



## Vita Education Services

Celebrating 50 Years of Bringing Learning to Life

**YOU can support life-long learning to increase economic and social equality in our community.**



### Cesar.

Cesar came to America 14 years ago from Brazil. Learning English was his top priority.

With Vita's support, he has achieved this and more.

“Vita, for me, looks like a light. If I don’t have the light on a dark road, I couldn’t see where I was going. So Vita is like that light; to show the way to open doors for people to improve their education.”

– Cesar, a former Vita ESL student who then studied and earned his GED, and went on to college to study construction engineering

**Vita invites you to be part of this vision**, to transform the lives of your neighbors right here in Bucks County. You can:

- Help adults gain literacy and life skills to earn family-sustaining wages.
- Literally save lives by supporting at-risk adults to make better decisions - decisions that positively impact them, their families, and society at large.
- Give immigrants the opportunity to improve their English, obtain U.S. citizenship, and contribute to a thriving community.

**This year Vita is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of providing these kinds of transformative educational opportunities.** Vita is the lead literacy agency in Bucks County and the largest provider of educational services in the county’s criminal justice system. Through new and innovative programs led by teachers, facilitators, and valued volunteers, Vita helps as many as 1,500 individuals a year take meaningful steps to reach their goals. Programs include:

- **Basic Literacy & High School Equivalency Preparation**
- **English as a Second Language**
- **Family Literacy**
- **Decisions**
- **CareerLink® Workshops focused on training and employment**

### The Power of Moms

Vita’s **Family Literacy** program helps ESL parents gain literacy and parenting skills to become full partners in the educational development of their young children.

Research findings show that “a mother’s literacy level is the greatest predictor of a child’s success in school.”



### Critical Decisions

*Decisions* is Vita’s copyrighted cognitive behavioral skills program, which has been taught to at-risk populations in a variety of criminal justice and community settings for over 50 years.

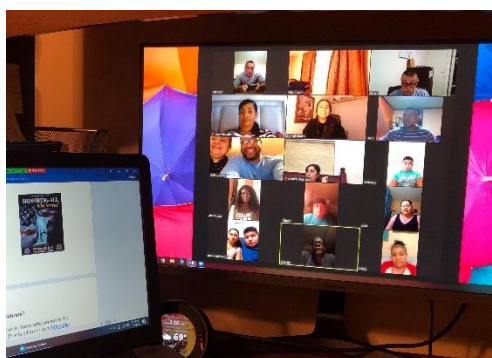
When a client was asked if Vita’s *Decisions* course benefitted her, she said, “Every single day, I now say to myself, ‘How will this decision I’m making affect me tomorrow?’ Because I realize that every one of us is just one decision away from a potential disaster.” – from “Stephanie” *Vita Voices* story

## You Can Make the Difference

**“When adults’ life circumstances improve, their children do better in school, their health improves, the tax base increases, the pool of qualified workers increases and our communities become stronger. None of this is possible if we do not become better at supporting adults to complete their education and meet their goals.”**

**- New England Adult Learner Persistence Project**

Vita’s donors are the backbone of this effort. **Your support of our innovative programs can make an impact on the lives of your neighbors, and contribute positively to the economic and social well-being of our community.** The pandemic has exacerbated the need for our services. Individuals are increasingly aware of the need to improve their skills and demand for our programs is high.



### **At this critical crossroads, your support is vital! Why?**

- Continued challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and the severe economic impact it has had on Vita and those we serve
- The necessity of helping literacy and ESL students and criminal justice clients bridge the digital divide so that programs can be effectively delivered through virtual and e-learning vehicles
- Uncertainty of government funding and in-kind space for classes

**With a goal of raising \$100,000** we turn to YOU:

- **Members of the community** who believe in the transformative power of education
- **Bucks County businesses** who are vested in having a skilled, competent workforce
- **Funders** of innovative initiatives and programs that impact our community

From providing general operating funds in support of Vita’s programs, to underwriting development of new ESL and Civics curriculum, to helping launch an e-learning platform for *Decisions*, to sponsoring a new, dedicated space for classes, **Vita welcomes the opportunity to show you how your support can truly make an impact.**

***Your Dollars at Work: Ninety-three cents of every dollar is spent on program support, directly benefitting students and their families.***



Learn more about Vita’s impact through the first-person *Vita Voices* stories on our website, YouTube and Facebook.

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