



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**3/19/2024**

**Media Contact: Michael Mahrer**  
703-237-0866  
[mmahrer@englishempowermentcenter.org](mailto:mmahrer@englishempowermentcenter.org)

## **English Empowerment Center Celebrates the Reaffirming \$1 Million Grant from MacKenzie Scott Yield Giving Open Call**

**Falls Church, VA** – The English Empowerment Center (EEC) is grateful and immensely proud to announce the award of a MacKenzie Scott’s Yield Giving Open Call one-time grant of \$1 million in recognition of the EEC’s outstanding programs that empower adults and their families. “To be selected as an awardee from over 6,000 applicants is an honor and reflects the incredible work that our staff and volunteers have accomplished in service of our adult learners,” said Michael Gavin, EEC’s Board Chair. “We are grateful to The Yield Giving Open Call for their generous and reaffirming support of our organization and our mission.”

EEC provides English language and literacy instruction to those who cannot read, write, speak, or understand English beyond the 6th grade level through a model that combines intensive instruction with support services. With English skills, EEC learners can gain a foothold in the workforce, obtain job advancement, or move on to higher-level learning, while strengthening family bonds and increasing their involvement in community activities. “With the receipt of this Yield Giving Open Call funding, we expect to be able to reach an even broader cross-section of adult learners,” said Roopal Saran, EEC’s Executive Director. “We will continue to seek additional recurring funding and resources to put in place the infrastructure and efficiencies to ensure that we can continue to sustain a higher level of service even after this generous grant has been depleted.”

## **About English Empowerment Center**

Since its founding in 1962, EEC has served over [64,000] adult learners in service of its mission to teach adults the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking, and understanding English so they can access employment and educational opportunities and more fully and equitably participate in the community. This year, over 2,000 adult learners, an increase of 25% in just two years, had the opportunity to advance their English literacy skills based on more than 25,000 hours of service dedicated by EEC's 500+ volunteer and paid teaching staff.

###