

# WALI Spring Forum

Thursday, April 26, 2018

7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Radisson Hotel, Santa Maria

\$28 Breakfast Program

Registration:

[https://  
walispringbreakfastforum2018.  
eventbrite.com](https://walispringbreakfastforum2018.eventbrite.com)



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## WHAT IS WALI?

The Workforce and Literacy Initiative (WALI) is a regional collective impact effort to collaboratively articulate and achieve five distinct workforce and literacy goals\* to improve economic prosperity and quality of life in Northern Santa Barbara County. WALI is being co-led by the United Way and EconAlliance with numerous North County partners, including Allan Hancock College and others.

\*see next page



Advocates for Workforce Development & Literacy in Northern Santa Barbara County™

## Wake Up to WALI!

HIGHLIGHT PRESENTATION:

### 5 Collaborative WALI Goals: How Are We Doing?

Cary Gray, *WALI Data Chair President/CEO, Assessments USA & Canada*



Beginning with 2014 as the baseline reporting year, the WALI team has reported annually on the progress of collaborative North County efforts to achieve the 2020 WALI goals. (see p. 2). Cary will be sharing data from 2017, the third year of reporting, with three reporting years to go (2018, 2019, 2020).

### WALI Goals in Context – Promising Practices and Feasibility for 2020 Achievement

PRESENTERS:



Kevin Walthers, *Superintendent/President, Allan Hancock College*  
**WALI Goals 1 & 2:**

Doubling attainment of degrees (20% STEM) and vocational certificates



Andria Keiser, *Asst. Professor/Coordinator, ESL NonCredit Community Ed, Allan Hancock College*  
**WALI Goal #3:** 1000 North County adults per year gaining basic literacy skills (reading/comprehension at 8<sup>th</sup> grade level)



Luke Ontiveros, *Superintendent, Santa Maria-Bonita School Distict*  
**WALI Goal #4:** Reducing by half the number of students not reading at grade level



Eileen Monahan, *Consultant to First 5 Santa Barbara County*  
**WALI Goal #5:** Increasing by 1000 new high-quality licensed child care spaces in Northern Santa Barbara County



LIVE UNITED



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## WHY WALI?

Of Northern Santa Barbara County residents, 23% live in poverty, 25% have no high school diploma and 42% are English language learners. Attainment of higher education degrees has dropped 19% over the last decade and 62% of students entering Allan Hancock College do not read at high school grade level. Nationally, 75% of state prison inmates and 59% of federal prison inmates did not finish high school or can be classified as low literate. **According to ProLiteracy.org, a 1% increase in literacy translates to a 1.5% permanent increase in GDP.**

## WALI Northern Santa Barbara County Goals for Collaborative Achievement 2020:

- GOAL #1:** Double the number of associate and bachelor degrees awarded from institutions in the region, with at least 20% of those being attained in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) disciplines.
- GOAL #2:** Double the number of career technical education (vocational/ industrial) certificates awarded by target schools and training institutions in the Northern Santa Barbara County region
- GOAL #3:** Foster the success of 1,000 North County adults per year in gaining basic literacy skills (reading with comprehension at the 8th grade level) through education, community or workplace literacy programs.
- GOAL #4:** Reduce by 50% the percentage of students unable to read at grade level (grades 3 – 11)
- GOAL #5:** Increase the number of high quality, licensed preschool and early child care spaces available to working families in the Northern Santa Barbara County region by 1,000, supporting reading readiness, child and childcare provider literacy for new licensees.

More WALI info:

[www.econalliance.org/strategies/education-workforce-development/](http://www.econalliance.org/strategies/education-workforce-development/)

(scroll down for WALI info and “Recent Activities”, including past WALI events)