

SAN DIEGO WORKFORCE FUNDING COLLABORATIVE



Employment is one of the keys to ending poverty and increasing self-sufficiency and success of our region's residents. At the same time, San Diego's health care sector is facing a significant workforce shortage due to the aging population. Likewise, our biotechnology industry suffers from a lack of properly educated and skilled workers to fill its growing needs.

The San Diego Workforce Funders Collaborative (WFC) was founded in 2006 as a public/private partnership of philanthropic foundations, employers and public workforce development agencies to identify the region's workforce needs, create coordinated and financed solutions, and monitor regional success. To accomplish its objectives and expand local workforce partnerships, the Collaborative received initial support and technical assistance from the State of California Employment Development Department, and the National Fund for Workforce Solutions.

A funding collaborative of  **San Diego Grantmakers**
Strengthening Philanthropy

The Workforce Funders Collaborative recently funded four programs focused on increasing the workforce capital in health care and life sciences/ biotechnology. In both fields, there is a critical need for access to education and training, and the ability to reach and maintain a livable wage in an area with a high cost of living.

We invite you to participate with us to support our region's workforce. Our first grantees include:

HEALTHCARE CAREER ADVANCEMENT: EARNING A LIVEABLE WAGE

The *North County Partnership for Healthcare Work Development* supports healthcare workers interested in advancing their careers as medical assistants, licensed vocational nurses, and registered nurses, and increasing their ability to support their families at more competitive wages. Employees at the three community clinic partners serve the primarily Hispanic population and assure workforce diversity and cultural competence. The goal: 150 participants in the medical assistant clinical training program over three years, and 60 new LVNs and RNs for our community. Partners: North County Health Services, Neighborhood Healthcare, Vista Community Clinic, Oceanside Unified School District Regional Occupational Program, San Marcos Unified School District health academies, MiraCosta College, Palomar College, and Cal State University San Marcos.



SAN DIEGO GRANTMAKERS

The mission of San Diego Grantmakers is to connect, educate, develop and inspire a diverse group of foundations and corporations to stimulate effective philanthropy in the San Diego region. Our vision is a vibrant, effective and growing philanthropic community that improves the quality of life in the San Diego region.

FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO SUCCESS

High school students are often unable to seek a career in health services or biotech because they do not graduate with the math and science skills necessary to tackle tough coursework at the college level. San Diego City College *STEP UP Biotech Program* will create a workforce pipeline from high school through industry, resulting in careers in the field of biotechnology. Graduates will earn an industry certificate, be career-ready, and have a path to further education in biotechnology. The program also works with two San Diego high schools to prepare high school students for college level courses.

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS TO HEALTHCARE STAFFING NEEDS

In one of San Diego's neighborhoods with the highest unemployment, poverty, and other social challenges, the community, led by the Coalition of Neighborhood Councils, will seek to increase health resources, assets and opportunities in southeastern San Diego. *Southeastern San Diego Comprehensive Community Health & Life Initiative* is developing job training and health pathway programs to create employment opportunities for community members.

JUMPING THE HURDLES TO EMPLOYMENT

Many youth in our community have not had the opportunities to dream of a bright future with employment at a liveable wage. The *MAAC Project Health Careers Initiative* is developing a comprehensive program to help lower-income, predominantly Latino community members establish and develop healthcare careers. The program will integrate community outreach and education, employment development, case management, child care, and other services, and will leverage the partners' resources to create a system of support to combat the traditional hurdles to higher-skilled and higher-earning careers.

Collaborative member contributions and leveraged funds totaled \$598,000 for first year projects. Together, we have leveraged an additional \$670,000 for second year funding and new projects, and will issue an RFP for new projects by year end 2009.

Workforce Funding Collaborative Members include:

- Alliance Healthcare Foundation
- The California Endowment
- California Economic Development Department
- Girard Foundation
- Kaiser Permanente
- Life Technologies
- National Fund for Workforce Solutions
- San Diego Workforce Partnership
- United Way of San Diego County
- US Department of Labor Workforce Investment Act
- WebMD Health Foundation
- Gary & Mary West Foundation
- The San Diego Women's Foundation

SDG's Funding Collaboratives invite you to join our efforts to learn together, share our experiences and knowledge, and build opportunities for insightful and strategic funding for the benefit of the community.

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