



Graciela Tapia (center) poses for a photo with Xuan-Vu 'Sunny' Nguyen, EL Civics coordinator (left), and Lynne Wilkins, associate director of programs at the English Center for International Studies at Mills College.

"They are making it possible to continue the work, not only with WES, but also with other series and projects," Tiago says. "In addition, our division (Education Network) has been using the catering services of their Culinary School for our events. This is especially positive since the school is in our neighborhood and it allows us to support their efforts and students in yet another way.

"We would also like to involve partners in future training sessions and eventually have a pool of trainers to work with us. We have already started this model by having a Mission Language and Vocational School teacher participate in one of

promote work readiness



Career Coordinator Lisa Johnson celebrates graduation with Han-jia 'Don' Liang from China.

Ayla Tiago, manager of adult learning for KQED TV, takes a popcorn break.



has been the fact that most partners will continue using the series on an ongoing basis. In fact, the San Francisco Sheriff's Department has adopted WES in its workplace curriculum as a permanent component to be offered every other month. Mission Language and Vocational School will also continue to use the series, and the teacher who received the initial training has now trained another five teachers who have adopted WES into their curriculum."

Tiago says yet another benefit is the connection and working relationships KQED established with the agencies.

our trainings. Having teachers illustrating good and effective use of video, and more specifically demonstrating their experience with WES and other series will be very helpful to other educators."

Tiago said there were several surprising results of the project.

"The first was the quality and amount of material produced by the partners," she says. "It was very rewarding to see teachers take the series and, building on their initial work with us, make it their own, creating a real resource for their students."

ESL teachers were particularly creative.

"This was especially positive because it points to the power of using video and making the material relevant to each group of students," she says.

Measuring the precise change in the students' workforce readiness was more difficult, according to Tiago, largely because WES was only one variable among many.

"What we can say with certainty (from the informal and formal feedback from partners) is that the use of WES made a positive contribution to their work and was without doubt one of the factors in students' progress," Tiago says. "Teachers were happy with the WES materials and found that they enhanced their curriculum and provided them with an opportunity to use video creatively and interactively with their students." **KET**



New York City hospital waiting rooms become classrooms

BESIDES THUMBING through old magazines, there is little to do in a physician's waiting room besides wait—unless you are at one of five New York City area hospitals. At these hospitals, the wait could be an opportunity to expand your health literacy.

Through a partnership between the Adult Learning Media Alliance (ALMA) and the New York Methodist Family Health Center in Brooklyn, patients are provided with videos and print materials about health-related matters as they wait to see their physician. Volunteers are trained to do mini health literacy workshops right in the waiting room.

The workshops include three primary units. The first is about active ingredients and measurements. The second explains what to consider when taking multiple medications, and the third discusses how to properly prepare for a doctor's visit.

We have had a tremendous response in New York," says Alex Quinn, executive director of ALMA, "and with support from the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, we will be expanding the project to five additional hospitals next year."

Materials for the project were adapted from the TV411 Health Smarts Kit. The partnership with New York Methodist Hospital was funded with a grant from the United Hospital Fund. ALMA trains the volunteers who then bring the materials—videos and supporting print materials—to the waiting rooms. They then gather a group of patients together, show a video, and discuss the topic.



"The first is on understanding an active ingredient," says Quinn. "They show the patients a five-minute video and then talk about points raised in the video. They also have handouts and a poster-size enlargement of an over-the-counter drug label, similar to what was shown in the video. The volunteers talk about over-the-counter medications—how to determine the active ingredients and how to make sure you have the correct dosage. The entire session takes about 20 minutes. Someone might get called away during the session, but people are often there for quite some time."

Quinn says the partnership is a natural for ALMA.

"It's what we do," he says. "We try to model real situations. What can be more real and necessary than managing your health care? Although we love working in adult education classrooms, we need to find other ways of reaching people. Not everyone has the time to get to classes. Bringing literacy into the community and hospital waiting room is a really vital way for learning to happen." **KET**

The TV411 Health Smarts Kit is available from KET. Call 800.354-9067 to learn more.