

800 Capitol Mall, Suite 1022 Sacramento CA 95814 T: 916-657-1440 www.cwdb.ca.gov

## PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Anna Champe, Communications Manager

anna.champe@cwdb.ca.gov | (916) 764-2767

## STATE WORKFORCE BOARD AWARDS \$24 MILLION TO SUPPORT EQUITABLE PANDEMIC WORKFORCE RECOVERY

Regional Equity and Recovery Partnership (RERP) funds regional job training programs to create

High Road careers for those most affected by COVID-19 related job loss

SACRAMENTO, CA – Workforce regions across the state recently received an infusion of funding to support economic recovery in communities impacted by the pandemic. Last month the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) awarded seventeen grants totaling more than \$24 million to fund Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP) between Local Workforce Development Boards and Community College Regional Consortia.

These <u>RERP grants</u> will be used to launch workforce training programs in construction, janitorial services, nursing, and other vitally essential careers throughout the state. They will provide funding to implement partnerships to serve 2,500 individuals statewide over 3 years.

Nearly 2.7 million Californians lost their jobs at the beginning of the pandemic. "Job recovery has been strong in 2022," said Tim Rainey, CWDB Executive Director. "The additional RERP funding will help create new <a href="High Road"><u>High Road</u></a> jobs and strengthen much-needed industries throughout the state."

The grant investment, made in collaboration with the <u>Community Colleges Chancellor's Office</u>, represents an acceleration and deepening of the existing Regional Plan Implementation efforts by CWDB and the Labor & Workforce Development Agency. These efforts support and invest in partnerships attempting to add High Road approaches to existing sector strategies and career pathway programs.

"High Road" is a set of economic and workforce development strategies to achieve economic growth, economic equity, shared prosperity, and a clean environment. The strategies include, but are not limited to interventions that:

- Improve job quality and job access, including for women and people from underserved and underrepresented populations.
- Meet the skill and profitability needs of employers.





• Meet the economic, social, and environmental needs of the community.

Learn more about the <u>Regional Equity and Recovery Grant</u> and <u>California Workforce</u> Development Board.

## Regional Equity and Recovery Grant Awardees

Regional Planning Unit	Amount
Bay Peninsula	\$1,600,000.00
Capital	\$1,550,000.00
North Central Coast	\$1,150,000.00
South Central Coast	\$1,150,000.00
East Bay	\$1,300,000.00
Inland Empire	\$1,200,000.00
Los Angeles Basin	\$5,450,000.00
Middle Sierra	\$600,000.00
North Bay	\$1,150,000.00
North Coast	\$500,000.00
North State	\$500,000.00
Orange	\$1,300,000.00
San Joaquin Valley	\$4,900,000.00
Southern Border	\$1,150,000.00
Ventura	\$750,000.00

Technical Assistance Provider	Amount
California Workforce Association	\$450,000.00

Evaluation Agency	Amount
Corporation for a Skilled Workforce	\$300,000.00