President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

Coahoma Community College

AWARD AMOUNT: \$2,250,560

AREA SERVED: Five Mississippi Delta Counties, Mississippi

INDUSTRY: Healthcare

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: \$4,963,788 in leveraged resources from two employer partners, one workforce partner and five education partners

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: The Northwest Mississippi Delta Region will need 2,740 registered nurses and 1,150 practical nurses by 2012. Currently, there are not enough nurses graduating to fill this need. The college has limited ability to train the number of nurses needed to meet the demands of the local healthcare industry because of the limited nursing faculty available to provide the training. In addition, the college lacks specialty equipment in labs and classrooms and lacks nursing curriculum that aligns training with local workforce needs. The college also lacks supportive services for students to achieve success in attending and completing nursing school.

ACTIVITIES: This project will expand the college's training capacity to provide 150 additional qualified nurses by establishing a weekend licensed practical nurse (LPN) program, developing an accelerated Associate Degree Nurse (ADN) program, and implementing articulation agreements with universities for ADNs to receive their bachelor's or master's degree of science in nursing, which in turn will provide career ladder opportunities to certified nursing assistants, licensed practical nurses, and registered nurses. The college will also develop and implement a summer residency program and a math and science remedial program for high school students interested in nursing and allied health careers, provide professional staff development to improve the quality of instruction by math and science instructors in targeted middle schools, and expand the college's math and science enrichment program for middle school students. The project will provide support services to students in training and develop competency training models for training purposes.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:

- Capacity expansion will allow for the training of over 150 additional nurses over the life of the grant;
- 75% of participants in the LPN and accelerated ADN program will attain a degree of which, 80% will pass the nursing national exam, 75% will have an employment or education placement, 75% will be retained in employment or education, and 50% will attain an increase in earnings; and
- 15% of enrollments will be products of capacity building activities.



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