
Community-Based Job Training Grants

City of Peoria Workforce Development Department



Grantee: City of Peoria Workforce Development Department

Industry Focus: Construction

Key Partners: Illinois Central College; Tri-County Construction Labor Management Council; Peoria Educational Region for Employment and Career Training; and regional faith- and community based organizations.

Grant Amount: \$1,744,199

Leveraged Amount: \$359,200

Location of Grant Activities: Central Illinois

Challenge: By 2016, Central Illinois will experience a 21% growth for electrical and HVAC contractors, commercial and residential building construction trades, and architectural and engineering services. Additionally, most of the current employees in these fields will be eligible for retirement in next ten years. The region will need to employ at least 552 newly trained workers in these occupations with new skills and training in new “green” techniques. The potential impact for the region will approach \$60 million dollars in new wages by 2016 and represents a substantial economic growth opportunity for the region.

Addressing the Challenge: The City of Peoria Workforce Development Department (Workforce) plans to implement two strategies. The first is to address capacity building at the Illinois Central College to provide training on “green” industry skills. The second is to train entry level, dislocated, veteran, and incumbent workers in skilled trades to address worker shortfalls in the traditional, and the emerging “green,” construction industry. As a part of these goals, Workforce will develop a Green Building Construction Professional associates degree program, update training and certificates for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and Building Performance Institute (BPI), and build a pipeline for future construction industry workers by developing programs for a middle school career expo, community outreach project, and educator job shadowing.

Projected Outcomes:

- 192 participants will receive training; 25 youth will receive training in a Construction Industry Work Based Learning Program.
- 148 of the total adult participants will successfully complete training; 132 participants will obtain or retain employment.
- 1,500 students, educators and community members will be exposed to the construction/skilled trades industry through outreach activities and events.

