

News Release

For Immediate Release July 9, 2012

Laurel Prysiazny (559) 600-6237 Rebecca Wade (559) 600-9243

LITERACY SERVICES HOSTS OPEN HOUSE JULY 24

The Fresno County Public Library will spotlight its expanded Literacy Services Center on July 24 from 3pm to 6pm at an open house event. The Center recently moved from a leased space to a new location at the Central Library.

Volunteer tutors are matched one-on-one with adult learners to improve reading, writing, spelling and math skills. Tutors receive free training and materials from the Library. Learners receive free tutoring.

Fresno County has one of the highest functional illiteracy rates in California. Twentyseven percent of adults in the County lack the reading and writing skills needed to manage basic daily living and employment tasks. The state illiteracy rate is 23%.

"We always have a great need for more tutors and a long list of learners waiting to be matched with a tutor," says Rebecca Wade, Literacy Services Coordinator. "The skills our learners acquire help them achieve their goals as parents, employees and community members."

For more information about the Literacy Services Center or the open house, the public can call 600-9240 or go to <u>www.fresnolibrary.org</u>.