

President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

University of Alaska Anchorage

Grant Amount: \$499,988

Grantee: University of Alaska Anchorage

Region: Northern, South central, and Southeast regions of Alaska

Key Partners: Alaska (AK) WIB Youth Council, State of AK DOL and Workforce Development, AK Office of Apprenticeship, Denali Center Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, AK Division of Behavioral Health, AK Native Tribal Health Consortium, AK Department of Health and Social Services Commission on Aging, University of AK Southeast Sitka Community Education and Professional Development, Prince William Sound Community College, regional K-12 system, AK Job Corps, and the AK Department of Education and Early Development.

Leveraged Resources: \$2,499,398

Target Occupations and Care Settings: Direct Service Workers and Certified Nursing Assistants in facilities and home-based care

Challenge: There are 10,500 widely dispersed Alaskans in need of direct care and services provided by Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) and Direct Service Workers (DSWs). A number of challenges prevent the state from adequately meeting this need. High turnover rates among direct care workers (averaging 40 to 60 percent) create challenges around maintaining a skilled workforce. Finally, the workforce investment and economic development systems have limited knowledge of the LTC industry's training needs and limited coordination with educators to address these needs.

Addressing the Challenge: To strengthen the coordination between the workforce investment system, education system and long-term care industry, the applicant will implement a Long-Term Care Apprenticeship Program (LTCAP) across three regions of the state via distance instruction and on-the-job learning. Trainees completing the 18-month program will receive a Direct Support Services Occupational Endorsement from Prince William Sound Community College and will have participated in approximately 2,700 hours of on-the-job learning experience. These trainees will have access to strong mentoring and skilled preceptors to support their on-the-job learning, and they also will receive academic and degree counseling. Additionally, the program will develop and implement a long-term career path with K-12 Career Centers and the Alaska Job Corp Centers to recruit future workers.

Projected Outcomes:

- 54 trainees will complete the requirements and demonstrate required competencies; 36 will make progress toward an Associate's Degree
- 90 percent of successful apprentices will be employed by the end of the grant period
- Develop 8 to 12 technology-based courses
- Produce Front-Line Leadership Curriculum

www.doleta.gov/BRG/JobTrainInitiative

June 26, 2007

