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## President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

### *Pueblo Project HEALTH*



**Grant Amount:** \$715,402

**Grantee:** Pueblo Community College

**Key Partners:** Pueblo Work Link (One-Stop Career Center), Trinidad State Junior College, Parkview Episcopal Medical Center

**Leveraged Amount:** \$595,062 in cash and in-kind from grantee and state and local governments

**Location of Grant Activities:** Pueblo, Costilla, Conejos, and Alamosa Counties, Colorado

**Challenge:** A shortage of medical personnel in rural Colorado communities is compounded by two key challenges. First, many rural communities have Emergency Medical Services comprised of volunteer personnel, who often leave to pursue paid employment elsewhere. Second, there are no training programs in rural Colorado to prepare health care practitioners in respiratory care.

**Addressing the Challenge:** With its \$715,402 grant, Pueblo Project HEALTH addresses this shortage by bringing training opportunities to outlying areas, and helping volunteer medical personnel secure paid employment. Pueblo Project HEALTH combines the Emergency Medical and Respiratory Care positions into one hybrid curriculum, and administers the training through traditional classroom instruction, distance learning technology, and mobile clinical experiences. The clinical experiences for program participants are enhanced through the use of the Emergency Care Simulator, a specialized version of the Human Patient Simulator specifically designed for training Emergency Medical Technicians and other first responders. Graduates will be able to secure employment in Respiratory Care and serve as volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians. This project will assist counties that have been designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas and Medically Underserved Areas, and will target minority/disadvantaged individuals.

**Projected Outcomes:**

- A hybrid curriculum to prepare individuals for both the Intermediate Emergency Medical Technician and the Respiratory Care Practitioner positions;
- Increased enrollment of minority/disadvantaged individuals in the program.

