

The New Resume Project

Creating a resume that gets read and noticed is hard for anyone and can be especially challenging for adult literacy students. Program staff have reported that, for many students, searching for a job can be especially discouraging.

A team of adult students at Berkeley READS decided to dig into this situation and see how they could help fellow students. They developed The New Resume Project. Building from their own experiences as job seekers, they developed a customized workshop for adult literacy students and other community members who are job seeking or getting their thoughts together about their career.

One of the key insights of the project is helping adult students claim the value of their lived experience, i.e., their “life certificates.” This is the source of the resilience, grit and maturity many employers seek but do not know how to put into job descriptions.



The New Resume Project has a step-by-step workbook that combines best practices for job seekers with the kind of peer-to-peer encouragement that makes a difference. The workshop has been piloted at Berkeley READS, Berkeley Adult School and the Recovery Café in San Jose. Now we’re ready to go on the road.

Do you work with a group of adults who would like to better reflect their skills and experience on their resume?



Contact Linda Sakamoto-Jahnke at Berkeley READS to schedule a workshop: lsakamoto@ci.berkeley.ca.us, (510) 981-6275.