
LEP and Hispanic Worker Initiative

*Words for the Workforce Project
San Diego, California*

GRANTEE: San Diego – Imperial Counties Labor Council

GRANT AMOUNT: \$1,000,000

PEOPLE AND PLACES TO BE SERVED: 150 Hispanic incumbent workers at the National Steel and Shipbuilding Company (NASSCO) in San Diego, California.

MATCHING RESOURCES: \$2,258,000

PARTNERS: San Diego Imperial Counties Labor Council; NASSCO; United Way; San Diego City College; Heartland Foundation; Employee Rights Center; San Diego Workforce Partnership Career Centers

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Words for the Workforce Project will provide Vocational English as a Second Language training to 150 Hispanic incumbent workers at National Steel and Shipbuilding Company (NASSCO). Training will increase participants' workplace literacy and assist them in entering a career path in high wage/high growth construction trades. The goal is for participants to advance from low-skill positions to higher wage, higher skilled jobs by reaching an apprentice's level in the construction industry. In addition, participants will receive supportive services such as rent assistance and transportation through a United Way program.

OUTCOMES:

- 80% of 150 participants will complete Program
- 80% of participants will receive raises from a base of \$8 per hour to \$12 per hour in the first six months after the completion of this program.
- 70% of project participants will successfully enter trades in welding and cutting, or as electrical technicians, or machinists after completing the training offered by NASSCO's hard skills curriculum.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
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