

An Initiative of the California Workforce Development Board

The Shirley Ware Education Center (SWEC) integrates its work with the SEIU UHW-West & Joint Employer Education Fund (the Education Fund), a multi-employer benefit trust established in 2004 to train union represented employees working for employers participating in the trust. The Education Fund currently offers benefits to over 90,000 union healthcare workers in California with 15 employers and serves 27,000 learners annually.

This project proposes a three-year multi-faceted plan to expand our partnership to include new public sector employers and unions, address shortages in critical healthcare positions across the state, develop new Registered Apprenticeships, and strengthen strategic partnerships with community colleges and education providers. The program will leverage existing relationships to expand into new partnerships and to develop a sustainable statewide strategy to meet the long-term needs for the healthcare workforce through providing training and support for up to 1000 workers in critical career pathways to include behavioral and mental health, nursing, public health, nursing, and medical administration.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Expand career pathways to SEIU 521 and 1021 members - at least 1,200 front-line healthcare workers participate in career pathways and registered apprenticeships.
- 554 participants will complete training, earning industry-recognized credentials; 173 will be placed into new jobs; 602 participants will continue to receive support beyond end of grant term with leveraged fund.
- Create new targeted full-service career pathways with community college partners and expand enrollment of members who are not currently covered by existing Taft Hartley contributions.
- Enhance Learners' Ability to Succeed: provide childcare support, laptop and digital fluency support, career counseling and course materials to workers.

KEY PARTNERS

- SEIU 521
- SEIU 1021
- United Healthcare Workers
- Santa Clara County
- City and County of San Francisco
- Dignity Health
- Kaiser Permanente
- San Francisco State University
- Kern County Community College District
- Contra Costa College