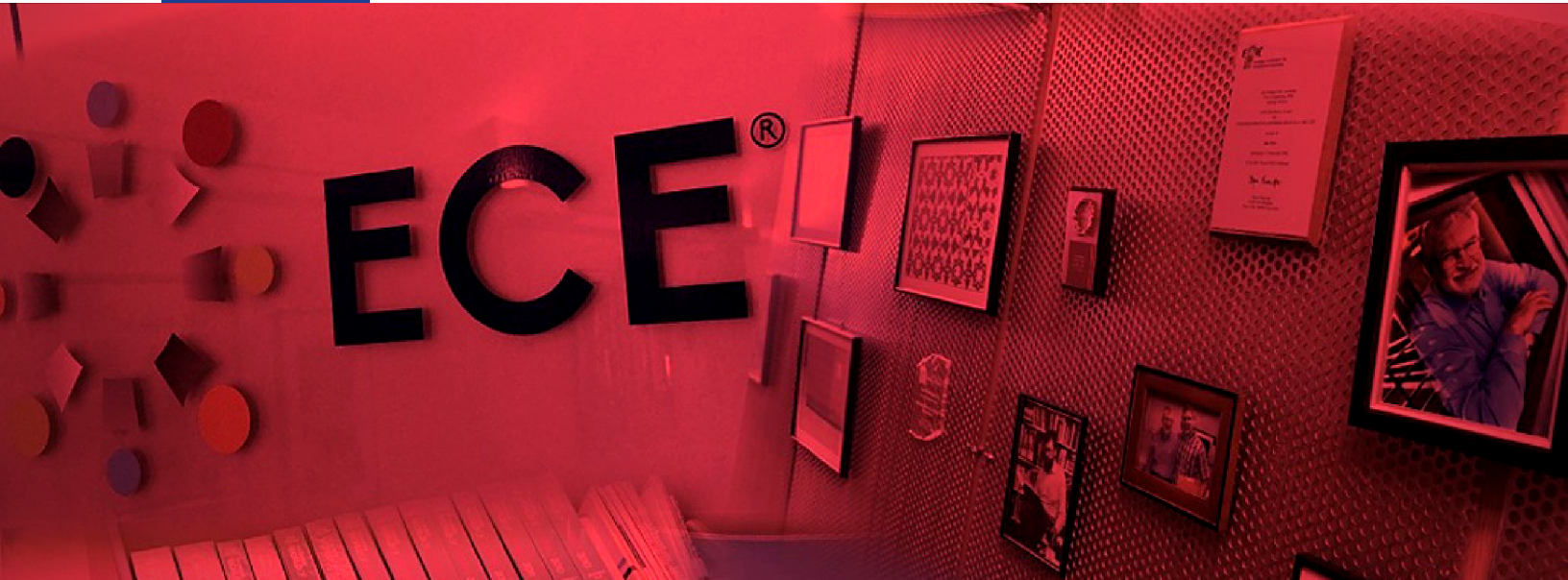


FEBRUARY
2021



ECE[®] Aid Newsletter

A charitable initiative developed to provide free evaluation reports for vulnerable and displaced populations.



ECE[®] Aid Updates

Dear Friends,

I hope you are healthy and safe as the Covid-19 pandemic continues to cause disruptions to our lives. Thankfully, February is almost over and spring is around the corner (even for us in Wisconsin). The sun is out, the snow is starting to melt, and birds are singing in anticipation of warmer weather. With every new season comes rejuvenation and inspiration. We can take time to reflect on accomplishments of the past season, as well as look forward to new possibilities.

2021 is under way, and we've already begun to assist ECE[®] Aid recipients with new possibilities. Seeking employment or education and training continues to be a driving force for immigrants and refugees everywhere, and ECE[®] Aid is

In this issue:

ECE[®] Aid Updates

ECE[®] Aid Recipient Story: Wahidullah from Afghanistan

Participant Spotlight: Winnebago Area Literacy Council

is here to help. This month you'll hear from ECE® Aid recipient Wahidullah and how a credential evaluation from ECE will boost his prospects for new possibilities. Likewise, you will also hear about one of our amazing participating organizations, Winnebago Area Literacy Council, and how our collaboration has benefitted those they serve.



[My] bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Afghanistan [is] approved!

- Wahidullah, ECE® Aid recipient from Afghanistan



ECE® Aid Recipient Story

Wahidullah from Afghanistan

Wahidullah is a civil engineer from Afghanistan who has completed his initial goal of employment as a quality controller at a construction company in Colorado.

[Refugees to College](#) assisted Wahidullah in creating an action plan that suited his needs.

During the process Wahidullah was informed that he could receive a free ECE® evaluation report that could help provide recognition of his Shaikh Zayed University degree, a U.S. equivalency recommendation, and confirmation that his academic documentation was authentic.

Services provided by ECE, through Refugees to College, could also eventually help Wahidullah continue his quest to ultimately acquire a Professional Engineering license and/or a master's degree.

"[My] bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Afghanistan [is] approved!" - Wahidullah

Congratulations to Wahidullah as his academic and professional journey continues in the U.S.

Participant Spotlight

Winnebago Area Literacy Council (WALC)

For our first spotlight we thought an organization right in our own backyard would be perfect to begin with. This interview was conducted with Dr. Oxana Martynova-Perzentka, Vocational Service Director for the [Winnebago Area Literacy Council](#).



What types of programs does your organization focus on? Who do you serve?

We strengthen our diverse community by developing and delivering free, learner-centered literacy programs for adults and their families - English Classes, Tutoring, Job Help, Family Support. We serve refugees, immigrants, ABE learners.

How did you hear about ECE® Aid?

I used the services of ECE myself, when I first moved to the USA from Russia. And later on, I was a catalyst of this partnership relationship on behalf of our organization.

How does ECE® Aid or a credential evaluation benefit those you serve?

The learners we refer to ECE are seeking meaningful employment with livable wages. Some individuals are interested in furthering their education, which eventually can ensure a good stable job. And it all becomes possible due to the credential evaluation report they obtain.

Tell me something about your organization or your job that you are most proud of. What makes you go into work every day to assist those you serve?

I am happy to be part of WALC! We are innovative, creative, and compassionate individuals committed to strengthen our community by offering free literacy programs to adults and their families.

We provide our diverse learners with a wide variety of literacy programs. We share learner accomplishments and stories to spread awareness about diversity, how low literacy skills perpetuate the cycle of poverty, and how courageous our learners are.

We display pictures and tell uplifting stories about passionate volunteers supported by professional staff guidance and agency resources.

We help our learners to meet their goals – improve English, obtain a job, understand American Culture and American Work Culture, prepare for their driving test, prepare for the Citizenship test, get their credentials evaluated, guide them as parents and ensure their kids meet their developmental milestones. It’s precious to see them become more self-sufficient, more successful, more confident. It’s so humbling to know we help them improve their lives and this way we better our community on the whole.

Thank you, Oxana, and everyone at the Winnebago Area Literacy Council for being such a great organization to work with.

You can check out the [WALC website](#) for more information on their services and who they provide support to.

As always, donations to ECE® Aid are much appreciated so that we may assist as many eligible recipients that we can like Wahidullah and those at WALC.

Support ECE® Aid



With gratitude,

Zachary Holochwost (he/him/his)
ECE® Aid & Market Research Manager



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For updates and news about ECE and ECE® Aid, please follow our social media accounts.