



Literacy Works, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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LITERACY WORKS RELOCATES COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTER TO RANDALLSTOWN LIBRARY

BALTIMORE (Nov. 12, 2003) – Literacy Works, Inc. has relocated its Randallstown Community Technology Center (CTC) from a temporary apartment space to a permanent space in the Randallstown Library (8604 Liberty Road – 410-655-6080). The new facility enables Literacy Works to accommodate 200 to 300 students per year.

“This is the most recent and perhaps most dramatic element of a long-time partnership between the Baltimore County Public Library and Literacy Works in providing important literacy services for the citizens of Baltimore County,” said Jim Fish, director of the Baltimore County Public Library System.

“We are thrilled to have a permanent space connected to the Library,” said Helene Waranch, executive director of Literacy Works. “There is a definite synergy between referrals from the Library for students to register for our classes and for our students to use the library for resources. ”

Designed by Levin-Brown Architects and built by Nottingham Properties, the 1,300-square-foot space comprises two classrooms, as well as office and reception space on the Library’s lower level. Currently, it offers two morning, two afternoon and two evening classes in reading, writing and math – taught by instructors from the Community College of Baltimore County’s Center for Adult and Family Literacy.

“The Community College of Baltimore County is extremely pleased to expand learning for adults in the Randallstown community,” said Michael Cary, executive dean of Continuing Education and Economic Development Department for The Community College of Baltimore County. “Our partnership with Literacy Works has allowed us to take education to a greater number of Baltimore County citizens, and the Library is an important partner to help us broaden these efforts.”

The Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Foundation provided a \$12,500 grant to support the CTC move to the Randallstown library. “Literacy is vital for the community, and we are proud to help Literacy Works educate more people in their expanded Randallstown facility,” said Donn Weinberg, vice president and trustee of the Weinberg Foundation.

Additionally, Bank of America provided a \$10,000 grant. “Bank of America is proud to support the expansion of services provided by Literacy Works,” said Brooke Hodges, Bank of America’s Market Development Manager-Central Maryland. “Education and literacy are the engines that help adults find better jobs, making them more likely to rear children with higher education and income, hopefully breaking the chain of underemployment and underachievement. This is essential for the economic prosperity of our communities and future generations.

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Library, 2

Literacy Works also utilized a small portion of a \$200,000 community technology grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational & Adult Education, and a \$60,000 grant from the Goldseker Foundation, which funded the opening of Literacy Works' original Randallstown learning center in 2000. Furthermore, part of a community development block grant from the Baltimore County Office of Community Conservation has helped pay for operations.

Founded in 1990, Literacy Works, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that coordinates, promotes and supports adult and family literacy services. It operates adult learning centers in Rosedale/Essex, Lansdowne, Randallstown, Chase and two new locations in Washington Village/Pigtown. For more information about the organization and its programs – for students and volunteers, call 410-887-2001.

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