Local Budget
- Gather information about your local share from more than just this year. This year may not give a fair representation of your program.
- How much is your local share? How has that increased, decreased or stayed the same over the past five years?
- How will a change in local share impact your program? Be specific. (Will you gain or lose a teacher? How many adult learners will gain or lose services?)

Adult Education State Subsidy
- What amount of adult education state subsidy flows to your program?
- How will your state subsidy be impacted if there are cuts made at the state level?
- How many 16-20 year olds does your program serve and how does this impact financial gain for your program or for your school district? (The funding realized from this comes in via the forms EFM 39 A and B and the ED 279.)

Federal Grants
- List the federal grants that come to your program and the amount of each grant. What services do they support AND leverage?

Plan for New Revenue
- Investigate Ed2Go, UGotClass, Academy of Medical Professions.
- If possible, start to build a reserve or carry over fund to access.
- Increase your value to the K-12 system – can you assist with credit recovery, providing professional development, or something else?

Summarize and Report
- Provide compelling information to your school board to educate them about adult education.
- Develop success stories that focus on Return on Investment (ROI). For example, if you remove one family from state support, how much does that realize as a return for the state and your local community? Tell a story of an adult learner who was removed from public assistance and found employment. Ask the learner for a picture and a quote to make your story real.
- Gather testimonials from community partners about the value of Adult Education.
- Stress that it is good public policy to support Adult Education. When adults receive an education, there are reduced costs at all levels - housing, food assistance, health insurance, and law enforcement.
- Adult education contributes to the quality of life in our communities. Education opens doors.
- Adult education helps taxpayers without children see essential lifelong learning and quality education in action.

Due to the pandemic, the NEED for Adult Education will be greater than ever. Be sure to track needs of your learners and/or changes.
DATA SOURCES

The American Community Survey, https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs

The American Community Survey collects data on an ongoing basis, January through December, to provide every community with the information they need to make important decisions.

They release new data every year, in the form of estimates, in a variety of tables, tools, and analytical reports. On this site, reports in these categories are available:

- **Social Characteristics** — includes Education, Marital Status, Relationships, Fertility, Grandparents...
- **Economic Characteristics** — includes Income, Employment, Occupation, Commuting to Work...
- **Housing Characteristics** — includes Occupancy and Structure, Housing Value and Costs, Utilities...
- **Demographic Characteristics** — includes Sex and Age, Race, Hispanic Origin, Housing Units...

What is the cost of public assistance?

TANF – One family on TANF benefits receives about $550 per month in funds. Yearly, this is $6,600. This is primarily federal funding that the state is able to draw down to pay families. (Data source – Maine Department of Human Services, Distribution of Benefits and Accountability)

Mainecare (Medicaid) spending in 2014 in Maine saw these average amounts spent:
- Adults per year $3,867 and children per year $3,161. (Data taken from the Kaiser Family Foundation https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/medicaid-spending-per-enrollee/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Children%22,%22sort%22:%22desc%22%7D)

Other Programs

- Heat assistance up to $900 per year per family.
- Rent assistance – varies by family.
- Childcare benefits – vary by person
- WIC – additional benefits
