

# Importance of Data Use at Union Adult Learning Center, Union Public Schools Tulsa, Oklahoma

JoAnna Jamison  
November 2013



**NRS**

National Reporting System  
for Adult Education

# Why We Implemented It

- ▶ To meet program and grant requirements
  - State provides professional development
  - Staff takes advantage of all state trainings and professional development
- ▶ To more efficiently provide services to a large geographic area served by Union ALC
  - Program serves multiple counties
  - Control system was needed because of the number of classes and distance from primary site



# Teacher Buy-In

- ▶ Program administration established data usage as part of expected criteria
  - Teachers had to commit to learn necessary record keeping for data
  - Assistance always available to instructors
- ▶ Connect data to teacher performance evaluation
  - Use as a tool for classroom feedback



# Getting Data to Teachers

- ▶ Attend training at the beginning of each school year
- ▶ Goals and expectation for the year are clearly set
  - Instructors have clear understanding of state goals
- ▶ All staff understand that data drives program
- ▶ Data is readily available when needed
- ▶ Mid-year evaluations are conducted to show progress
- ▶ Teachers realize the importance of data in programs success



# How We Use Our Data

- ▶ Data assists instructors in leveling classes
- ▶ Data helps determine instructional needs where professional development is needed
- ▶ Table 4 assists teachers with
  - Contact information
  - Curriculum goals
  - Student needs



# How We Use Our Data (continued)

- ▶ Determine which students are ready to take the GED exam
- ▶ Tracks student transfers from site to site for attendance documentation
- ▶ Helps determine which students need additional instruction to make a level gain
- ▶ Assists in determining appropriate level placement



# Challenges We Continue to Face

- ▶ Providing instructors the data in a timely manner
  - keep tracking of student hours for post-testing
  - Identifying student transfers from one class to another or to a different site
- ▶ Reduction in funding



# Our Best Tips

- ▶ Get data entered quickly
  - Don't wait until the last minute
- ▶ You just have to start
  - Take it one step at a time. Do not let the big picture overwhelm you.
- ▶ Determine which classes to keep open
  - Use data to assist in spending every dollar wisely
  - Combine low performing classes with high performing classes
- ▶ Identify where the greatest need is and focus attention on that area
  - Continually review sites to determine resources are placed appropriately





# Contact Information

JoAnna Jamison, Director  
jamison.joanna@unionps.org

Marcus Ripp, Adult Programs Manager  
ripp.marcus@unionps.org

Union Adult Learning Center  
Union Public Schools in Tulsa, OK  
Tel: (918) 357-7040

