

# COABE

COALITION ON ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

*To inspire educators so adults succeed and communities thrive*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**COABE Outstanding Administrator of the Year Award Runner-Up: Susan Erno**

**Region 10 Adult Education Program**

**Charlottesville, Virginia**

The Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) is 15,000 members strong and growing, and provides a variety of services including annually providing competitive national-level awards, incentive grants, and scholarship opportunities through special funding provided by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Our mission is to inspire educators so adults succeed and communities thrive. COABE exists to provide leadership, communication, professional development, and advocacy for adult education and literacy practitioners in order to advance quality services for all adult learners. Fifteen thousand members strong, one way that we engage in these activities is by spotlighting excellence in the field. Susan Erno was nominated for COABE's Outstanding Administrator of the Year Award and was selected as a runner-up.

Susan Erno's work with adult education began in 1988, where she served as an adult education instructor and taught adult literacy classes in a variety of settings including state institutions, shelter workshops, adult education centers, and the workplace for seven years. During that time, Susan earned her master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Radford University. Susan also served as the regional instructional specialist for Region 10 from 1993-2000, providing instruction and technical assistance to 45 adult educators and literacy providers throughout the region. In 1998, she assumed the role of adult education coordinator for Charlottesville City Schools and directed their adult education program, offering learner centered classes for 500 adults annually in English language acquisition, workplace, and GED® test preparation. As a result of her success with the Charlottesville program, she was asked to be the regional adult education program manager for Region 10 during the mandated state regionalization of all adult education programs in Virginia in 2012. Susan has also assumed the responsibilities as the lead agent for the Regional Literacy Coordinating Committee from 1995 until present. She has produced many research projects, publications, and presentations throughout her career in adult education, has many professional affiliations, sat on various advisory boards including the Piedmont Workforce Network, Virginia Adult Education Advisory Board, and has served as the president for VAACE (Virginia Association for Adult and Career Education). She has also served as a mentor to new regional program managers.

To learn more about COABE's prestigious award program, go to [www.coabe.org](http://www.coabe.org) or contact [awards@coabe.org](mailto:awards@coabe.org)