

**Community Literacy Planning Team of Onondaga County**  
*Planning Meetings September 2007 through January 2008*

(Source: Central New York Community Foundation, October 2007)

***100% LITERACY THROUGH  
100% COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.***

Greetings!

This is to confirm your participation on the **Literacy Planning Team** of Onondaga County. We are pleased that you will lend your expertise and leadership as a team member. Your participation will be key to moving our community forward.

**Our first meeting was Friday, September 28, 2007 from 7:30 - 11:30 AM at the OnCenter.**

**Subsequent meeting dates are as follows:**

Thursday, October 18, 2007  
7:30-11:30 AM - LeMoyne Manor

Tuesday, November 20, 2007  
7:30-11:30 AM -OnCenter

Wednesday, December 12, 2007  
7:30-11:30 AM -OnCenter

Thursday, January 17, 2008  
7:30-11:30 AM -OnCenter

Central New York is the birthplace of the modern literacy movement. Yet in Central New York where many literacy services were pioneered, the problem of illiteracy continues for thousands of citizens. The inability to read, write and do basic calculations continues to erode people's hopes for a brighter future. Without functional literacy skills, our neighbors, families and whole community remain vulnerable and at a disadvantage in today's global economy.

To tackle this issue, people from our community - from diverse backgrounds and occupations - from public, private and the not-for-profit sector - are coming together to find new solutions. The one conclusion we have made is that we need to work together; we need to tap into the collective leadership and wisdom of our community to see real change occur. In short - we need you!

Our planning time will include breakout sessions designed to inform our process. The six **Literacy Planning Circles** are:

1. Performance Measurement
2. Resource Development
3. Marketing & Public Relations
4. Professional Development
5. Economic Development

## 6. Advocacy

**Please be thinking about where your leadership and expertise would best inform and support the efforts as we strive for 100% literacy through 100% community engagement.**

As some background, this is what has been done so far:

- ◆ In the spring of 2007, the **Literacy Impact Task Force** was formed and achieved its goals by convening community experts, and gathering our community's ideas and opinions about needs and solutions. The task force then worked collaboratively to create our community's **7 Key Indicators of Literacy**.
- ◆ In April of 2007 our community held the **First Annual Ruth J. Colvin Literacy Symposium** and saw over 100 participants dream of what Central New York will look like after we coordinate our efforts to fight illiteracy across the lifespan. Go to [www.flags-cny.org](http://www.flags-cny.org) and [www.readahead.com](http://www.readahead.com) (News) to see the work in progress!

To those of you who have been involved already, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your participation thus far. And we also want to tell you that we need your ongoing help.

For those who are new, and for everyone else, it is time to build our community's Literacy Plan and governance structure for the future. Having strong leadership and a community literacy plan that everyone participates in - a literacy plan that can be celebrated as milestones are achieved - will be the foundation of our community's future success.

Welcome! Your participation will make all the difference! If unable to attend, please RSVP to Kathy Byrnes at [kbyrnes@unitedway-cny.org](mailto:kbyrnes@unitedway-cny.org) or Kim Scott at [kim@cnycf.org](mailto:kim@cnycf.org) or John Eberle at [john@cnycf.org](mailto:john@cnycf.org).

Please use the index below to link to meeting and other reference materials.

Katherine Byrnes, Family Literacy Alliance of Greater Syracuse  
Kim Scott, Central New York Community Foundation

John Eberle, Central New York Community Foundation

### INDEX

Meeting #1 - September 28, 2007

Presentations:

[Community Foundation Presentation](#)

[Margaret Doughty Presentation](#)

[Guiding Questions](#)

[Meeting Notes](#)

Meeting #2 - October 18, 2007

Presentations:

ProLiteracy Worldwide  
Margaret Doughty Presentation  
[Guiding Questions](#)  
Meeting Notes

Meeting #3 - November 20, 2007  
Presentations:

Guiding Questions  
Meeting Notes

Meeting #4 - December 12, 2007  
Presentations:

Guiding Questions  
Meeting Notes

Meeting #5 - January 17, 2008  
Presentations:

Guiding Questions  
Meeting Notes