



**Riverhead Literacy Zone
Family Welcome Center**

The North Fork Spanish Apostolate
220 Roanoke Ave.
Riverhead, NY 11901
631-369-7571

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

What is a Literacy Zone?

The Literacy Zone project is a reform initiative developed by New York State Board of Regents and the State Education Department. Its mission is to close the achievement gap in urban and rural communities of concentrated poverty and high concentrations of families and individuals with limited literacy or English language proficiency. Literacy Zones are intended to provide a systematic focus on meeting the literacy needs of communities from birth through adult.

Riverhead Literacy Zone

Mission

The Riverhead Literacy Zone's mission is to promote literacy and develop pathways out of poverty for residents living in the Riverhead community by working collaboratively and in partnership with education, social and human services, workforce development, cultural institutions and volunteer organizations.

Vision

To develop a seamless, integrated system that provides continuum of services to assist individuals from birth to adulthood that is easily accessible.

Collaborating Partners

- Eastern Suffolk BOCES
Adult Literacy, Career and Technical Education, School of Practical Nursing,
Arts in Education, Family Education Outreach Program, Jail Education
- Riverhead Central School District
- Head Start
- Riverhead Charter School
- SUNY Empire State College
- ESCORT and The Research Foundation of SUNY Oneonta
- Sunshine Prevention Center
- Suffolk County Department of Labor-Suffolk Works Employment Program
- The North Fork Spanish Apostolate
- Suffolk County Department of Social Services
- Riverhead Free Library
- Suffolk County Independent Living Organization (SILO)
- Roanoke Avenue Health Care
- Teachers Federal Credit Union

Referrals and Services of Partner Agencies:

- **Public Benefits Services:** The Welcome Center will assist students with information on how to receive government benefits, recipient rights, and government agency procedures. Students will also learn the eligibility screenings and assistance for benefits that include food stamps, cash assistance, SSI, community resources that include food banks, and managing financial resources such as credit counseling, obtaining a home loan and/or opening a checking and savings account.
- **Immigration Services:** The Welcome Center will assist students with referrals to community organizations that are advocates of immigrants, the process of immigration, how to immerse within the community, and referrals to legal service providers that specialize in immigration law.
- **Employment Services:** The Welcome Center will assist students with pathways to employment; resume writing and development; referrals to job training and vocational programs; and assistance with career-related information. Students and visitors will also have access to the Employment Resource Center located at the HB Ward Technical Center in Riverhead.
- **Housing Services:** The Welcome Center will provide assistance to community members with applications on public housing and affordable housing. They will also provide referrals on legal counseling that include eviction prevention programs and assistance on housing-related information.
- **Childcare, Youth, and Family Services:** The Welcome Center will provide community members with information on subsidized childcare, obtaining information and counseling on early intervention, referrals to childcare and parent support organizations. Community members will also receive information on public schools, vocational programs, and parental rights and comprehensive child development programs.
- **Legal Services:** The Welcome Center will assist students with information and/or referrals on obtaining information on legality issues and one's legal rights. These services include information on citizenship, the Naturalization process, immigration of family members, working in the United States, verifying an individual's legal right to work in the United States, Humanitarian Programs, adoptions, civic integration, credit counseling, Veteran assistance services, disability assistance, and housing and disability issues.
- **Healthcare Services:** The Welcome Center will assist students with information on local healthcare providers and assistance with applications that include Medicaid, Family Health Plus, Healthy New York and other government subsidized healthcare programs.
- **Education Services:** The Welcome Center will provide literacy classes, vocational education options, help finding and completing the financial assistance applications, referrals to local educational institutions and training programs.
- **Workshop Offerings:** The Welcome Center will also provide workshops and seminars to provide parents and community members with afternoon and summer workshops that address risk factors and assists the Literacy Zone to provide pathways out of poverty. The afternoon and summer workshops will fill existing programs and services gaps.
- **Pre K – 12 Club:** Community members will be provided with student mentors/peer tutors; FEOP staff member will oversee the offerings that include: *Homework Club*, *Enrichment Club*, *Tutoring Club*, and *Career Exploration*.
- **Adult Enrichment Programs will include:** Parenting Classes; Technology Center; Mental Health Programs; Basic Health Workshops; Alcohol and Drug Awareness; Transitioning Back into the Community; Financial Programs, Disaster Preparation Workshop (in response to Sandy); and Recreational, fine arts and cultural awareness programs.

Contact Information

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Eastern Suffolk BOCES Web Site
<http://www.esboces.org/Page/102>

Eastern Suffolk BOCES Notice of Non-Discrimination

Eastern Suffolk BOCES does not discriminate against any employee, student, applicant for employment, or candidate for enrollment on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, religion or creed, age, weight, national origin, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or any other classification protected by Federal, State, or local law. This policy of nondiscrimination includes: access by students to educational programs, student activities, recruitment, appointment and promotion of employees, salaries, pay, and other benefits.

Eastern Suffolk BOCES fully complies with all applicable rules and regulations pertaining to civil rights for students and employees (e.g., Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Dignity for All Students Act, §303 of Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990).

Inquiries regarding the implementation of the above laws should be directed to either of the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Civil Rights Compliance Officers:

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
201 Sunrise Highway
Patchogue, NY 11772
631-687-3056
ComplianceOfficers@esboces.org

Deputy Superintendent for Educational Services
201 Sunrise Highway
Patchogue, NY 11772
631-687-3056
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