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*The Voice of  
Adult Education  
in Massachusetts*

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**For Immediate Release**

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**STATEWIDE COALITION RECOGNIZES PETER PAN BUS LINES  
Awards Peter Pan Bus Lines for Contributions to Family and Adult Literacy**

Boston, MA: For many adult learners, transportation and child care can be the greatest barriers to their attending Adult Basic Education classes and improving their educational skills. The Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education (MCAE) has honored the Peter Pan Bus Lines for its visionary development of the new Holyoke Intermodal Transportation Center that now houses Head Start and adult literacy classrooms. Peter Pan Bus Lines is this year's recipient of the MCAE Outstanding Business/Labor Partner Award.

"For years, Peter Pan Bus Lines and its owners, the Picknelly Family, have been supporters of adult basic education," said MCAE's executive director, Kenneth Tamarkin. "Their commitment to adult basic education includes being a driving force behind Hampden County's LiteracyWorks and, now, the Picknelly Adult and Family Education Center at the Holyoke Intermodal Transportation Center."

The building, originally constructed in 1911 as Holyoke's central fire station, has been renovated to house a bus station with seven bus ports, child care facilities, classrooms and offices of the Juntos Collaborative, SABES West, and many other adult and family education partners. The center is a collaboration of federal, state, and city agencies, Peter Pan, the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, Springfield-Holyoke-Chicopee Head Start, Holyoke Community College, and the Holyoke Public Schools. This collaboration and the building itself would not exist if not for the commitment from the Picknelly Family.

According to Robert Schwarz, executive vice president of Peter Pan Bus Lines, the mixture of day care, adult education, transportation, and other essential services would have pleased Peter L. Picknelly, the founder of Peter Pan Bus Lines. "That was his vision. He wanted to build something unique, not just a bus facility," said Schwarz. Now, thanks to the Picknelly Family, Holyoke, Massachusetts and the nation have a model of collaboration that meets the educational and transportation needs of many adults.

MCAE is the statewide organization for practitioners, adult students, individuals and organizations supporting equal educational opportunities for all adults. MCAE is dedicated to the advancement of adult education through high quality services and professionalism in the field from basic literacy and English for Speakers of Other Languages through preparation for a high school credential such as the General Educational Development (GED) test to programs such as family literacy, workforce development, and workplace education to transitions to post-secondary education. For more information about adult

basic education in Massachusetts visit [www.mcae.net](http://www.mcae.net).

MCAE annually honors outstanding students, businesses and practitioners in adult education at the Network conference each fall.

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**Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education**

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