

# Texas Workforce Commission

## Adult Education and Literacy



## Fall Institute 2020

### Handout

September 17, 2020

Day 3, Session 4

## Stepping into Leadership

### 8-week Training Opportunity

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Deilight Brooks, Introductory ESL Teacher, Blinn College

Session Description: The Stepping into Leadership training opportunity is an 8-week training for students enrolled in the AEL program. The purpose of the

training is to provide an opportunity for students to understand who they are and evaluate their personal and career goals. Students will also be mentored and guided throughout the process. Upon completion of the training participants will then have the opportunity to become mentors during the Ambassador Program. (Phase II)

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## **Purpose of Program**

- Self-Discovery
- Develop your personal story
- Team Building
- Mentorship
- Develop skills for success

## **Accomplishments for Participants**

- Professional Portfolio
- Goal Planning
- Self-Advocacy
- Leadership Opportunities
- Community Engagement

## Introductions of Facilitators

### Anthony Garcia

Anthony Garcia is the current Director of Blinn College District's Adult Education and Literacy program. He has over 17 years experience working in the field of Adult Education. He has a Bachelors and Masters in Criminal Justice from Grambling State University and is currently pursuing his doctorate of Education in Developmental Education. Mr. Garcia is passionate about students and is excited about this opportunity to help students achieve their personal education and career goals, build communication skills, and build a foundation for self-development.

### Juventino Manzano

Juventino Manzano grew up and graduated high school in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. He is bilingual in Spanish and English and is an accomplished writer. He earned his master's degree in liberal studies concentrating in arts and literature and earned a graduate certificate in creative writing from the University of Denver. He attended Illinois State University and received a BA in English and Philosophy. He has been with Blinn College since the start of the Adult Education and Literacy Program in 2018 teaching the advanced level of ESL and TOEFL.

### Deilight Brooks

Deilight Brooks teaches the Introductory ESL class at the Blinn Adult Education and Literacy Center in Bryan, Texas. She graduated from the University of Oriente Venezuela, with a bachelor's degree of Arts in English Education and English as a Second Language. She has taught at every level

of education and was a professor of Intensive English I, Conversation in English, Composition and Introduction to English Literature.

## Pilar Walker

Pilar Walker is an ESL Instructor with Blinn College and has been teaching English to non-native speakers for over 25 years. She has taught in many different cities, settings, and levels ranging from pre-school to university. She also has a wide range of experience working in community programs that help parents and children transition into life in a new country, especially parents with children that have medical challenges. Pilar graduated Cum Laude with a BA in English from the University of Miami in Florida, and she holds a Master of Art in Applied Linguistics/TESOL from the University of Alabama.

## Jodi Cobler

Jodi Cobler has spent over 20 years in the field of Workforce Development and currently serves as Adult Education and Learning Program Coordinator for Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley Board. She provides leadership along with Technical Assistance to ensure a sustainable and growing program. Throughout her career in Workforce, Jodi has taken on many roles including that of Project Director of WIOA Youth program, program monitor for Workforce Services, WIOA Youth Coordinator and Career Advisor. Ms. Cobler holds a Master's in Counseling from Prairie View A&M University as well as her BS in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University.

## Elena Madrid

Elena Madrid has served in the field of education for over 17 years with combined experience as an assistant director for Student Leadership and

Campus Life at El Paso Community College; recruiter for El Paso Community College; a literacy coordinator for Ysleta del Sur Pueblo in El Paso, Texas and currently as a program specialist with the department of Adult Education and Literacy at the Texas Workforce Commission in Austin, Texas. She contributed to the development and facilitation of the first annual El Paso Community College Student Leadership Conference and regularly takes the opportunity to speak to groups on the topics of empowerment, education, and success strategies. Ms. Madrid holds a BA in Journalism from New Mexico State University, and a master's degree in leadership studies from the University of Texas at El Paso. Her experience as a first-generation college student drives her to make technology, information and resources more accessible to others so that they can increase their opportunity for success.

## **Modules/Content**

- Module 1 - Self-Discovery (Elena Madrid)
- Module 2 - Develop Story (Pilar Walker)
- Module 3 - Critical Thinking (Juventino Manzano)
- Module 4 - Leadership (Anthony Garcia)
- Module 5 - Team Building (Elena Madrid)
- Module 6 - Financial Literacy (Jodi Cobler)
- Module 7 - Community Engagement (Deilight Brooks)
- Module 8 - Wrap-Up and Student Survey (Deilight Brooks)

## **Phase II Ambassador Program**

- Mentor to new students
- Participate in student council

- Learn leadership and academic opportunities
- AEL Representative
- Ambassador for COABE

## Module 1: Self Discovery

- Inspiration
- Goals
- Interest
- Motivation
- Success
- Empowerment

Knowing who you are is the start to knowing where you are headed. Self-discovery is about the education of who you are: what inspires you, how you think, your likes and dislikes. Through self-discovery, one can begin to realize what motivates them and empower them to better navigate through life, helping them to make choices and set goals that resonates with their values. In this module, we will begin to understand this process and gain skills in cultivating long and short-term goals. You may also discover what may be holding you back from being successful and how to cultivate new habits.

## Module 2: Develop Story

We all have a story to tell. It does not matter how average or uneventful your life may be, there is a story to be told. It is about your aspirations, your dreams, and your plans for the future; that is your story. Often times your future is shaped by events in the past, and you can tap into those experiences to explain where you are coming from and where you want to go.

## Module 3: Critical Thinking

In today's world of hyper information, thinking critically is essential to having some understanding of what is really going on. With the amount of information that we are exposed to on a daily basis and considering the fact the media is controlled by less than 5 corporations, we must be able to sift through the detritus of the society's sources of information and supposed news. Considering also how the media attempts to govern our very habits and thoughts and influence what we think of as important in our life, when far too often it is not of any import, except to keep us distracted away from our own life, critical thinking is essential.

## Module 4: Leadership

Leadership is an important aspect of everyday Life. During the Leadership module, we will start by defining what Leadership is and discuss ways of becoming an effective leader. We will identify some important qualities of an effective leader such as having a clear vision, leading by example, ways to motivate your team, and the importance of taking risk. In addition, we will discuss how to be an effective leader in your home, your job, and within your community.

## Module 5: Team Building

One of the best advantages successful people have is being part of an effective and productive team. Whether in the personal or professional arena, most people will admit that success was not achieved alone, but with the help of others. In this module, we will look at why is it important to be a contributor on a team and how to best contribute. Additionally, we will take a look at who is on your personal team. Who are the people in your life that



provide support, inspiration and guidance in helping you achieve your goals and encourage you to be your best every day? If you are needing to create a support team for yourself, we will discuss how to do this.

## Module 6: Financial Literacy

Do you have goals for your money? What about for education? What if we talk about them together in the module, Introduction to Financial Literacy and Career Planning! Becoming literate in finance is learning how to track where your money goes and make money choices that will get you to your goals. Career Planning is looking at your goals, interests and abilities in order to get into a career field that will push you towards your financial goals!

## Module 7: Community Engagement

Many citizens are not aware of programs like ours and among the many duties of being, an ambassador is informing the community so that nobody is left out of the opportunity to understand the functions of how programs like ours and others work. Programs, which benefit all of our society in general and the people who have been living in the shadows because of their immigration status.

## Module 8: Wrap-Up and Student Survey

- Student Feedback
- Next Steps
- Students become mentors
- Reflection

## Time Frame of Training

- The “Stepping into Leadership” Training is an 8-week training.
- 1 ½ hrs. one day a week
- Meet with Mentor 30 min per week

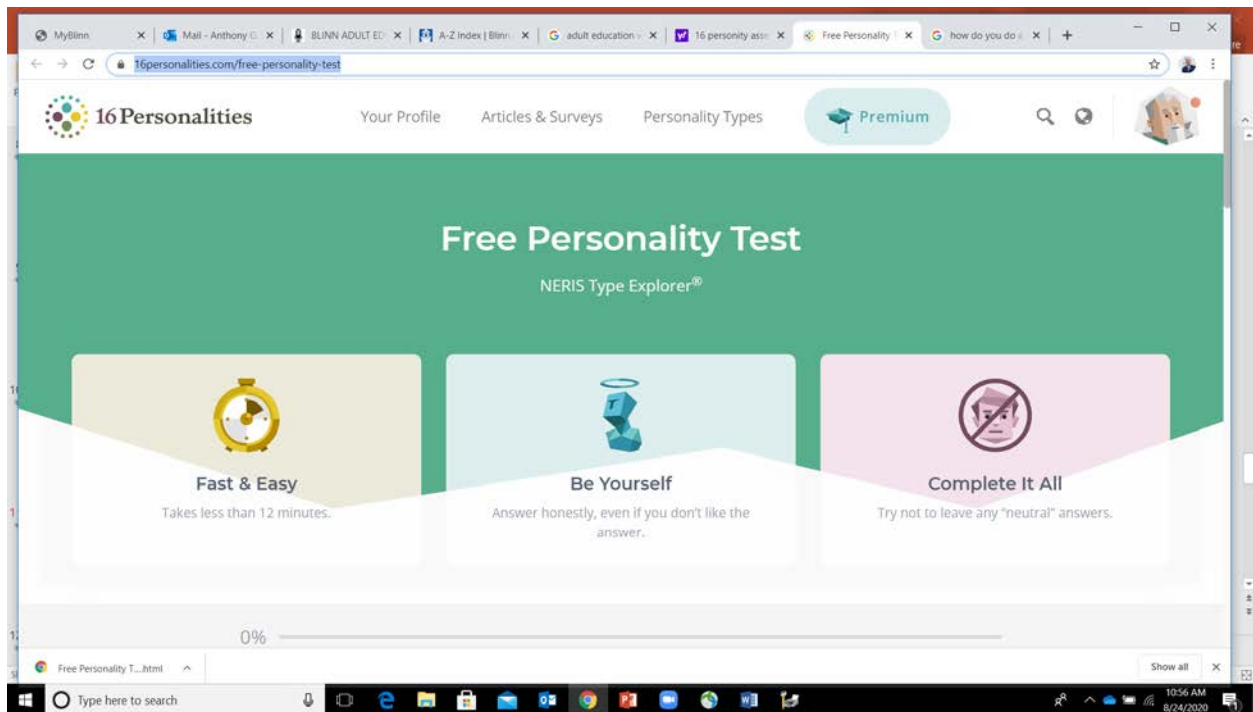
## Training Planning

What is the best day and time for you to meet?

Please complete the following survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S3PNFFK>

## 16 personalities.com



## Questions and Discussion