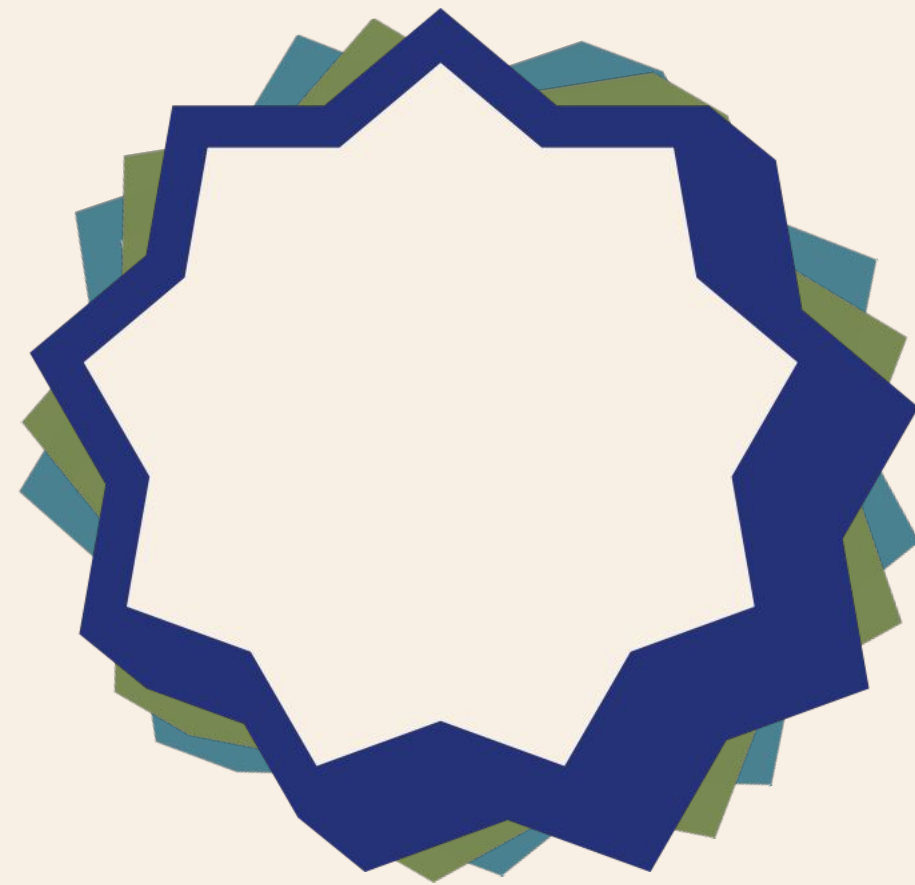


LAN, ATLAS, #IamABE



# Adult Education Check-In:

Q&A on Federal Funding &  
Policy Changes

# WELCOME!

**LITERACY  
ACTION  
NETWORK**



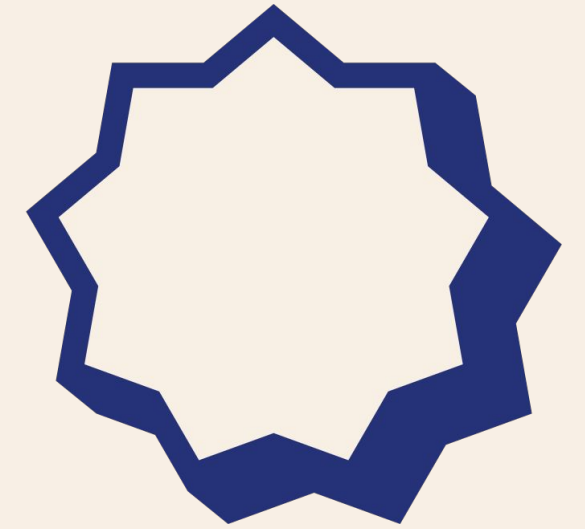
**#IamABE**

**Guest Speaker:** R. Linus Chan, Professor of Clinical Law

*Director of Detainee Rights Clinic at James H. Binger Center for New Americans*

*University of Minnesota Law School*

# AGENDA



- ADDRESS QUESTIONS FROM THE SURVEY
- PROVIDE RESOURCES
- SHARE NEXT STEPS
- ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

# SURVEY RESULTS





# LAN ASKED:

**Question 1:** What questions do you have about changes at the federal level that might impact ABE programs or learners?

- ~~● Future Policy questions~~
- Dealing with ICE
- Existing Policy questions
- How to Speak to Students
- Trainings/Resources

# LAN ASKED:

## Question 1: What questions do you have about changes at the federal level that might impact ABE programs or learners?

Can ICE try and contact me, as my students' teacher? Can I get in trouble for saying something/not saying something?

Will our 25-26 funding be affected? What does it mean for our organization?

Will the citizenship process be changing again?

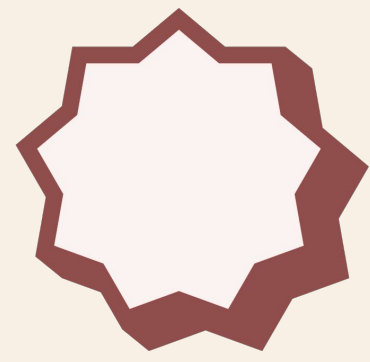
Do we ask them for their documentation status upon registration?

Is there a legal obligation to:

- Be Interviewed
- Verify the learner is present
- Share paper or electronic records on students
- Escort to or page the learner
- Provide information on the learner's relationship with our organization, etc.



[School Crisis Playbook: Deportation Response](#)  
(updated 02.13.2025)



## Dealing with ICE

- **Private institutions can limit their space and require warrants signed by a judge**
- **Do not lie or run away. Do not advise students to lie or run away.**
- **Ask to see, and make a copy of or note, the officer's credentials (name and badge number), and the phone number their supervisor.**
- **Ask the officer for their reason for being at your site and document it.**
- **Ask the officer to produce any documentation that authorizes access.**
- **If someone at your site is detained, ask where they will be held and get the contact information for their family, particularly if they have children.**

*Modified from the California Department of Justice, "[Quick Reference for School Officials](#)"*



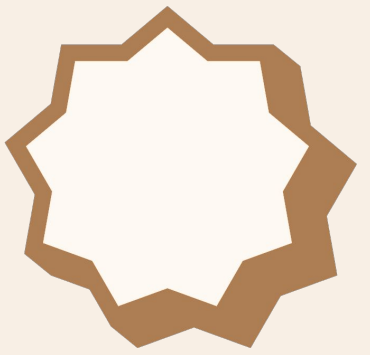


## **Existing Policy Questions**

- **What are the changes?**
- **Will our '25-26 funding be affected?**
- **Does the federal government have access to SiD?**
- **Do we need to ask students for their documentation status upon registration?**



# In Summary:



- No changes to Adult Education funding as of this check-in. Adult Education in MN is primarily funded through state funding. Individual federal programs are subject to changes.
- All adults in MN communities are eligible for Adult Education. The only student data required is what is mandatory in SiD.

## Guidance from Keith Ellison for K-12 Schools

- Suspension of the Resettlement Program means that we expect fewer new people coming to MN, but the immigration statuses of your students right now have not changed.

## **MN Council of Nonprofits:**

<https://minnesotanonprofits.org/executive-orders-affecting-nonprofits>



# Questions about speaking to students

- **What should I tell my students who are afraid to come to school?**
- **What can we do as educators to ease the fears and anxiety of these families?**





**A** GITATE

Make sure students know about executive orders that may affect them and their classmates.

**E** DUCATE

Find reliable sources to keep up to date with changes and share them.

**I** NOCULATE

Be prepared emotionally for the worst, but combat fear with solidarity. Give example of the ongoing fight, like legal challenges to the executive orders.

**O** RGANIZE

Collaborate on a response or a project related to the issues that impact the students.

**U** NITE

Work together in your classroom, program, or consortium on a response.



# LAN ASKED:

**Question 2:** What resources would benefit you and your program?

- Know your rights information for students
- Know your rights information for workplace/teachers/etc
- Accurate up-to-date information
- Legal resources
- Emotional/mental health resources
- Talking points to speak with legislators

**Social Studies & Civics Teaching Resources:**  
<https://atlasabe.org/resources/social-studies/>



## **Cultural Competency resources**

<https://atlasabe.org/resources/cultural-competency/>

## **More lesson plans & resources to come!**

Would you like to get involved? Do you have suggestions for lesson topics for development or a resource to share?

Submit this form:

<https://forms.gle/qwsJPnE7nX13TaDt5>

**More resources around all these topics to come to LAN and ATLAS.**

Stay informed by reading the MN ABE PD Connect newsletter, and watch for a session at the April 11 virtual conference.

<https://atlasabe.org/newsletter/>



# Know Your Rights for Teachers & Workplaces



- Minnesota Education Equity Partnership (MNEEP) Toolkit**  
<https://www.mneep.org/toolkits/creating-safe-supportive-schools-for-immigrant-and-english-learner-el-students/#1734819675957-c64d85d0-8734>



- National Employment Law Project (NELP) Guide for Employers**  
<https://www.nilc.org/resources/a-guide-for-employers-what-to-do-if-immigration-comes-to-your-workplace/>

- Advocates for Human Rights - Legal Aid Resources**  
[https://literacyactionnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Legal-Referrals\\_Updated.pdf](https://literacyactionnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Legal-Referrals_Updated.pdf)

- Guidance for K12 MN Educators on DHS Enforcements Actions**  
[https://www.ag.state.mn.us/Office/Communications/2025/docs/ImmigrationEnforcement\\_GuidanceForEducators.pdf](https://www.ag.state.mn.us/Office/Communications/2025/docs/ImmigrationEnforcement_GuidanceForEducators.pdf)

| The Advocates FOR HUMAN RIGHTS   |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Alison Olson Cox Law</b><br>5601 Nicollet Ave. S.<br>Minneapolis, MN 55419<br>612-293-7248<br>A, D, DA, G, N, P, S, TPS, T, U, V<br>Spanish                 | <b>The Bortel Firm</b><br>825 Nicollet Mall, Suite 811<br>Minneapolis, MN 55402<br>612-388-3366<br>A, C, DA, D, F, G, L, N, P, ST, T,<br>U, V, W<br>French, Russian, Spanish | <b>Eckhoff Law</b><br>300 N. Dakota Ave., Suite 201<br>Sioux Falls, SD 57104<br>605-368-1455<br>A, C, E, F, G, N, ST, W                           | <b>Graciela Gonzalez</b><br>P.O. Box 20<br>Wayzata MN 55391<br>612-207-5562<br>A, C, CR, D, E, F, L, N, ST, W<br>Spanish   |
| <b>AMA Law Group</b><br>1113 E. Franklin Ave., Suite 104<br>Minneapolis, MN 55404<br>612-226-8799<br>A, C, CR, D, E, F, G, N, ST, TPS,<br>W<br>Somali, Amharic | <b>Breitman Immigration Law Firm</b><br>2901 Metro Dr., Suite 501<br>Bloomington, MN 55425<br>612-822-4724<br>A, C, CR, D, E, F, L, N, ST, W<br>Hungarian, Spanish           | <b>Karen F. Ellingson</b><br>33 E. Wentworth Ave., Suite 360<br>West St. Paul, MN 55118<br>651-451-1660<br>A, C, D, F, N, TPS<br>Spanish          | <b>Guyton Thuentz</b><br>970 Raymond Ave., Suite G-60<br>St. Paul, MN 55114<br>651-641-8664<br>E, F, G, N<br>Spanish       |
| <b>Aust Schmiechen</b><br>825 Nicollet Mall, Suite 623<br>Minneapolis, MN 55402<br>612-724-4860<br>A, B, C, D, DA, F, G, L, N, P, S,                           | <b>Carranza Immigration Law</b><br>1500 E. Capitol Ave.<br>Bismarck, ND 58501<br>701-291-3442<br>C, DA, F, G, N, T, U, V, W  | <b>Engbretson Law</b><br><a href="mailto:rachel@blegal-us.com">rachel@blegal-us.com</a><br>612-366-0479 (texts preferred)<br>A, C, CR, D, F, N, W | <b>Hart Law Office</b><br>310 E. 38th St., Suite G<br>Minneapolis, MN 55409<br>612-333-3003<br>C, F, N, U, V, W<br>Spanish |
|  |  | <b>Fredrikson &amp; Byron</b><br>60 S. 6th St., #1500   |  |

# Where can I find certain resources?

- Lesson plans and teaching materials
  - Toolkits with #IamABE
  - Training and professional development
  - Subscribe to the PD Connect newsletter
  - Events Calendar for all grantees
- 
- Technical assistance (for Adult Ed)
  - Policies and statute law related to Adult Ed
- 
- Advocacy for Adult Ed
  - Legislative proposals for the field
  - Resources unrelated to ATLAS and MDE



**Adult Education  
Team at MDE**

**LITERACY  
ACTION  
NETWORK**



# Next Steps

# Would you like to get involved?

Do you have suggestions for lesson topics for development or a resource to share?



Submit this form:

<https://forms.gle/qwsJPnE7nX13TaDt5>

# #IamABE



- **create inclusive and supportive classrooms** where all students feel welcomed and valued
- prioritize information literacy to **combat conspiracy theories and misinformation**
- ensure that our programs **provide clear and accurate scientific information** about climate change and how it impacts students' lives
- **combat religious discrimination** in all its forms, including Islamophobia and anti-Semitism, by actively teaching and upholding the right to freedom of religion
- acknowledge the growing number of Trans and Gender Nonconforming individuals and committing to **explicitly welcoming and supporting the Queer community** in our programs
- ensure students have **access to comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased information about sexual and reproductive health**, including birth control and other health options, regardless of changing federal policies
- actively **teach U.S. history that centers BIPOC voices and experiences** to oppose anti-Black and Brown policies such as book bans, anti-DEI curricula, and police brutality
- recognize the diverse needs of students with disabilities and **advocate for better funding to ensure appropriate accommodations are available to all learners**
- **advocate for the rights of incarcerated students and returning citizens**, ensuring they have access to quality education and the resources needed to thrive
- **decolonize our curriculum and programs** by centering indigenous voices, rights, and stewardship of land and water, and also dismantling white supremacist policies
- **strengthen and form relationships with community partners** to ensure emergency plans are in place before anticipated legislation goes into effect, so response can be immediate

# Statement 2025

- commitment for individuals and/or programs
- can guide curriculum development, professional development and staff training, and actions
- we also use the list of signees as a contact list for sharing information about developments and opportunities



# Talking Points for Legislators

**Reminder:** know who can impact the issues you care about



| State Representatives   | Federal Representatives   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● general adult education funding<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ coordinate with LAN to support the platform!<br/><i>(more on that in a minute)</i></li></ul></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● IELCE grant funding</li><li>● USCIS grants for programs like citizenship</li><li>● Resettlement Program (for refugees)</li><li>● ICE activities</li><li>● federal departments (ex: the Department of Education)</li></ul> |

## Call or email your representatives:

"Hi, my name is [your name] and I am a constituent in your district/I work in your district. I'm calling/emailing to ask you to :

- advocate for reinstating the resettlement program
- fight to protect funding for [the program you want]

This is important because ... "

# 2025 Legislative Agenda

**\$10 million increase in Adult Education base funding to improve access to services statewide and eliminate waiting lists for classes.**

- The gross revenue per contact hour cap, current \$30 per hour, would raise to \$36 per hour, and
- The cap on growth in contact hour revenue, currently the greater of 11% or \$10,000 would be suspended for the funding year 2025-2026. For future years the cap would be raised to the greater of 11% or \$12,000.

## **Resources Available:**



# Adult Education Day On The Hill

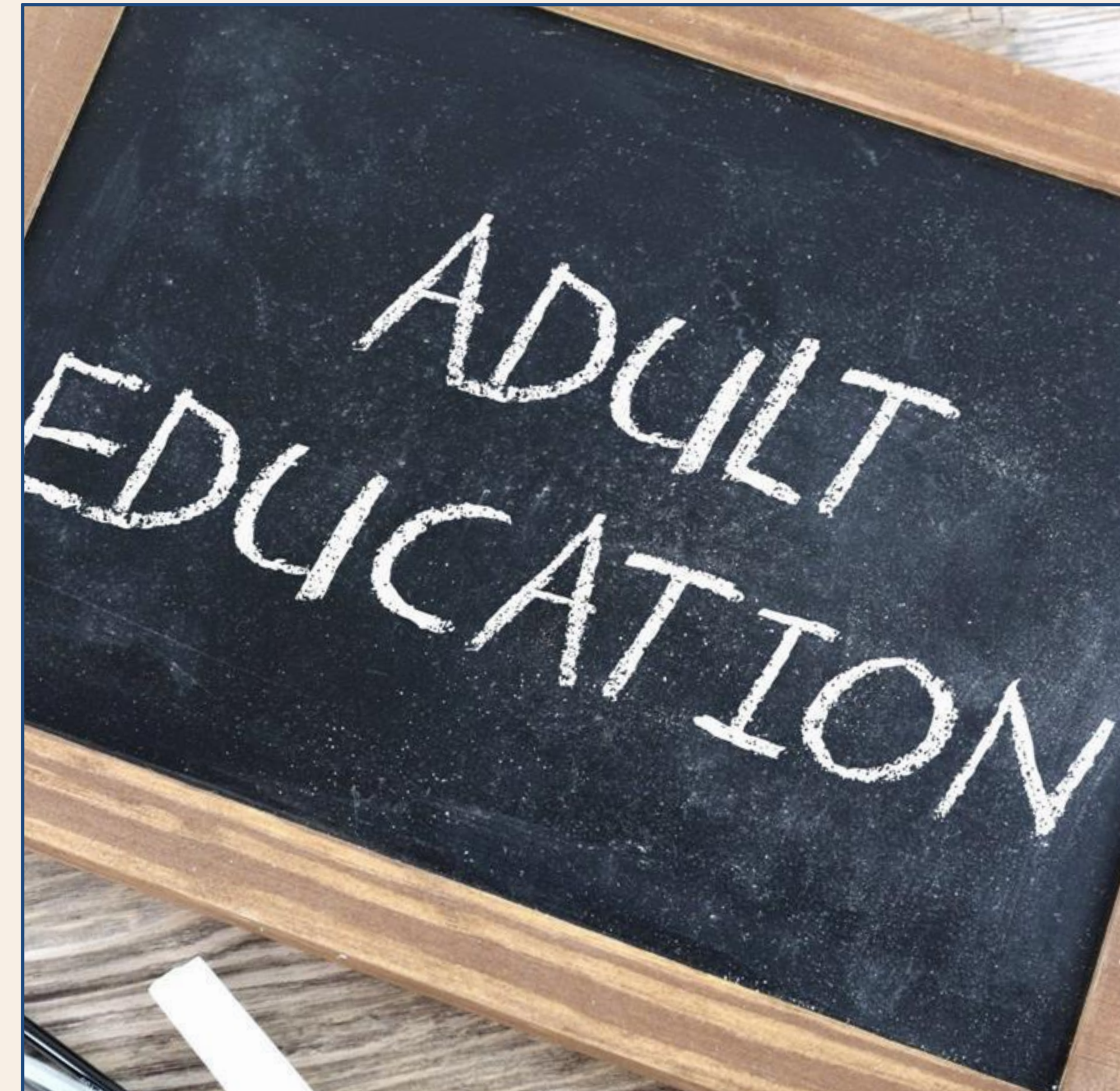
April 8th - 8:30am to 12:00pm  
MN Capitol Rotunda

We invite you to bring your students, staff, volunteers and community!

- Prepare for your trip using the [#IamABE curriculum](#).
- Schedule a [free tour](#) (groups of 15 or more) or plan a self-guided tour.
- Plan your transportation and other field trip logistics!
- **Interested in scheduling a meeting with your legislator?** Reach out to LAN's lobbyist - Sherry Munyon at [smunyon@capitolaccess.us](mailto:smunyon@capitolaccess.us).







**Additional  
Questions?**



# Contact Information

## **MN ABE Team: Adult Ed policies, funding and system coordination**

- Brad Hasskamp (brad.hasskamp@state.mn.us)
- Jodi Versaw (jodi.versaw@state.mn.us)

## **ATLAS: Adult Ed teaching materials and resources**

- Patsy Egan (pegan02@hamline.edu)

## **LAN: Advocacy and legal aid resources**

- Kaija Bergen (kaijabergen@gmail.com)
- Cara Berger (cberger@neighborhoodhousemn.org)

## **#IamABE: Opportunities for more direct action**

- Kris Klas (kristin.klas@gmail.com)
- Erin Cary (erincary@gmail.com)

