

# President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

Lake Land College

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$863,321

**AREA SERVED:** Mattoon, Illinois; Lake Land College District #517 (15 counties)

**INDUSTRY:** Healthcare

**KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES:** \$600,000 in leveraged resources from six employer partners, two workforce partners and one education partner

**CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS:** In the past three years, over 12 major area plants have closed, leaving 2,034 workers without jobs. At the same time, nursing jobs are projected to grow at a faster rate than other occupations. Lake Land College's nursing programs are currently operating at capacity and graduate 35 licensed practical nursing (LPN) and 40 Associate Degree in Nursing (AD) students annually. These 75 graduates account for less than 40 percent of the projected 200 new nurses needed annually in the district. The college has identified three major challenges to expanding the nursing programs: scarcity of qualified faculty, insufficient funding to expand programs and a lack of career awareness for healthcare opportunities.

**ACTIVITIES:** The college plans to develop a "grow your own" nursing faculty model that can be replicated by other colleges. It will recruit more individuals into the healthcare pipeline by expanding the Health Occupations program offered through the Education for Employment system to include additional high schools and hospitals, developing and implementing a Tech Prep program to target non-traditional students for nursing careers, offer scholarships to K-12 teachers and identify adults and dislocated workers for potential enrollment into the nursing program. To increase capacity for additional students, the college will hire additional instructors and a career coordinator, as well as purchase up-to-date equipment.

## **PROJECTED OUTCOMES:**

- 180 high school students will participate in the Tech Prep program by year 3;
- 72 additional high school students will participate in a reality-based clinical experience;
- At least 15 K-12 faculty will participate in the Allied Health Institute yearly;
- Enrollment will increase in LPN and ADN programs by 50%;
- Student retention rates for nursing students will increase through support services provided by a career coordinator;
- 100% of graduates will obtain employment in the nursing field within six months after graduation; and
- By 2008, 32-40 additional nurses will enter the local workforce annually, effectively reducing the anticipated shortage by 32%.

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EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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