



DC Public Library Foundation Funds Expansion of GED Collection

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 19, 2005

CONTACT

Christian Doucette, 202-727-4943

DC PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION FUNDS EXPANSION OF GED COLLECTION

Adult Learners In Over 40 Local Programs To Benefit From Audiovisual Resources

(Washington, DC) – The District of Columbia Public Library Foundation today announced that it has secured \$9,912 in funding to expand the DC Public Library’s collection of audiovisual training resources. Two professional-grade video series, GED Connection and TV 411, will be obtained and circulated exclusively among local adult literacy service providers.

“Thirty-seven percent of adults in the District read at the lowest levels of literacy of not at all,” says Christian Doucette, Executive Director. “The need for adult literacy resources is clear and the Foundation is pleased to make this strategic enhancement to the DC Public Library.” “With a limited budget, we can’t afford to circulate our best video material and therefore require adult learners to come to us,” says Marcia Harrington, Chief of the Adult Literacy Resource Center at the DC Public Library. “But with this grant, we’ll be able to reach many more adult learners by loaning the series directly to their literacy service providers.”

The GED Connection video series consists of 39 half-hour programs designed to help learners prepare for the GED exam. The series covers five subject areas including reading, writing, social studies, science, and math, and includes guidance for taking the GED test. GED Connection is a comprehensive multi-media instructional system, with workbooks, online lessons and activities designed by the National Center on Adult Literacy.

TV411 is a 30-part video series for adult learners that uses real-life topics to teach pre-GED-level basic skills. The series includes expert advice and proven tips to promote active learning. The program content focuses on parenting, money matters, and health. Specific subjects include reading comprehension, research how-to's, writing to others, filling out forms, calculating percentages, using fractions, taking tests, and more.

Founded in 1985, the DC Public Foundation leverages and enhances DC Public Library resources and programs that promote, in all community members, literacy and a thirst for knowledge. While recognizing the need for continued and increased government support for the Library, the Foundation is a catalyst for attracting private organizations and foundations to enhance and augment essential Library services such as summer reading programs for children, adult literacy, and collections development.