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MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DOE)
GIVES IMMIGRANT LEARNING CENTER
TOP GRADE ON FIVE-YEAR ASSESSMENT

Malden, Mass – A DOE monitoring team highly commended The Immigrant Learning
Center, Inc. (ILC) for demonstrating best practices in a number of program and management areas as
part of its recent five-year assessment of the Center.

As a government funder of The ILC’s English as a Second Language program and community
planning initiative, the DOE conducts an assessment of the Center every five years to determine its
compliance with DOE program regulations. The Center was evaluated in 10 assessment areas that
included curriculum design, student placement and support services, planning and evaluation,
administrative and fiscal operations, integration of technology, staff qualifications, and its community
planning initiative to establish a continuum of adult basic education programs in Malden.

The DOE monitoring team, comprised of three program specialists, spent three days observing
classes, interviewing ILC staff and students, and reviewing ILC program documentation and
management records. The Team reported in its findings that The ILC was an exemplary model of best
practices. It gave The ILC high marks for its innovative programming; extraordinary vision,
dedication and leadership, sound fiscal management and fundraising operations, the expertise,
professionalism and diversity of ILC staff, integration of technology; strong public-private
partnerships, and the attractiveness of the physical plant.

Founded in 1992, The ILC provides free classes to Massachusetts’ foreign-born adults in
English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, Family Literacy, Computer Literacy, and
Citizenship, GED (high school equivalency), and TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)
exam preparation. Since its inception, The ILC has served nearly 3,000 individuals representing 65
countries, living in 58 Greater Boston communities and who speak 40 different languages.

ILC Co-Founder and Director, Diane Portnoy said, “The ILC is pleased to have received such
an outstanding evaluation and vote of confidence by the DOE for our work in serving Massachusetts’
immigrants and refugees. The DOE has been a committed partner with us in giving foreign-born adults
the English proficiency needed to help them achieve their goals and dreams and to become productive
workers, parents and community members. We thank the DOE for working shoulder-to-shoulder with
The ILC and the Malden community in providing opportunities to Malden residents to continue their
education.”

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