

H-1B Rural Healthcare Grants

CommunityHealth IT

Organization Type: Non-Profit

Project Name: *Rural Roads to Connected Care (RRCC)*

Award Amount: \$2,500,000

Target H-1B Healthcare Occupations: Community Health Workers, Diagnostic Medical Sonographers, Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses, Home Health Aides, Medical Assistants, Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors, Mental Health Counselors, Child, Family and School Social Workers, and Psychiatric Technicians

Credential(s) Awarded: Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) and Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program (IRAP) certificates

Summary of Program Activities: CommunityHealth IT's *Rural Roads to Connected Care (RRCC)* project will increase the availability of direct care occupational training to meet the needs of rural healthcare employers and to establish a sustainable system for training workers for rural healthcare systems. The *RRCC* project will expand and develop apprenticeship models; engage healthcare employers and recruit of eligible participants. This project will emphasize the use of RAPs and IRAPs to train workers while receiving instruction and on-the-job customized training. *RRCC* will leverage existing approved RAPs such as community health worker, medical assistant, substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors, mental health counselors, and child, family and school social workers. *RRCC* will provide rural healthcare employers with apprenticeship return on investment information that will allow them to make informed decisions and become program sponsors in existing and new RAPs and IRAPs. This training model reflects the identified needs of employer partners in the identified rural counties in Florida. The *RRCC* provides priority of service to veterans and other eligible individuals and will dedicate outreach to veterans, military spouses and transitioning service members and the organizations that serve them.

The Rural Healthcare Partnership

Employer Partners: Public Consulting Group, Inc., Virtual Physicians Services, Meridian Health, Shadow Health, Desoto Memorial Hospital, VPS Virtual Health Desk, and Baptist Health Care Corporation;

Education and Training Providers: University of Florida - One Florida Clinical Research Consortium, South Florida State College, Indian River State College, Florida Career College; **State Apprenticeship**

Agency: Florida Department of Education, Apprenticeship Office; **WIOA Entities:** CareerSource North Florida, CareerSource Florida Crown, CareerSource Heartland

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Opportunity Zone: Yes

Service Area: The Florida counties of Baker, Bradford, Calhoun, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Okeechobee, Putnam, Suwanee, Taylor, Union, Wakula, Walton, and Washington

Proposed Total Participants Served: 250

Target Population: Unemployed, Underemployed, Incumbent Workers

Authorized Representative Contact: Timmy Connor, Program Manager, timmyconnor@truevine.net, 352-300-0855