President's Community-Based Job Training Grants
Kennebec Valley Community College

AWARD AMOUNT: $955,831

AREA SERVED: Somerset, Kennebec and Knox Counties, Maine

INDUSTRY: Healthcare

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: $887,500 in leveraged resources from six employer partners, two workforce partners and two education partners

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: The greatest gains in employment in Maine over the next ten years are expected in the healthcare and social services industries, which are expected to add 25,700 jobs and account for 41 percent of wage and salary growth. An aging population, a proliferation of new diagnostic treatment methods and a rising demand for preventative services are driving the growth. In order to prepare workers to enter employment in these industries, Kennebec Valley Community College needs to increase the number of instructors, which allow the college to develop and deliver courses designed for incumbent workers to upgrade their skills, open additional slots in the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program and offer foundational skills courses.

ACTIVITIES: In order to facilitate the progression of academically prepared participants through the mid-level radiologic technology career ladder and add nursing slots, this program will: 1) Hire a coordinator to develop certification programs in ultrasound, mammography, computer tomography (CT), and bone density; 2) Hire a nursing instructor to add eight slots to the current nursing program capacity; 3) Develop a preparatory educational pathway and incentives for under-prepared adult learners and youth to gain access to healthcare programs; and 4) Ensure the maintenance of the new collaborative Associate Degree in Radiologic Technology program that leads to American Registry of Radiologic Technology certification through the provision of individual training accounts for non-sponsored students.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:
- Certificate programs will be developed to upgrade at least 70 incumbent workers for specialized modalities in radiologic technology;
- A preparatory training system will be created to add at least 56 youth and 42 adults to the pool of prepared students ready to enter radiology, nursing or other healthcare careers;
- 16 slots will be added to the Associate Degree in Nursing program during the life of the grant, increasing the number of nursing graduates in the region by at least 13; and
- At least 30 students will complete an Associate Degree in Radiologic Technology and will be hired.