

CORPUS CHRISTI LITERACY COUNCIL

Established 1986

Proclamation

September 08, 2025 has been designed as "International Literacy Day" and September, 2025 has been designed as "National Literacy Month" by educational leaders in this country. These leaders have called upon all Americans to meet our literacy problems head on, giving freely of their time and assistance whenever possible.

More than 50,000 adults in Corpus Christi do not have a high school diploma or G.E.D. and more than 17% read below the 5th grade level. This problem is a vital concern to professional, educational, civic, religious and volunteer groups in our community.

As Former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan declared, "Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope. It is a tool for daily life in modern society. It is a bulwark against poverty and a building block of development, an essential complement to investment in roads, dams, clinics and factories. Literacy is a platform for democratization and a vehicle for the promotion of cultural and national identity. Especially for girls and women, it is an agent of family health and nutrition. For everyone, everywhere, literacy is, along with education in general, a basic human right. Literacy is finally, the road to human progress and the means through which every man, women and child can realize his or her full potential".

The Corpus Christi Literacy Council, which was formed in 1986, continues to initiate and coordinate literacy efforts within our community, and to provide needed help to interested citizens. The Literacy Council has served more than 12,000 adult students in Corpus Christi through their one-on-one volunteer tutor program and classroom instruction.

As Mayor, I proclaim Sept 8, 2025, International Literacy Day in Corpus Christi and encourage all citizens to recognize that the need for literacy in our city is of great social and economic importance.