

# **Real-world Ideas for Implementing the Six Drivers of Persistence**

## **Community and belonging**

Creating a welcoming environment; encouraging students to take part in LVCA activities such as field trips and recognition ceremonies; helping student become aware of opportunities and resources in the surrounding community

## **Clarity of purpose**

Starting where student is in terms of life challenges and goals; making connections between what students want to achieve and what is being taught; helping students understand why a particular skill is being taught and why it is important to learn it; listening to student's stories and focusing on where they want to go with their learning

## **A sense of competence**

Starting instruction with skills students already have to scaffold them into higher level skills; helping students recognize their own progress through review of past work; offering authentic praise based on measurable achievement; helping students develop good study and organizational skills; helping students overcome negative self-image through encouragement and by identifying strengths; giving students opportunities to be the "expert" by asking questions about their home country, their native language, past education and professions, family members, etc., where appropriate

## **Stability**

Establishing regular schedules, meeting place, and lesson routines; setting expectations of promptness, courtesy, and regular attendance; establishing clear means of communication and the process for cancelling a session when necessary; positive, supportive, predictable tutor demeanor

## **Relevance**

Providing instruction and materials that relate to a student's life, work, and family; using authentic materials (grocery store flyers, bus schedules, newspapers, work schedules, etc.) in ways that help students navigate everyday life and its challenges; relating instruction to a student's long and short term goals; checking in from time to time to further refine and clarify goals and adjusting tutoring focus as needed

## **Agency**

Involving students in decisions about instruction by asking for input and offering choices; supporting student efforts to become independent in the community; helping students learn ways to express opinions; making sure students know it is acceptable to say, "I don't understand" or "Please repeat that" or "Please speak more slowly."

## **Some Strategies To Try if Motivation Is Lagging**

- Try more praise.
- Try fewer corrections.
- Try new ways of presenting instruction such as using videos, apps, newspapers, short novels, or a different workbook.
- Try using materials and instruction more closely related to your student's life.
- Try talking to your student about his/her source of discouragement and perhaps using the situation as a writing prompt.
- Try learning something about your student's home country and then asking questions.
- Try varying your routine by planning a field trip and role-playing ahead of time.
- Try starting a list of accomplishments and sharing it each month.