

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

America's Hidden Talent Pipeline

From Learning to Earning:
How Adult Education Strengthens
Communities and the Workforce



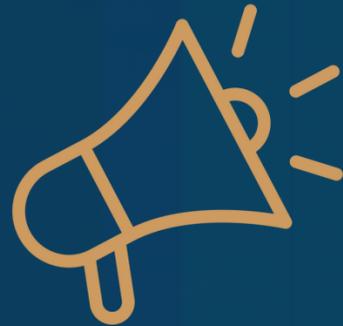
COABE
The Voice Of Adult Education

**ADULT
EDUCATION**
& Family Literacy Week

SEPTEMBER 14-20, 2025



Sharon Bonney
Chief Executive Officer,
COABE



ADULT EDUCATION'S HIGH FIVE FACTS

1. Breaks the cycle of intergenerational poverty
2. Builds America's talent pipeline to community college and the workforce
3. Supports reentry and reduces recidivism
4. Moves families off of public assistance into sustainable employment
5. Builds stronger, more self-sufficient communities



TODAY'S PANELISTS



Erin Vobornik, IL
Moderator &
Initiatives Director, COABE



Erika Simmons, OH
Director of Adult Workforce
Education, Academy
for Urban Scholars



Cathy Tyler, FL
Director of Workforce
Development, NCCER



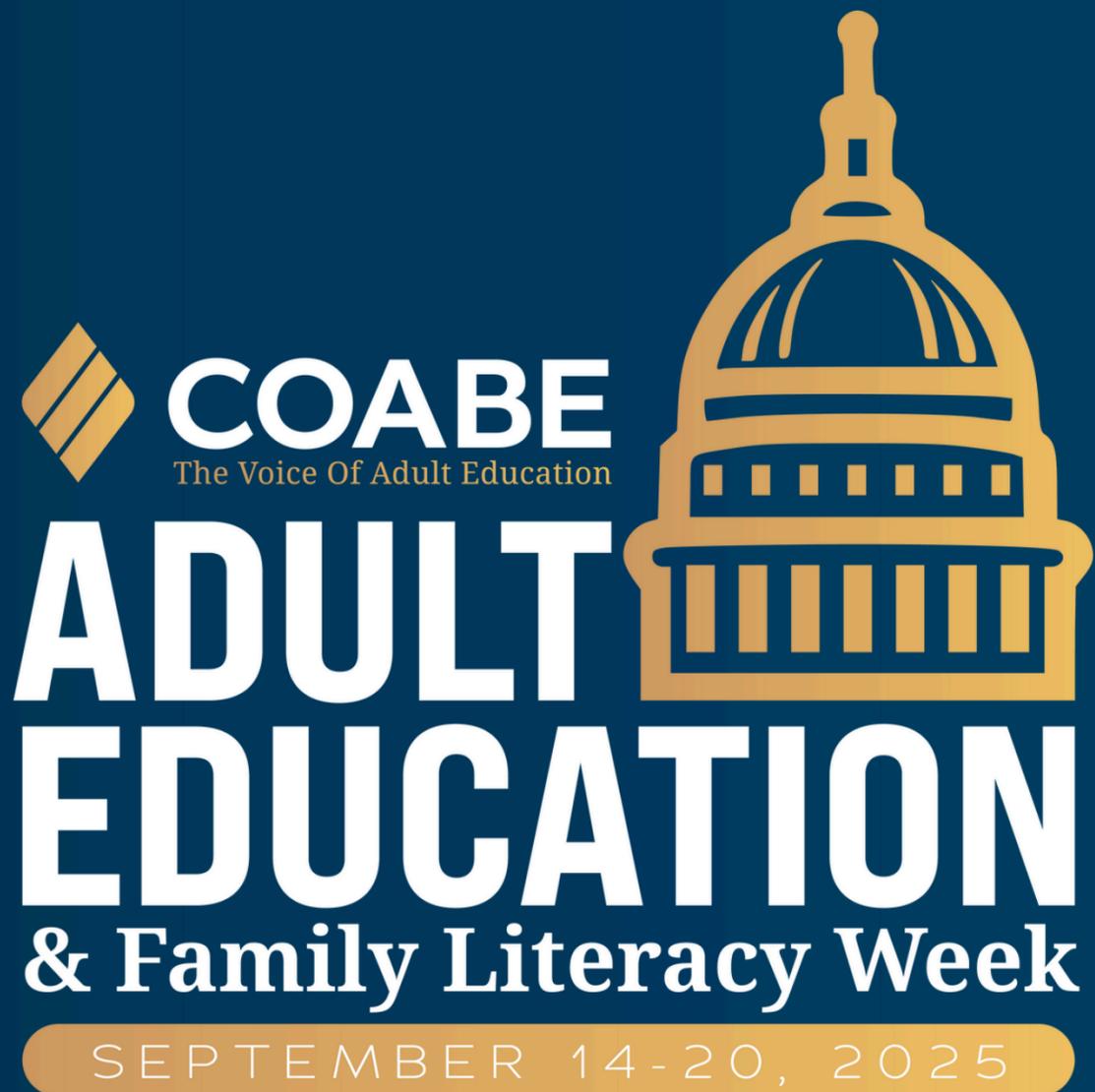
Sabra Phillips, TX
Director of Talent Development,
Marek Companies



Marilyn Pitzulo, IN
Associate Chief for Talent
Development,
Indiana Department of
Workforce Development

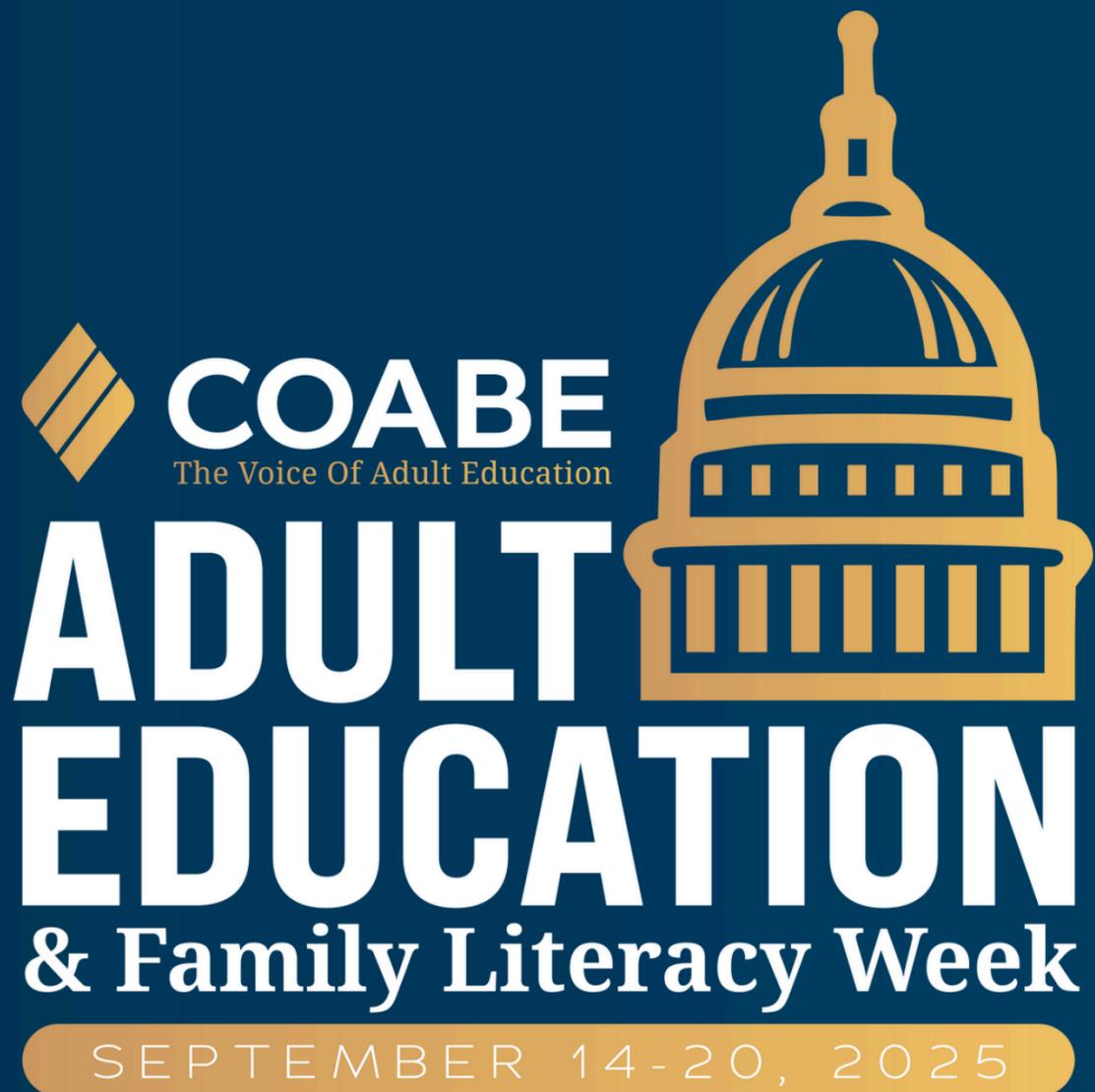


Kendric Marshall, OK
Former Adult Learner



Hector Martinez

WIOA Title II State
Director, Kansas and
Board President-Elect,
COABE



THANK YOU

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