Greetings!

The warm spring weather is here, and with it comes a hope that we will soon be able to move forward, come together, and resume enjoying the life we have missed during these past few months.

While the state has announced a phased plan to reopen local businesses, EAL programs will continue to be held online through the summer. This decision was necessary to protect the health and safety of our volunteers and learners.

However, it also means that many of our learners will not be able to continue with their studies. These learners:

- face barriers of culture and language that prevent them from asking for help
- have limited access to technology
- are not connected to local resource systems
- are at high risk of suffering illness, loss, exploitation and isolation

Unless we can find a way to provide them the tools and support they need.

To respond to this real need across our service community, staff and volunteers have worked together to develop <u>EAL CARES Project</u>, serving low level, Beginner Learners impacted by COVID-19.

I invite you to join us in this important effort to address the needs of our most atrisk learners. Together, we can ensure the health and safety of local immigrants, support their continued learning, and help make them feel safe and connected instead of frightened and alone. Your caring and commitment will make a difference.

Please give today to support the CARES Project.

Thank you for your continued interest in English At Large.

Best regards, Maureen ed@englishatlarge.org

Maureen Willis, Executive Director

