

President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

Edison College

AWARD AMOUNT: \$1,986,371

AREA SERVED: Fort Myers and the Counties of Charlotte, Lee, Collier, Hendry, Glades, Florida

INDUSTRY: Healthcare

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: \$415,089 in leveraged resources from seven employer partners, one workforce partner, five education partners and two other partners

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: There is a critical shortage of Registered Nurses (RNs) in Southwest Florida. The college does not have the funding to maintain and expand the Registered Nurse program that was initially expanded and supported by private and public funds in 2004.

ACTIVITIES: Edison College will secure additional clinical space in local hospitals, recruit additional faculty and staff members, receive an allocation for furnished classrooms and labs, and recruit and enroll students to maintain the expansion of 144 nursing seats established in 2004 by private local partners and add a second expansion of 36 seats for nursing students. Practical Nurses graduating from county vocational-technical schools operated by the school district partners may enter the LPN-RN bridge programs with advanced placement. Graduates of the two-year Associate Degree in Nursing program can transfer into a four-year BSN program. Clinical instruction will take place during the evenings and weekends allowing non-traditional students to pursue their nursing degree.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:

- 180 additional students will enroll each year;
- 85% of students will be retained in the program each year;
- 80% of students will pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) the first time (producing 122 RNs within six months of their graduation date);
- 95% of the graduates will become employed within three months of receiving their license;
- 90% of the employed graduates will be retained by their employer; and
- 75% of the employed graduates will receive an earnings increase within six months.

