

TERI

# On Track

Happy  
Holidays!

A Newsletter for Student Aid Professionals

## Meet TERI's Newest Representative

Jen Mendonca enjoys supporting school clients and she has done just that in TERI's Priority Service group for nearly three years. Whether updating a certification or helping a school with a student's application, Jen's drive to excel was always evident and she now takes that "can-do" attitude on the road as TERI's Northeast Representative covering Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.



Jen will be calling on schools to schedule appointments to introduce herself and to provide updates on TERI products and services.

### Jen Mendonca

Northeast Representative

TERI Education Loans

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**Territory:** Massachusetts, Rhode Island  
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## TERI Opens New Walk-in Locations in Four Boston Neighborhoods

TERI's Higher Education Information Center (HEIC) has recently opened four new walk-in center locations at branches of the Boston Public Library (BPL) in Roxbury, Dorchester, Hyde Park and East Boston. Made possible by a partnership between American Student Assistance® and TERI, two full-time education and financial aid advisors will provide local young students and adults with free guidance on accessing college and other postsecondary programs.

For nearly twenty years, HEIC has been working out of the Boston Public Library, Copley Square. This move into the Library's branch locations is in reaction to the need for HEIC's services to be more accessible to its younger clientele. With locations now operating directly in the neighborhoods where they reside, middle and high school students will be encouraged to learn about the variety of education programs available to them after graduation, as well as the means to afford them.

Robert Consalvo, Boston City Councilman, Barbara Wicker, Hyde Park Branch Librarian and Bernie Margolis, President of the Boston Public Library applaud the opening of the four new HEIC walk-in centers.

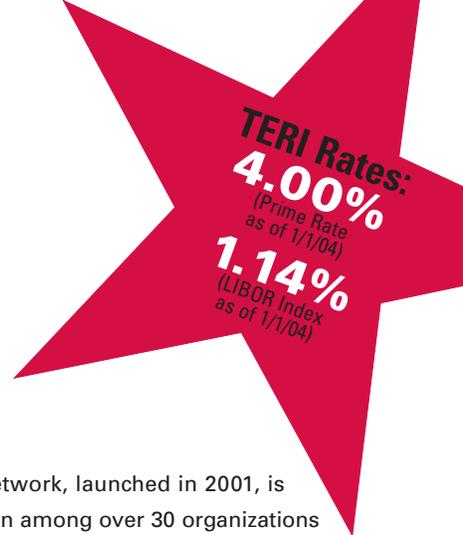


Bernie Margolis, President of the Boston Public Library, Paul Combe, President of American Student Assistance (ASA®), Jodi DiGregorio, HEIC/ASA Education Advisor for the Hyde Park Branch Library and the Dudley Literacy Center and Arturo Iriarte, Executive Director of HEIC and TERI Vice President of College Access Services, celebrate the day.

## TERI announces Availability of Informative Pathways to College Financial Aid Brochure

TERI recently announced the availability of a Pathways to College Network brochure—"Financial Aid, A Shared Agenda to Achieve Access and Success for Under-served Students." The publication summarizes research-based practices and policies that address issues related to access and managing college costs for low-income students and under-represented minorities. It is an effort to inform higher education leaders and policymakers of the key principles and strategies that inspire a well-focused financial aid approach.

The Pathways to College Network, launched in 2001, is deeply rooted in collaboration among over 30 organizations and funders that promote college access at the national, state and local levels. If you would like a copy of "Financial Aid, A Shared Agenda to Achieve Access and Success for Under-served Students," please visit the Pathways to College website [www.pathwaystocollege.net/pdf/FABrochure.pdf](http://www.pathwaystocollege.net/pdf/FABrochure.pdf) or e-mail [Karen Cheng](mailto:Karen.Cheng@TERI.org) at [Cheng@TERI.org](mailto:Cheng@TERI.org).



## College Ready New England Think Tank Attracts 120 Education Leaders

Over 120 education leaders and policymakers from across New England participated in the first *College Ready New England* Think Tank held November 13-14 in Woodstock, Vermont. Organized by TERI in collaboration with the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation and the College Board, the Think Tank focused on improving college access and success for low-income and minority students in the region.

**Ann Coles**, TERI's senior vice president for College Access Services, and co-chair of the Think Tank, opened the meeting with a presentation on data regarding the gaps in achievement, college going and completion between low-income students in New England and middle and upper income students. **Paul Lingenfelter**, Executive Director, of the State Higher Education Executive Officers, provided an overview of research findings on effective policies and practices for improving college access for under-served students. Leaders from each of the six New England states shared information about promising initiatives in their state and discussed the challenges they faced in ensuring that all students are ready for college when they leave high school.

Highlights of the Think Tank were state team planning meetings at which participants worked together to develop plans for improving the academic preparation of students for college, expanding college outreach programs, and helping students and families manage college costs.

Examples of plans emerging from these sessions include early commitments of financial aid to students in 8th grade, establishing regional P-16 councils, and expanded dual enrollment opportunities for low-income high school students.

### Happy Holidays from *TERI Representatives*

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