the workforce.

I'm a recovering alcoholic and suffered anxiety so severe that I couldn't leave my house. It was devastating because I'm a strong woman. I raised two kids as a single mom. I knew I could make it, but I needed help.

On January 1, 2016, I took my last drink. I walked into The Learning Connection a week later. I was greeted warmly, and the teachers sat me down to learn about me and help me plan how to reach my goal. We figured out when I could come for student orientation and which classes I needed.

When I came to orientation, I met a woman who is now a dear friend. With such a strong bond, teachers and friends who felt like family, and mutual respect among all of us in classes, TLC gave me the perfect gradual steps from leaving my house to getting back working.



I took classes 4 days a week, for several hours a day. The Math Boot Camp was especially fun! The teacher, Jeff, said he'd do a push-up for every additional student who came after the first day of the camp. I pulled in all kinds of students, saying "it's ok, it's not like high school. Here, we have a good time, it's not so much pressure." I think Jeff ended up doing more than 20 push-ups at one class!

The teachers here have been incredible, understanding, and nurturing in each step of teaching – not just me, but everybody. I think TLC has made a huge impact on my life. I'm so thankful for all the TLC staff. They gave me a lot of confidence and reassurance, not only emotionally but mentally.

I feel my life is just beginning. I am so filled with new knowledge and confidence in myself. I did go on to pass my math test, and get a job with the Tribal Court system. I'm always learning something new in this job, and it's very exciting.

Dawn Houston,
The Learning Connection Adult Education Student

