

Community-Based Job Training Grants

St. Petersburg College

Grantee: St. Petersburg College

Industry Focus: Healthcare (Informatics)

Key Partners: Mease Countryside Hospital, Mease Dunedin Hospital, St. Anthony's Hospital, Morton Plant Hospital, Morton Plant North Bay Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital, St. Joseph's, Children's Hospital, St. Joseph's Women's Hospital, South Florida Baptist Hospital, Edward White Hospital, Largo Medical Center, Northside Hospital & Tampa Bay Heart Institute, St. Petersburg General Hospital, Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point, Community Hospital Oak Hill Hospital, Brandon Regional Hospital, South Bay Hospital, Blake Medical Center Doctors Hospital of Sarasota, Worknet Pinellas, One-Stop Career Centers, Pinellas County Schools, and the University of South Florida

Grant Amount: \$1,246,869

Leveraged Amount: \$1,543,954

Location of Grant Activities: Florida

Challenge: RAND Corporation estimates information technology could save \$80 billion a year by reducing medical errors and costs. Staff in hospitals, nursing homes, and other medical facilities as well as medical researchers, pharmacists, and insurance providers must acquire new healthcare informatics skills to ensure that integrity of healthcare information.

Addressing the Challenge: In response to these critical issues, St. Petersburg College proposes to implement the "Building the Healthcare Informatics Workforce Project" to increase the number of workers with the healthcare informatics skills required by the healthcare industry. The capacity building strategies of this project will produce a new postsecondary healthcare informatics curriculum as well as curricular units for secondary students, a well-trained faculty equipped with the knowledge and skills required to teach the curriculum, and the marketing materials to recruit students to healthcare informatics careers. The new healthcare informatics program courses will be designed for online learning, but they will also be able to be delivered in a blended instructor-led format.

The project's web portal will serve as a source of information for the project, the healthcare informatics industry, the College's healthcare informatics certificate and degree programs, and related career and training opportunities. Additionally, youth will learn about healthcare informatics through a structured high school outreach program and in-school job and career presentations by College faculty. Finally, an annual Healthcare Informatics Symposium, that will be self-sustaining after the grant period, will bring nationally known subject matter experts to the region and provide a healthcare informatics forum for communication among industry representatives, secondary and postsecondary faculty, and students.

Projected Outcomes:

- Train 335 students
- 85 percent of healthcare informatics certificate or degree program graduates obtain employment in a healthcare informatics related job or continue their education by 2009
- Develop six healthcare informatics courses for incumbent workers and a certificate and associate of science degree program
- Increase the skills of 15 faculty members to deliver state-of-the-art training for healthcare informatics
- Increase the state-of-the-art technological resources available for training the healthcare informatics workforce.

