



The Literacy Alliance

## Media Release

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### **Verizon Supports Literacy Alliance Computer Lab**

Verizon Foundation has contributed \$20,000 to The Literacy Alliance in support of its computer lab at 709 Clay Street. The lab helps adult students strengthen basic skills, improve their English, and enhance workplace skills.

"We are thrilled to receive the Verizon Foundation money," said Executive Director Judith Stabelli. "Verizon has been a staunch supporter of literacy. This grant has allowed us to better serve adult students from our community."

In the lab, adult students use KeyTrain software which provides assessments and lessons specific to workplace skills. "KeyTrain helps us crosswalk between education and employment," said Karen Linkemann, director of adult instruction programs at The Literacy Alliance.

"Surveys show that students come to us so they can get better jobs," said Elaine Gee, computer lab coordinator. "KeyTrain can help them do that, from the most basic to the most advanced levels."

Since 1988, the nonprofit Literacy Alliance has been dedicated to ending illiteracy in Allen County. Learning centers, literacy programs, and tutoring services empower adults to succeed at work, at home, and in the community.

"Verizon Foundation supports and invests in the people and organizations working to improve the quality of life in our communities," said Gale Y. Given, Verizon Great Lakes Region president for public policy. "This is an investment in a successful program that delivers literacy and technology training for the 21st Century."

"Verizon's web-based Literacy Campus has been a valuable resource to Literacy Alliance staff and volunteers," said Stabelli.

The Verizon Foundation supports initiatives that improve literacy and K-12 education for the 21st Century, and domestic violence prevention programs. In 2006, the Verizon Foundation will award more than \$70 million in grants to charitable and nonprofit agencies in the United States and abroad.

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