



August 2025

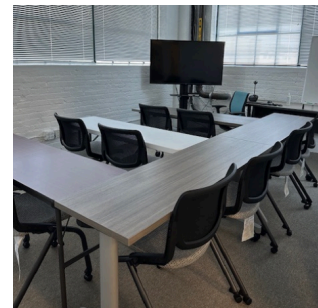
Vita Education Services *Bringing Learning to Life for Over 50 Years*

## Hello, Bristol Borough!

We're thrilled to share Vita's new Lower Bucks location with you! We are now officially ensconced in our new space at 1414 Radcliffe Street in **Bristol Borough**.



This large, well-lit, welcoming location houses some staff offices as well as Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and Family Literacy classrooms. There is ample parking, and the building has a beautiful view of the Delaware River.



We're looking forward to welcoming Vita students, instructors, and volunteers to Radcliffe Street and to meeting our new neighbors not only in the building, but also in Bristol Borough!

## Summer Learning Snapshot



Vita's amazing students, staff, instructors, and volunteers have been hard at work this summer! We're excited to share that our classes welcomed over 240 individuals and families in English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, and Family Literacy classes, as well as our Corrections-based programs.

Let's give a big shout-out to everyone for their dedication and fantastic efforts. Keep up the great work!

### English as a Second Language

- 7 ESL instructor-led classes taught 69 students
- 5 ESL tutor-led classes taught 32 students

### Adult Basic Education

- 10 ABE instructor-led classes taught 56 students
- 8 ABE tutor-led classes taught 15 students

### Family Literacy

- 15 families served in Warminster (Centennial School District Administration Building)
- 12 families served in Bristol (Vita Radcliffe location)

### Corrections-based Adult Basic Education

- 7 students in women's GED
- 16 students in men's GED

### Corrections-based Programming

- 2 Parent Book Clubs
- 1 *Preparation for Employment* course for women's HEART (Healing, Empowering and Recovering Together) recovery program
- 2 *Preparation for Employment* course for men's HOPE (Helping Ourselves Prosper Eternally) recovery program
- 4 *Decisions for Living* courses at the Bucks County Correctional Facility and Men's Community Corrections Facility
- 1 *Decisions for Change* course for individuals on probation and parole
- 1 Summer session at the Bucks County Youth Center

## Planning Ahead: Grant Support for Vision and Strategy

Vita is grateful to **Foundations Community Partnership** (FCP) and **PANO** (Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations) for generous funding that has enabled Vita to hire a Strategic/Scenario Planning Consultant to help us identify goals and the actions, partnerships, and resources that can help us achieve them.

FCP's **Nonprofit Growth Grants** program and PANO's Consulting Project Fund support nonprofits' organizational development. Vita is eager to finalize our latest Strategic Plan and explore what the future might hold through Scenario Planning. We're excited to work with Rosalind Spigel of **Spigel Consulting** on this project.

This project will be a collaborative one, and we welcome your input. Please contact Heather Giampapa at [hgiampapa@vitaeducation.org](mailto:hgiampapa@vitaeducation.org) to share your thoughts with us. Thank you!



Ellen Happ, Vita Board President; Caroline O'Connell Sinton, FCP Director, Grants & Programs; Heather Giampapa, Vita Executive Director

## August is National Make-A-Will Month: Leave a Legacy

## That Changes Lives



The skills and confidence our students gain at Vita can last a lifetime -- and so can your impact. By including Vita Education Services in your will or estate plans, you ensure that the gift of education will be there for every adult who needs it, now and in the future. It's a beautiful way to carry your values forward and

keep opening doors for others long after today.

Contact Heather Giampapa at [hgiampapa@vitaeducation.org](mailto:hgiampapa@vitaeducation.org) to discuss a legacy gift that will support adult learners for years to come.

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## Vita Vibes

In this month's edition of Vita Vibes, board member Tanya Casas (and mother of Vita's summer intern, Lucia) shares her family's story.

My mother came to the United States as a young bride in the 1960s after marrying my father, a Peace Corps volunteer. As the eldest of seven, our home became a first destination for several of my mother's siblings who would eventually become residents and citizens of the United States. They were grateful for the free English Language Learning courses they could take at the local community college which afforded them employment and educational opportunities beyond those initially available to them as non-English speakers – cleaning, housekeeping, newspaper route, and garment industry work – jobs they were nonetheless grateful to have and allowed them to earn a living. Yet, with their improved English language skills, they could enroll in the community college in nursing and dental hygiene programs and even the university. Most importantly, my mother and her siblings were able to improve their lives and the lives of their families. Today, they are all productive and engaged members of their communities and, in some cases, have founded their own businesses and employed others.



On August 9, we celebrated my mother's – Lucia's grandmother's – 80th birthday. My mother was insistent that she wanted no gifts. However, when we told her our idea to set up a Vita information table at the big bash and encourage attendees to donate to Vita in lieu of a gift, she enthusiastically embraced the proposal. We strategically placed the information table under a tent near the "birthday girl" and visible as a mariachi played nostalgic tunes to honor my mother. Guests from all over, including from out of the country, attended to

celebrate this special day. We highlighted the crucial role adult literacy programs play in our communities, and the specific programs offered by Vita

Education Services. Lucia eagerly recounted the many ways she was inspired by our students throughout her summer internship. What a touching way to honor my mother and her struggles and achievements as an immigrant in this country but also to recognize that she had support. She and her family benefitted from the programs and services organizations such as Vita provide.

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When Lucia and I heard that Adult Education and Literacy programs were possibly going to lose federal funding, we knew this would have a detrimental impact on Vita and the many students we serve. As Lucia learned firsthand as a summer intern, such programs have a multiplier effect. Vita's services help broaden the educational and career opportunities of our students, thus improving their lives and the lives of their families. Growing up, I witnessed how the types of services offered by programs like Vita helped launch members of my family and contributed to greater well-being within our community.



Vita Education Services plays an important role in Bucks County and Lucia and I were happy to help spread awareness and pay it forward!

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For information, visit [www.vitaeducation.org](http://www.vitaeducation.org) or click below

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