North New Jersey Health Professions Career Pathway Consortium

North New Jersey Health Professions Pathways for TANF Recipients and Other Low-Income Individuals

Abstract

The North New Jersey Health Professions Career Pathway Consortium (HPC Pathway) is conducting a region-wide capacity building initiative to strengthen and expand health care industry occupational training through workforce readiness and integrated basic skills preparation, workforce supportive services, and occupational skill development leading to certification and employment for TANF and other low-income participants. The HPC Pathway Consortium is a cross-county partnership covering the North New Jersey Counties of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Union, and Warren. Consortium partners include:

(1) Ten public two-year institutions of higher education; Bergen Community College, Brookdale Community College, County College of Morris, Essex County College, Hudson County Community College, Middlesex Community College, Passaic County Community College, Sussex County Community College, Union County College, Warren County Community College;

(2) Six regional health care industry employers; Meridian Health, Care One of New Jersey, Bayada Nurses, Inc., CVS Pharmacies, Visiting Nurse Association of Central New Jersey, Caring People, Inc.

(3) Ten county Workforce Investment Boards with their corresponding One-Stop Career Centers and key county-based social services, especially Departments of Social Services, Welfare agencies, and community-based organizations; and

(4) New Jersey State-level Coordinating Entities:
   - New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family
   - U.S. Department of Labor – Office of Apprenticeship
   - New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission, Health Care Workforce Council

Over a five year grant period, the Consortium will attain four interrelated goals at an approximate cost of $24 million (about $4,800,000 for each of the five years) or $4,822 per participant:

- To provide 5,000 TANF and other low-income participants with the portable skills, competencies, and credentials needed to secure and retain employment in areas of high demand within Northern New Jersey’s healthcare sector.
- To assist TANF and other low-income participants in advancing along a career Pathway towards high-skill, high-wage opportunities in areas of high demand within Northern New Jersey’s healthcare sector.
- To identify and address critical workforce shortages among the Project’s employer partners.
- To formalize the relationships among the partner agencies by creating a regional consortium focused on preparing TANF and other low-income participants for entry and advancement in the region’s healthcare sector.