
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative Hospice and Palliative Care Certificate



Grant amount: \$516,154

Leveraged amount: \$80,556 in-kind from Excelsior College

Grantee: Excelsior College, Albany, New York

Key partners: Fourteen hospices in New York state, along with one each in Montana, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Texas

Grant activities will take place at locations determined immediately following implementation. Local hospices will be identified in Montana, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Texas.

Challenge

Many hospices and their associations have reported that the shortage of nurses is having a significant impact on access to hospice services, and that hospices have had to deny services to eligible patients because they do not have adequate staff to provide nursing care. Without immediate solutions to the hospice nurse shortage, dying patients and their families will increasingly face abandonment by the health care delivery system.

Addressing the Challenge

With its \$516,154 grant, Excelsior College will develop a Hospice and Palliative Care Online Certificate Program (HPCC) that includes a period of practical experience and training supervised by an expert or specialist. In doing so, HPCC will directly address two major national health care workforce needs: 1) expanding the number of registered nurses (RNs) working in the health care field; and 2) creating a stable, highly skilled RN workforce for hospices throughout the nation.

Projected Outcomes

Excelsior College will operate HPCC for 16 months as a pilot program in Montana, New York State, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Texas. The program will serve 60 interns and approximately 30 preceptor supervisors affecting the quality of care of over 15,000 patients from 19 hospice partners.

Sustainable Impact

Excelsior College has over 30 years of experience in developing educational programs for working adults. While other organizations have educational materials for hospice and palliative care, none are online and easily accessible. By the 17th month, the HPCC program will be offered nationally and will be self-sufficient.

