

Community-Based Job Training Grants

East Los Angeles College

Grantee: East Los Angeles College

Industry Focus: Healthcare

Key Partners: South Bay Workforce Investment Board; St. Francis Career College; People United to Enrich the Neighborhood Through Education (PUENTE) Learning Center; St. Francis Medical Center Patient Care Institute; Lynwood Unified School District; St. Francis, St. Vincent, White Memorial, and Pacific Alliance Medical Centers; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration; U.S. Department of Education; U.S. Veterans Administration; National Guard; California Student Aid Commission; Vincentian Service Corps; Daughters of Charity Healthcare System; Daughters of Charity Foundation; Unihealth Foundation; California Wellness Foundation

Grant Amount: \$1,777,710

Leveraged Amount: \$3,984,000

Location of Grant Activities: Southeast Los Angeles, California

Challenge: Healthcare is a high-growth, high-demand, industry in the regional economy. California has a severe Registered Nursing (RN) shortage, and Los Angeles has the worst in California. Lack of educational capacity is the major challenge limiting sufficient nursing training, with applicants facing waiting lists of up to four years for associate's degree-granting RN programs, and slots for only one of every seven qualified applicants. Major constraints include the need for equipment and space to improve teacher-student ratios, high dropout rates among students, difficulty in attracting and retaining faculty, and the need to identify an appropriate number of clinical rotation sites.

Addressing the Challenge: The Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)-RN Bridge Program will enable East Los Angeles College (ELAC) to prepare graduates of the St. Francis Career College LVN program to attain associate's degrees in Nursing and to pass the state RN Licensing Exam. This will be done by raising student awareness of the Nursing Career Advancement Program Lattice; providing a "bridge" session to prepare LVNs for RN coursework; offering academic support services; and providing students with RN exam preparatory activities upon completing their degrees. Capacity at ELAC will be increased by leasing additional facilities; acquiring equipment; implementing strategies to enhance faculty effectiveness and retention; securing additional clinical sites; developing enhancements to the N-CAP Career Lattice; and promoting the LVN-RN Program.

Projected Outcomes:

- 144 students enrolled in the Bridge Program over three years, resulting in an increase in the number of RN candidates of 48 students per year
- 84 students attain ADN degree by end of three-year period
- 85 percent of graduates will pass the RN licensing exam on their first attempt
- 90 percent of licensed graduates will be placed in RN positions within 60 days
- RN graduates will make an average of \$38 per hour, and all will earn promotions or raises.