Grantee: Coahoma Community College

Industry Focus: Healthcare

Key Partners: Northwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center; Aaron E. Henry Health Services; Delta Health Center; Coahoma County School District; Clarksdale Municipal School District; Cleveland Public School District; Coahoma Agricultural High School; and Clarksdale WIN Job Center.

Grant Amount: \$1,999,714

Leveraged Amount: \$4,991,400

Location of Grant Activities: Northwest Delta Region, Mississippi

Challenge: The Northwest Mississippi Delta Region is unable to keep up with the region's growing demand for skilled healthcare workers. The region has identified the need for 2,740 registered nurses and 1,150 practical nurses by 2012. The Coahoma Community College (CCC) needs to expand its existing Allied Health Programs to meet the industry demand.

Addressing the Challenge: CCC's Mississippi Delta Alliance: Strengthening and Enriching Allied Health Programs (STEAP) will help ameliorate the healthcare worker shortage in the region. The project will enhance the existing Practical Nursing Program and Associate Degree Nursing Program. STEAP will implement a Residency Program for high school students and expand the Allied Health Remedial Program for college students. The project will also provide professional development to math and science instructors and nursing instructors. Additional certified instructors will be hired for the allied health care programs and competency training models will be purchased to enhance instruction. The project will provide a Healthcare Conference and a Healthcare Awareness Fair to students and the community. An increase in qualified participants eligible for licensure will increase the supply and decrease the demand for healthcare workers in the Northwest Delta Region.

Projected Outcomes:

- 50 percent increase of participants in CCC's Practical Nursing Program and Associate Degree Nursing Program.
- 180 participants will be enrolled in CCC's Strengthening and Enriching Allied Health Programs.
- 80 percent of participants that complete education and training activities will receive a degree or certificate of completion.
- 75 percent of program completers will enter employment.