

LINKING LEARNING TO LIFE

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LLL Holds Community Partner Recognition Event; Makes Major Grant Announcement

By Teresa Poquette, Office Manager, Linking Learning to Life

Linking Learning to Life (LLL) held its fourth annual Community Partner Recognition event on Wednesday, May 27 at Champlain College's IDX Student Center in Burlington.

Bill Romond, Deputy Commissioner for Transformation for the Vermont Department of Education kicked off the event by describing the direct alignment between the programs and activities of Linking Learning to Life with the department's vision for transforming schools. A key element of that vision is creating community based learning opportunities for all students in partnership with employers and colleges.

The community partner awards acknowledged Linking Learning to Life's work to prepare youth for success related to "the 3 C's" - Careers, College, and Community. Several student speakers - Emily Anderson of Burlington HS, Ethan Baldwin from Edmunds Middle School, Alex Maharaj of Burlington HS, Ethan Tischler from Champlain Valley Union HS, and Anaii Lee Ender at Community College of VT (a BHS graduate) - shared their experiences with LLL and the impact it's had on their lives.

This year's community partner awardees are:

Careers: Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center, Franklin/Grand Isle Workforce Investment Board

College: Vermont Adult Learning, Community College of Vermont

Community: Champlain Valley AHEC, Burlington Schools Food Service and Vermont Lake Monsters

Outstanding Service: Chris Reck, President of Direct Design and Amy Mellencamp, Principal of Burlington High School.

Maggie Gendron from Senator Patrick Leahy's office and Tricia Coates from Congressman Peter Welch's office highlighted the event with a very special announcement that Linking Learning to Life was awarded a \$500,000 federal grant award! This grant was included in the FY 2009



From left to right: Rich Tulikangas, Executive Director, LLL; Lindsey Lathrop, Marketing and Development Coordinator, LLL; Adam Leonard, Human Resources Director, Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center.

federal budget and will help LLL to sustain and expand 2 core programs - College Connections and TIPS student internships - as well as support organizational development activities over the next 3 years. The award represents an extremely important and timely investment in the future of Linking Learning to Life.

Save the date for Chamber Day on the Spirit of Ethan Allen III

Enjoy a boat cruise on Lake Champlain, sample a wonderful selection of appetizers, and enjoy a cash bar as you mingle with co-workers, friends and family on this Chamber Members-only event!

Date: Thursday August 6, 2009

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10 for members and spouses; \$5 for Children 11-17; Children 10 and under **FREE**

Register: www.vermont.org or call Susan Fayette at (802) 863-3489 ext. 211