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PRESS RELEASE

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“READING RELAY” CELEBRATES ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK

Spring Institute Hosts “Reading Relay” with English Language Learners and Other Adult Students to Kick-Off National Week to Draw Attention to Adult Literacy Needs

DENVER, CO – Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning hosted a “Reading Relay” with dozens of adult learners and instructors on Tuesday morning to kick-off National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week. Representatives from Colorado Department of Education, Denver Public Libraries, and Mi Casa Resource Center were also in attendance.

Adult Education and Family Literacy Week is an annual event to remind us all that reading, writing, and basic math remain an elusive target for 36 million adults nationwide, including approximately 350,000 in Colorado.

“Becoming proficient in English and obtaining secondary education provides people with sustainable opportunities to support themselves through work, ultimately contributing to the economic growth of our state,” said Jessie Hawthorn, Adult Education Program Manager at Spring Institute.

The “Reading Relay” highlighted the stories of English language learners and other adult students, who shared why adult education was important to them and their families.

Maria, an immigrant enrolled in Spring Institute’s Adult Secondary Education/High School Equivalency Exam Preparation Class, said “education is one of the most important things in my life. Even though it is hard sometimes to make time for school with a family and work, I make it a priority.”

After Maria spoke at the “Reading Relay,” her 13-year-old daughter, Lucy, took the stage. “I am so thankful to everyone who has helped my mom with her education and I am so proud of her,” she said. “Having my mom enrolled in classes to study for the GED® has helped our entire family because now she is able to help me and my siblings with our homework.”

Spring Institute will continue to offer English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, and Adult Secondary Education classes to adults in the Denver metro area and will continue to advocate for increased state funding for adult education programs to ensure that all adults in Colorado have access to the education services they deserve.

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Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning is a nonprofit organization with a mission to empower people and organizations to succeed across languages and cultures. To find out more, visit our website at www.springinstitute.org.