



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **READ/San Diego Program to Participate in State Accreditation Project**

SAN DIEGO – READ/San Diego, the City of San Diego Public Library’s adult literacy program, is one of five library-literacy programs selected by the California State Library to participate in a pilot accreditation project with ProLiteracy America.

The California State Library has identified program accreditation by ProLiteracy America for selected programs as a goal for 2006/07. The State Library believes the ProLiteracy accreditation process will benefit participating programs in numerous ways, including:

- Provide a recognizable and professional seal of approval;
- Give visibility and credibility;
- Provide continuity for any foreseen, or unforeseen changes in staffing; and
- Strengthen overall your library literacy services.

“Since its inception, READ/San Diego has been committed to providing comprehensive, quality training to literacy tutors and support to adult learners,” said Valerie Hardie, READ/San Diego’s administer. “Completing the accreditation process aligns with READ/San Diego’s long-range goals and is the next step in the program’s ongoing development.”

READ/San Diego program is a free literacy, English as a Second Language and family literacy instruction service for adults 18 years and older. Staffed by literacy professionals, READ/San Diego coordinates the efforts of volunteer reading tutors and cooperates with local adult schools, community colleges and other literacy education providers in making and receiving student referrals. Each year, the program assists more than 1,000 adult students from various backgrounds and learning levels.

Earlier this year, READ/San Diego was honored with the Advancement of Literacy Award from the American Library Association. The national award honors a publisher, bookseller, hardware and/or software dealer, foundation or similar group that has made a significant contribution to the advancement of adult literacy. In 2004, READ/San Diego was named one of the top community partnerships in the nation by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education.

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