

H-1B Rural Healthcare Grants

Workforce Development Board of Herkimer, Madison & Oneida Counties

Organization Type: WIOA Local Workforce Development Board

Project Name: *Regional Entry Advancement in Careers in Health (REACH)* **Award Amount:** \$2,500,000

Target H-1B Healthcare Occupations: Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorders Counselors, Mental Health and Rehabilitation Counselors, Healthcare Social Workers, Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers, Registered Nurses, Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians, Pharmacy Tech, Licensed Practical Nurses, Home Health Aides, Occupational Therapy Assistants, Physical Therapy Asst., and Phlebotomists

Credential(s) Awarded: Industry-accepted credential issued by a state certified college or other training provider. All training will lead to the degrees needed for entry into higher-skilled jobs.

Summary of Program Activities: The **Workforce Development Board of Herkimer, Madison & Oneida Counties' *Regional Entry & Advancement in Careers in Health (REACH)*** will prepare the workforce it needs for the future while also addressing current needs that are so dire that all counties in the project have been designated, all or in part, Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) for acute care, mental and behavioral health. *REACH* will connect unemployed and underemployed residents of rural parts of northern and central New York State with the fast-track training they need to become employable in the health care sector, covering the medical, behavioral and mental health sectors. The project will provide modularized online training that will address technology needs in rural areas, and revamp curricula to minimize hands-on time required and limit transportation issues. This training will result in credentials from micro-credentials to degrees based on needs, abilities and experience that will place trainees in jobs where they can advance along a career pathway. Support services -- academic and personal -- will be deployed to help trainees complete training. Trainees will be placed using existing American Job Centers. The Rural Healthcare Partnership will align training with ever-changing regional needs to support training program completion and employment placement in healthcare careers.

The Rural Healthcare Partnership

Employer Partners: Nathan Littauer Healthcare; Washington Center Rehabilitation; Arc of Jefferson-Lewis, Liberty and Lexington; Claxton Hepburn Medical; Rome Memorial Hospital; Mohawk Valley Health Systems Regional Rehabilitation; Complete Companion Care; The Grand; Fort Hudson Health; North Country Home Services; St. Lawrence Health System; Home Helpers; Utica Rehabilitation; Community Health; Community Work Independence; GAVAC Ambulance; Hudson Headwaters; Elderwood at North Creek; Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital; **Education and Training Providers:** Mohawk Valley CC; State Univ. of NY Morrisville; Fulton-Montgomery CC; North Country CC; Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Catskill Center for Independence; Champlain Valley Educational Services; Arc of Herkimer; SUNY Cobleskill; **WIOA Entities:** WDB of Herkimer, Madison & Oneida Counties; the Job Link; Clinton County Employment & Training; Oneida County Workforce Development

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Opportunity Zone: Yes

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Service Area: The New York counties of Chenango, Delaware, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington

Proposed Total Participants Served: 630

Target Population: Unemployed and Underemployed Workers

Authorized Representative Contact: Alice Savino, Executive Director, asavino@working-solutions.org, 315-793-6037