



vita
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October 2025

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

National Immigrants Day



National Immigrants Day is celebrated on the anniversary of the unveiling of the Statue of Liberty in 1886.

This month's Vita Newsletter comes to you on **National Immigrants Day**, a day first designated by President Ronald Reagan in 1987 to honor the contributions and achievements of immigrants who have helped shape our nation. In his proclamation, Reagan wrote, *"Our national celebration of Immigrants Day is a moving reminder to us that America is unique among the nations. We are the sons and daughters of every land across the face of the Earth, yet we are an indivisible Nation."*

Vita's largest adult education program is currently English Language Learning. Every year, we welcome hundreds of individuals striving to master a new language for better career or education opportunities, for greater self-reliance and confidence in engaging with their community, for a deeper understanding of their children's lives and education, and for their own personal growth.

Walk into a Vita classroom and you'll hear stories from every corner of the globe – Dominican Republic, Colombia, Guatemala, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Ukraine, Turkey, France, Portugal, Albania, Korea, India, Pakistan, China, Afghanistan, Syria, Haiti, and more.

And Bucks County benefits from Vita's motivated and invested immigrant students. Immigrants hold jobs, pay taxes, and bolster our economy. By sharing their diverse backgrounds and experiences, they broaden our knowledge and understanding of the world around us. Welcoming immigrants creates a more equitable and vibrant community, something we can all be proud of.

Book Club for Parents

Vita is excited to announce a new program for men and women at the Bucks County Correctional Facilities: Book Club for Parents. This 3-session program aims to connect incarcerated parents with their children through the joy of reading.



In the first session, we discuss the importance of reading to your children and how it promotes cognitive development and emotional well-being. This session also gives parents the opportunity to share their favorite stories and reading traditions, which can range from bedtime tales to library visits. Parents also discuss their children's ages and interests, which helps us to select the perfect book for each child, which we do with assistance from the fantastic staff at the [Doylestown Bookshop](#).

During the second session, parents "shop" for books from those purchased at the bookshop and pick the titles that will resonate with their children. Together, we read passages from the books and discuss the art and illustrations. In the final session, parents focus on the impact of written words by composing heartfelt letters to their children. We then mail the books and letters to their children.

We've seen a terrifically positive response to Parent Book Club. One participant shared, "I was on the phone with my son when he got his book. It was his birthday, and he got a present from me! He was so happy!" Another commented that the books are a way for his kids to remember him while they're apart. Often, when we think about incarceration, we think about the people in jail. It's important to remember that many have children at home. Children who don't understand the criminal justice system, they just miss mom or dad. Through Parent Book Club, we aim to help fill that void, one page at a time.

Gratitude to Penn Community Bank Foundation



Vita is grateful to [Penn Community Bank Foundation](#) for once again supporting our work with a generous annual gift. We so appreciate the Foundation for recognizing the impact of Vita's programs and for their continued partnership.

Kelly Boyle, Manager of Corporate Social Responsibility & Government Affairs, Assistant Vice President (second from left in photo) visited Vita's Doylestown office with her colleagues – a traveling "caravan for good" who met with multiple nonprofits in Bucks County that the Foundation supports to hear about their work.

Kelly and her colleagues Lorena Escalera and Amanda Moser also visited Vita's Bristol location to discuss new neighbors that Vita should reach out to as

we get settled in our new space. We appreciate all Penn Community Bank Foundation does to help Vita thrive!

A Pick of the Patch: A Day to Remember

Vita's Family Literacy classes from Bristol and Warminster enjoyed a surprise joint outing at **Styer Orchard** in Langhorne. Parents and children had fun exploring the farm and its rich harvest on a beautiful sunny day.



Through these group outings, friendships are strengthened and lasting memories are created, making the day truly special for everyone involved. It's these meaningful experiences that help cultivate a sense of belonging and togetherness within the community.

Make Your Gift Tax-Smart with a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

If you are 70½ or older, you can support Vita Education Services directly from your IRA using a Qualified Charitable Distribution. A QCD allows you to transfer up to \$100,000 per year to a charity, satisfying your required minimum distribution while potentially reducing your taxable income. It's a simple way to make a meaningful impact on adult learners and their families—while enjoying smart tax benefits.

Vita Vibes

Vita and Micro Solutions Plus IT Partnership



Staff at Micro Solutions Plus

For this month's Vita Vibes, we're happy to introduce you to **Micro Solutions Plus (MSP)**, Vita's IT provider since 2011. We're grateful to MSP for helping to keep Vita's staff connected and our office running smoothly!

MSP was founded by John Elton in 1987 and has an incredible track record of handling computing needs for their customers. MSP is a managed service provider based in Perkasie, PA

Skip DeArmond has been assigned the role of Vita's IT Network Administrator in 2011 and has been serving the organization diligently through the

that provides hardware, software and services for over 75 commercial businesses, churches and nonprofits. MSP says it's a pleasure to serve as Vita's "Virtual Computer Department"!

years. Vita's network has grown to two sites, Doylestown and Bristol, and over 80 network users. Here are some thoughts from Skip.

"It is truly a treat to help a company like Vita that makes a huge impact on the lives of people who are trying to make a better life for themselves and their families. It makes work meaningful. I have personal relationships with the entire staff and have contact with them on a consistent basis. I love hearing their own personal stories and triumphs they have through life.

One of our biggest IT challenges was 2020 during the early period of Covid. Everything was looking bleak, and Vita didn't know how they were going to teach the students with in-person classes untenable. With MSP's help, Vita ramped up remote access and Zoom accounts, had a training for all staff, including teachers and volunteers, and were able to remain not only status quo, but thrived through that beast of a virus! This was a result of the excellence of ALL Vita's staff and volunteers partnering with MSP in implementing and growing remote learning. We all understood Vita's mission of improving the lives of their students. Thankfully, technology allowed us to thrive and prosper."

John adds, "MSP prefers a proactive IT relationship, becoming immersed in every aspect of our client's business, so that we are familiar with how tech can impact and improve various areas. Today, we have been able to get Vita's tech to top notch. Some of our IT platform enhancements have been a new Microsoft phone system, a virtual server platform, cloud-based file management, multiple buildings connected via VPN, and the ability to easily work remotely."

Skip reflects, "The relationship between Vita and myself has been a heartfelt and wonderful experience. Through the eyes of someone on the outside of the company looking in, I have been immersed within the Vita family through my routine scheduled visits. I've been a part of their VES family, going to Christmas parties, thanksgiving events, charity events, promotions, retirements, etc. I have always felt like I was one of the staff and I appreciate this greatly."



Vita remains deeply grateful to Micro Solutions Plus for their partnership, problem-solving, and unwavering belief that education must continue – no matter the obstacle

For information, visit www.vitaeducation.org or click below

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