

An Initiative of the California Workforce Development Board

The United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW) WorkForward Healthcare Expansion H RTP-RWF project will enable regional focus to develop and expand healthcare career and workplace occupational health and safety training opportunities to the 180,000 workers represented by UFCW Locals in the grocery, retail pharmacy, food and beverage processing, cannabis, and agriculture sectors throughout California.

The UFCW WorkForward Healthcare Expansion project is an exciting and necessary opportunity to explore work process linkages and pathways from retail clerk positions to Pharmacy Technician and Pharmacist by exploring the California educational system at the regional level. This project will provide Workforce Coordinator staff within leading healthcare UFCW Locals in Northern and Southern California who possess the expertise, industry buy-in, and worker-engagement necessary to advance healthcare workforce development and occupational safety and health initiatives.

Targeted populations include Women, the unemployed and under-employed, English Language Learners—who can often best provide healthcare services to their communities, and Low-Income Workers.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Employ full-time and part-time staff including Workforce Coordinators and in-house Occupational Health and Safety Specialist.
- Secure a consultant with significant healthcare union representation experience to provide convening and project coordination, employer engagement guidance, mentorship, and provide a pathways report from retail pharmacies to hospital and clinic settings.
- Secure a contract with the California Pharmacists Association to develop and conduct Continuing Education training for 350 UFCW-represented pharmacists and pharmacist technicians.
- Develop two workforce conferences for UFCW Local staff/members in healthcare and OSH-related activities.
- Deliver Workplace Violence Prevention trainings for 50 participants.

KEY PARTNERS

- California Pharmacists Association
- UFCW Local 5, 135, 324, 1167, & 1428
- UFCW Western States Council
- MSH Consulting