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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Literacy Center Hosts The American Dream Celebration March 22
Special Evening Will Raise Funds for Beaufort County's Only Adult Literacy Nonprofit

Success stories consist of more than milestone celebrations.

In between birthdays and anniversaries, small victories are taking place at The Literacy Center (TLC) that will eventually build into great accomplishments.

Beaufort County's only adult literacy nonprofit intends to celebrate those achievements when it hosts the second annual The American Dream Celebration from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, March 22 at Indigo Hall at the Club at Indigo Run on Hilton Head Island.

The event will include a silent auction with one-of-a-kind treasures, lavish food and festive drinks. Hilton Head Island pianist Bill Peterson will perform, and Lowcountry legend, Monty Jett, will serve as master of ceremonies for the evening.

"The American Dream Celebration allows us to shine a spotlight on our inspirational adult learners and hero tutors who are changing lives forever," said Brad Steele, executive director for TLC. "Adult literacy is a key rung on the ladder of opportunity. Individuals with more education are more likely to get and keep jobs, lift themselves out of poverty, incur lower health care costs, increase their children's success in school and be engaged citizens."

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Close to 500 students from 29 countries are currently enrolled at TLC's Bluffton and Hilton Head Island Learning Centers, which provide reading, writing and math courses as well as GED instruction and a pathway to citizenship. TLC plans to launch a new workforce development program in 2019.

Volunteers in Medicine Board Chair Jim Collett and his wife, Marcia, are honorary chairs for this year's celebration.

"The focus of our personal charitable effort is typically centered around those who are unable to help themselves," said Jim. "To be able to serve such a great cause as The Literacy Center, and have a such a fun time doing so, adds up to a once-in-a-lifetime experience. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together in support of something we all believe in – reading, writing and speaking in English."

During the celebration, current and former student success stories will be shared, including that of former SC District 1 Congressional Candidate Mario Martinez and his wife, Blanca. TLC's volunteer tutors will also be recognized for their dedication and inspiration.

Tickets for the celebration are on sale now at <http://www.theliteracycenter.org> with early bird discounts available through March 1.

All funds raised at the American Dream Celebration event will support TLC programs.

For more information, contact TLC at 843-681.6655.