



2026 State Advocate Fellows



Alabama

Ashley Johnson, The Pivot Path

Alaska

Lisa Burkhart, Kenai Peninsula College

Arizona

Wendy Scheder Black, Pima Community College

Arkansas

Robbie Cornelius, Fayetteville Adult Career Training

California

Nancy Herrera Santacruz, Los Angeles Unified School District

Colorado

Amanda Thomas, Adams County Detention Facility

Connecticut

Michelle Bonora, New Haven Adult Education

Delaware

Tamika Jacobs, Organization of Adult Alumni & Students in Service

Washington DC

Alma Gabriela Salado, Briya Public Charter School

Florida

Ariel Pechokas, Collier County Public Schools Adult Workforce Education

Georgia

Jennifer Martinez, Georgia State University

Hawaii

Linda Fehoko, C2C Workforce and Literacy Center

Idaho

Holly Bazarski, College of Western Idaho

Illinois

Tibisay Ocando, School District U-46

Indiana

Adrienne Carrol, NEO Adult Education & Training

Iowa

Megan Linzy-Johnson, ConnectAble

Kansas

Rachel Ohmes, Manhattan Area Technical College

Kentucky

Steven Schreck, Newport Adult Education | KYAE



2026 State Advocate Fellows



Kenya

Joseph Agina, Olkejuado Adult and Continuing Education Association

Louisiana

LaMoyne Williams, Empower 225

Maine

Shelli Pride, RSU 16 Adult Education

Maryland

Tanja Murphy, MD Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Michigan

Heather Algrim, Eaton RESA Adult Education

Minnesota

Jane Weiner, Metro North Adult Basic Education

Mississippi

Thalia Jacquita Smith, Jones College

Missouri

Barbara Rieder, Missouri Association for Adult Continuing and Community Education

Montana

Jesse Sauskojus, Billings Adult and Community Education

Nebraska

Melinda Clavell, Metropolitan Community College

Nevada

Andrea Kelly, Humboldt County School District

New Hampshire

Kaitlyn Salome, Laconia Adult Education

New Jersey

Cristhian Barcelos, LVA, Essex & Passaic Counties

New Mexico

Desirea Deandra Martinez

New York

Michelle Stockwell, Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES
North Carolina

Jennifer Mock

College and Career Readiness at Alamance Community College

North Dakota

Jennifer Frueh, Fargo Adult Learning Center



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North Dakota

Jennifer Frueh, Fargo Adult Learning Center

Ohio

Sara Betts, UC Aspire

Oklahoma

Sally Linhart, Oklahoma City Community College

Oregon

Svetlana Karpe, Mt. Hood Community College

Pennsylvania

Terra Teets, Literacy Pittsburgh

Rhode Island

Audrey Hughes Paasewe, The Genesis Center

South Carolina

Sophie Manigo Fuller, GCS: Lifelong Learning

South Dakota

Natalie Lacey, Lutheran Social Services Center for New Americans

Tennessee

Valarie Matthews, HopeWorks

Texas

Kelli Rhodes, Restore Education

Utah

Mark Mataya, Entrada Adult High School

Vermont

Tara Brooks, Vermont Adult Learning

Virginia

Joyce Clement Jackson, Chesterfield County Public Schools, Adult Education

Washington

Rahmatullah Sultani, Highline College

West Virginia

Jared Bailey, Summers County Adult Education

Wisconsin

Robyn Hallet, Wisconsin Literacy, Inc.

Wyoming

Michelle Schutten