

Volunteer English Program in Chester County Annual Highlights 2015-2016

Volunteer English celebrated its 30th Year of continuous service to the community.



Ruth Passo (left center) Board President and Jerri Potrako, (right center) Executive Director, accepted citations and a "key to the West Chester borough" from Mayor Carolyn Comitta (right) and Commissioner Kathi Cozzone in April 2016.



Carol Linsenmann (r) was honored as the 2015-16 (June) Hamilton Tutor of the Year for her many years of service to five students. She dedicated over 300 hours in 2015.



One of many VEP students who "pay it forward" by sharing their English language journey with tutors in training. Fdelina, a South American native, also contributed writing samples to help others to seek VEP services.

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VFP student from the Middle East speaks in English to his children's elementary principal, Dr. Nick Argonish at the 2015 Downingtown ESL Back to School Night.



VFP student Jihong Korbonits, center, employed as a math teach at Bishop Shanahan High School shares her Chinese culture with her students.



Carla Fall, Community Director for the USCIS Division of Homeland Security shared current immigration information at the Inaugural Tutor Summit held at the West Chester University Graduate Center in May, 2016. Carla's expertise assists tutors in guiding their students through the proper channels for becoming legal and permanent US residents.

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*Author, Jim Breslin
conducts roundtable discussion
with tutors with a focus on
"storytelling" as a creative and
cultural expression for new
English language learners.*



*Senator Andrew Dinniman shares a quiet
conversation with Thulia Mead's family. Mrs. Mead
was recognized posthumously as a VEP visionary,
board member and dedicated teacher.*

*"I can work hard here with reward, I can talk freely here with respect, I can feel dignity here with soul, and
so much more. The Volunteer English Program has shown me that we can all work together to make our
days and our world full of sunshine and fortune."*



*An excerpt from Michael Zuming Wang's testimonial
shared with 200 attendees of the annual fundraising gala.*