President's Community-Based Job Training Grants
College of Southern Idaho

AWARD AMOUNT: $1,459,411

AREA SERVED: Twin Falls, Gooding, Camas, Minidoka, Blaine, Lincoln, Jerome and Cassia counties, Idaho; Nevada; Oregon; Utah and New York

INDUSTRY: Healthcare

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: $1,050,000 in leveraged resources from five employer partners, four workforce partners and eight education partners.

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: Employer projected labor needs within the next five years in Idaho are four times current graduation rates for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) and five times current graduation rates for Registered Nurses (RNs). The College of Southern Idaho (CSI) has expanded programming from a single nursing program in 1995 to 14 programs. However, CSIs needs to be able to proactively prepare for classroom and lab space, faculty shortages, equipment costs, textbooks and enhanced technology integration for onsite training.

ACTIVITIES: This project will expand physical, technological and delivery capacity of the College of Southern Idaho to conduct training for Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), LPN and RN occupations. The expansion will involve 1) employer and K-12 partner connectivity for onsite training delivery; 2) expanding classroom space for nursing students; 3) expanding minority and disadvantaged labor pools; 4) developing online LPN and ADN curricula; and 5) developing an alternative fast-track career path for nationally certified Paramedics into the RN program using onsite and online methodologies. The training will provide fast-track training support for incumbent LPNs to become RNs using an online transition course. Career ladder emphasis will help CNAs advance to LPN or RN positions. The project will also customize short trainings for employers.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:
- Fourteen online LPN and ADN courses will be developed;
- A workbook to replicate the nursing expansion model will be developed and disseminated to community colleges in Utah, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada and New York;
- 150 LPNs and 270 RNs will graduate and become employed;
- 90 LPNs will be fast-tracked into the RN program;
- 90 CNAs will be fast-tracked into the LPN program;
- 30 Paramedics will be fast-tracked into the RN program;
- 1,200 CNAs will graduate; and
- RNs and LPNs will have an 85% retention rate.