

H-1B Rural Healthcare Grants

Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board, Inc.

Organization Type: WIOA Local Workforce Development Board

Project Name: *Collaboration of Wisconsin: Rural Investment in Community Healthcare (COW)*

Award Amount: \$2,499,843

Target H-1B Healthcare Occupations: Associates degree in nursing (ADN) Registered Nurse, Home Health Aide, Medical Assistant, Medical and Clinical Lab Technician, Substance Abuse Counselor, Social & Human Services Assistant, Phlebotomists

Credential(s) Awarded: Recognized postsecondary credential(s)

Summary of Program Activities: The **Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board, Inc.'s** *Collaboration of Wisconsin: Rural Investment in Community Healthcare (COW)* will serve individuals that will close the enormous current skills gap, fill the gaping number of open jobs, and address the double-digit projected job openings in the healthcare industry. Each of the 17 counties in the *Collaboration of Wisconsin: Rural Investment in Community Healthcare (COW)* Rural Healthcare grant program is in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) for either Primary Health Care and/or Mental Health Care and will serve communities in grave need. The Rural Healthcare partners are committed to expanding, developing, and providing employment and training in direct patient occupations developing new programs such as Medical Assistant Registered Apprenticeship, telehealth certificate, and clinical laboratory science: medical technology. These programs will use virtual or hybrid training, including the use of simulation machines. The project will primarily serve a concentration of Native Americans, women, and formerly incarcerated individuals.

The Rural Healthcare Partnership

Employer Partners: Advocate Aurora Health, Aspirus, Marshfield Medical Center, Marshfield We Care, Menominee Indian Tribe of WI, NorthLakes Community Clinic, Spring Valley Sr. Living, St. Claire Memorial Hospital, Western Wisconsin Health, Wisconsin Hospital Association; **Education and Training Providers:** College of Menominee Nation; technical colleges: Chippewa Valley Fox Valley, Mid-State, Moraine Park, Northeast, Northcentral, Wisconsin Indianhead; University of WI-Stevens Point; **State Apprenticeship Agency:** WI Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards; **WIOA Entities:** Workforce Development Boards: Bay Area, Fox Valley, North Central, Northwest Wisconsin, West Central, South Central WI; Labor Education & Training Center, Forward Services Corporation; **Optional Partners:** Industry: Rural WI Healthcare Cooperative, WI Office of Rural Health, Envision Greater Fond Du Lac; Community Action Agencies: ADVOCAP, Inc., CAP Services, Inc., Central WI Community Action Council, Inc., NewCAP, Inc., North Central Community Action Program; American Job Centers

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Opportunity Zone: Yes

Service Area: The Wisconsin counties of Adams, Barron, Clark, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Langlade, Lincoln, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Price, Rusk, St. Croix, Taylor, Waushara, and Wood

Proposed Total Participants Served: 394

Target Population: Unemployed, Underemployed, and Incumbent Workers

Authorized Representative Contact: Mari M Kay-Nabozny, Chief Executive Officer, mari@nwwib.com, 715-682-9141