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## President's High Growth Job Training Initiative Telelink Consortium Network



**Grant amount:** \$215,600

**Leveraged amount:** \$196,000 in cash and in-kind contributions from key partners listed below.

**Grantee:** Telelink Consortium Network, Ashland, Wisconsin

**Key partners:** Burnett Medical Center, Grantsburg; Flambeau Hospital, Park Falls; Memorial Health Center, Medford; Memorial Medical Center, Ashland; Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board, Ashland

**Grant activities** will take place in Northwest Wisconsin.

### Challenge

Small, rural health care providers often do not have the resources to implement the continuous training and skills-upgrading programs necessary to keep employees.

### Addressing the Challenge

With its \$215,600 grant, the Telelink Consortium Network (TLC) will establish ongoing, collaborative relationships among rural health care providers in Northwest Wisconsin and the One-Stop Career Center system. TLC will pool financial, material, and human resources of small, remote hospitals and clinics for the purposes of increasing the supply and retention of health care professionals.

### Projected Outcomes

TLC's efforts will concentrate on delivering higher skills training using appropriate, cost effective, web-based means. Training topics will include continuing professional development, managerial subjects, and skills upgrading in such areas as sonograms, X-rays, CAT scans, and MRIs -- all of which have a significant impact on worker retention. Under the project, 300 incumbent workers will complete at least one professional development/skills upgrading module, and a 15 percent larger pool of candidates interested in training for higher skilled health care occupations will be created.

### Sustainable Impact

Four of the region's largest hospitals form the core of the TLC Network, and have agreed to take responsibility for the sustainability of this project. A combination of TLC Network membership fees and access fees will be the specific method for achieving self-sustainability.

