**Summary of FY17 Training and Placement Grant for Long-Term Unemployed Awardees**

**Grants Funded: 8 | Total Committed: $ 1,790,606.19**

**The following grants were funded through the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund:**

**Grantee:** **Bristol Workforce Investment Board WIB Region:** Bristol

**Funding Amount:** $225,000

**Summary of Proposal:** The Bristol Textile and Apparel Partnership (BTAP) is comprised of the Bristol Workforce Investment Board (BWIB), the Fall River Career Center, SER Jobs for Progress, and local manufacturing employers, including Merrow Manufacturing, LLC, Matouk Textile Works, and Good Clothing Company. The BTAP project centers on developing a training pipeline for the region’s textile and apparel manufacturers by preparing individuals for positions as sewing machine operators and stitchers. This intensive training program will be held at employer sites with curriculum designed to meet skill sets required by local companies. In addition to technical skills training from these employers, SER Jobs will provide participants with simultaneous adult basic education (e.g. English literacy and math) upgrades along with connections to appropriate support services to assist in their progression through the program from training completion to employment. SER Jobs will lead the partnership’s recruitment efforts. Long-term unemployed individuals will be targeted for participation in grant activities with a priority for Latino/Hispanic residents in the Fall River area.

**Grantee:** **Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board WIB Region:** Merrimack Valley

**Funding Amount:** $225,000

**Summary of Proposal:** The Reintegration through Construction Pathways program (RECP) is an industry-based job training program that will create a pipeline for Latino/Hispanic citizens who are formerly incarcerated to transition to employment as Construction Laborers. The RECP is led by the Merrimack Valley WIB and includes education providers, unions, corrections, non-profits and workforce development agencies to provide the training and comprehensive services needed by this at-risk population. Services include a mentorship program, reentry services, and soft skills training. CBO partners include the Lawrence Dream Network and Centro de Apoyo Familiar. Employer partners include RM Technologies, LaborOnSite, Methuen Construction, and Resource Options, Inc. RECP is a pilot in the Merrimack Valley –a new model to increase the competitiveness of area businesses and improve access to long-term career success and economic opportunity for formerly incarcerated citizens.

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**The following grants were funded through the Health Care Workforce Transformation Fund:**

**Grantee:** **Center for Community Health Education Research & Service WIB Region:** Boston

**(CCHERS) Funding Amount:** $224,954

**Summary of Proposal:** The HEART Home Health Aide Training Initiative is a partnership to provide training for entry level home health jobs to long term unemployed residents of public and publicly assisted housing. Partners include the Center for Community Health Education Research and Service (CCHERS), the Home Care Aide Foundation (HCAF), Mothers for Justice and Equality (MJE), the Boston Housing Authority (BHA), and employer partners –Anodyne and Intercity Home Care. During the training session, 30 trainees will be employed as homemakers, providing trainees with experience working inside a client’s home and an informed understanding about the nature of home care work. The training begins with “*You Matter*”, a curriculum designed by MJE, and intended to help victims of violence who are suffering from trauma learn how to manage the impact so they can be successful in developing a healthy home and work life. HCAF delivers the home health aide training, using the PHCAST curriculum.

**Grantee:** **Gandara Mental Health, Inc. WIB Region:** Brockton

**Funding Amount:** $215,932

**Summary of Proposal:** The project will train veterans and minority and disabled individuals who are in recovery from substance use, to prepare them to be Certified Recovery Coaches. Training will include: the Recovery Academy Training, a supervised employer based internship, and coaching to ensure readiness for the Massachusetts Substance Abuse Recovery Certification Board examination. In addition, trainees will receive instruction in career and work readiness, customer service skills for Allied Health professions, computer skills, Electronic Health Record and case note writing classes. Partner employers include Brockton Neighborhood Health Center and High Point Treatment Center.

**Grantee: Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) WIB Region:** Boston

**Funding Amount:** $224,901

**Summary of Proposal:** In partnership with Madison Park Development Corporation and the Academy for Healthcare Training, JVS is redesigning the recruitment strategies and program structure of an existing *Caring for Our Seniors* C.N.A/HHA program in order to enroll and train 20 participants who have not worked regularly for the past 3 plus years. Target trainees include African-American and Latino adults who reside in Boston. The program hopes to serve participants with informal, family caregiver experience. The new program will emphasize professionalism, customer service, and skills necessary for working with the elderly. JVS will provide case management and coaching support for participants from training, and exam preparation, through job placement to ensure a successful transition into the workplace.

**Grantee:** **LARE Institute/American Training, Inc. WIB Region:** Lawrence

**Funding Amount:** $225,000

**Summary of Proposal:** LARE will provide a Medical Assisting with Remediation Training to thirty-two (32) unemployed, Hispanic/Latino residents from the Greater Lawrence/Lower Merrimack Valley areas. The project will be delivered in partnership with Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc., Valley Works Career Center, Pentucket Medical Associates and the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center. Program components include: academic remediation in reading/math; Medical Assistant clinical and administrative occupational skills training qualifying participants to earn three (3) industry-recognized credentials: Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA); Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT); Certified Electrocardiogram Technician (CET); work readiness/soft skills workshops; intensive case management and support services; job development/job placement services and follow-up services after job placement. Trainees will participate in a four-week externship component at one of the employer partner’s facilities or at another health provider in the Merrimack Valley.

**Grantee:** **Triangle, Inc. WIB Region:** Metro-North

**Funding Amount:** $225,000

**Summary of Proposal:** The Health Careers Collaborative prepares chronically unemployed adults with hidden disabilities (i.e., PTSD, Learning Disabilities) for successful careers as Certified Nurse Assistants and Home Health Aides. Candidates will complete a Health Careers Bootcamp and secure their CNA/HHA credentials at Bunker Hill Community College. After training, they will be placed in open positions at Spaulding Rehabilitation Network. Triangle, Inc. will partner with the Metro North Career Centers and BenePLAN to provide an array of services including career readiness and individualized benefits planning to help trainees develop viable career pathways in the growing healthcare industry.

**Grantee:** **Worcester Community Action Council WIB Region:** Worcester

**Funding Amount:** $224,818

**Summary of Proposal:**  The Health Care Jobs Pipeline Partnership is a collaborative effort of 11 agencies in the City of Worcester; Worcester Community Action Council, Central MA Workforce Investment Board, Central MA Housing Alliance, Veteran’s, Inc., Ascentria Community Services, YOU, Inc./Worcester Family Resource Center, Work Force Central Career Center, Quinsigamond Community College, SALMON Health and Retirement, Christopher House and the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce. Program candidates will be currently unemployed and will have been disconnected from the work force for the last 3 – 5 years. 30 participants will complete 30 hours of soft skill and work readiness training and 120 hours of classroom/lab and clinical instruction, with the goal of obtaining a Certified Nursing Assistant license and finding stable employment.