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**NEWS RELEASE**

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October 5, 2017 (407) 246-7110 ext. 209

**Wells Fargo and the Florida Literacy Coalition Support**

**Adult Education Financial Literacy Programs**

**ORLANDO, Florida** –

Eight programs across the state of Florida have been awarded $5,000 grants for the implementation of a financial literacy program to benefit their adult education, ESOL, and family literacy students.

Congratulations to the following organizations:

* DeSoto County Educational Foundation
* El Sol Jupiter's Neighborhood Resource Center
* Flagler County Schools Family Literacy Program
* Learn to Read of St. John’s County, Inc.
* Manatee Technical College
* Peace River Center
* Sarasota YMCA
* School District of Palm Beach County

These mini-grants, awarded by Wells Fargo and the Florida Literacy Coalition (FLC), will integrate math instruction and financial education into the programs’ literacy curriculum, promoting a contextualized approach to learning. More than 1,800 students have been served in the past two years through this grant program which works to empower adult learners through financial literacy. “Wells Fargo is a national leader in supporting financial education and it’s our privilege to work with them on this statewide initiative.” said Greg Smith, Executive Director of FLC.

Financial education promotes stability for individuals and their families. The more people know about credit, banking services, taxes and basic money management, the more likely they are to increase savings, buy homes, save for education and improve their financial well-being. People with a low level of education often also have low numeracy and financial literacy skills. Basic financial skills education can be critical to helping individuals manage their money and protect themselves from predatory practices.

“At Wells Fargo, we understand that to be able to contribute to the success of our communities, we need to support and invest in Florida’s education,” said Florida Community Affairs Manager

Kate Wilson. “Caring for our communities is part of our culture and we are proud to show how much we care by supporting organizations that promote academic achievement to students and by delivering financial education lessons to students and families across the state.”

The program also supports training opportunities for teachers, tutors and administrators on how to incorporate financial information into their curriculum. The streamlined integration of literacy instruction and financial education promotes contextualized learning; an approach that helps people develop basic skills while acquiring information to make informed choices regarding their finances.

**About the Florida Literacy Coalition**

Established in 1985, The Florida Literacy Coalition promotes, supports and advocates for the effective delivery of quality adult and family literacy services in the state of Florida. As a statewide umbrella literacy organization and the host of Florida's Adult and Family Literacy Resource Center, FLC provides a range of services to support more than 300 adult education, literacy and family literacy providers. Special emphasis is placed on assisting community based literacy organizations with their training and program development needs. More information about FLC can be found at [www.floridaliteracy.org](http://www.floridaliteracy.org) or by calling (407) 246-7110.

**About Wells Fargo**

Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a diversified, community-based financial services company with $1.9 trillion in assets. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through 8,600 locations, 13,000 ATMs, the internet (<www.wellsfargo.com>)

and mobile banking, and has offices in 42 countries and territories to support customers who conduct business in the global economy. With approximately 273,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked as the 7th Biggest Public Company in the World by Forbes in 2016. Wells Fargo’s vision is to satisfy its customers’ financial needs and help them succeed financially. Wells Fargo perspectives are also available at Wells Fargo Blogs and Wells Fargo Stories.

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