

President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

Southwest Texas Junior College

AWARD AMOUNT: \$1,929,645

AREA SERVED: Nine counties in the southwest corner of Texas

INDUSTRY: Healthcare

LEVERAGED RESOURCES AND KEY PARTNERS: \$581,888 in leveraged resources from six employer partners, a workforce partner and three education partners

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: Rural southwest Texas is experiencing a healthcare shortage that is expected to continue to increase due to economic pressures on hospitals and other providers, attractive career options outside the nursing profession, aging of the workforce and a growing patient population. However, Southwest Texas Junior College's ability to address this shortage is limited by a number of factors: 1) The number of clinical instruction slots available to nursing students is limited, 2) The waiting list for graduates of the Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) program to enter the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) at San Antonio College is growing each year, 3) The college is unable to attract and retain a qualified nursing faculty and 4) The drop-out rate of students in the LVN nursing program is high due to the strenuous academic and physical schedule of the program.

ACTIVITIES: The college will increase clinical instruction for all health programs by broadening the use of clinical sites from four sites to eight by using hospitals and community health facilities, and through the introduction of Sim Man Patient Simulators. ADN and Radiological Technician programs will be established through partnerships with area hospitals and community health centers. Curricula for the implementation of the ADN and Radiology Technician programs will be acquired and/or developed as well as curriculum software, program software and textbooks purchased. Students needing tutoring and/or additional academic instruction to successfully complete the programs of study will be identified and a Health Professions Peer Tutoring Program will be implemented to recruit and train tutors to meet the needs of students. The college will recruit students for all health care programs by working with area school districts counselors, teachers and staff and the area Workforce Investment Board.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:

- 400-600 junior high and high school students will attend presentations and receive counseling to prepare for entrance into a postsecondary health career program;
- 174 students will enroll in the college's health programs over the life of the grant; and
- 50 students will receive additional academic assistance in the Health Professions Peer Tutoring Program.

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EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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