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PRESS RELEASE

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STATE WORKFORCE BOARD AWARDS \$33 MILLION TO HELP REBUILD CALIFORNIA'S MIDDLE CLASS

The Resilient Workforce Program invests in workforce opportunities that advance job quality and environmental resilience.

SACRAMENTO, CA – The <u>California Workforce Development Board</u> (CWDB), in partnership with the <u>Labor & Workforce Development Agency</u>, recently awarded \$33,155,915 to nine projects across the state to advance <u>High Road Training Partnerships</u> (HRTPs) that move underserved populations into better jobs.

Today's funding announcement is part of a larger, multi-level investment to advance state workforce development efforts to prioritize equity, quality jobs, and climate resilience while meeting regional labor market needs. With the addition of these nine new projects, California is investing more than \$260 million in nearly 100 active state-funded HRTPs.

"Funding for existing HRTPs, which invest in industry-led worker-informed efforts, deliver on Governor Newsom's promise of a <u>California for All</u>," said California Workforce Development Board Chief Deputy Director Curtis Notsinneh. "California continues to lead the nation in investments that recognize and lift up a middle-class, while meeting the skills needs of our employers to stay competitive and innovative."

Projects receiving funding include:

- *\$7.5 million for High Road to Tribal Forest Restoration and Stewardship* expands job pathways with living wages for underserved tribal and rural populations, including tree and native plant nursery work, forest health, and forest and meadow restoration.
- *\$5.1 million for Early Care & Education Pathways to Success* this existing apprenticeship program will expand to new under-sourced regions and serve 655 new apprentices to earn certifications in education serving Pre-K to Third-grade students.

- *\$5 million for Vocational English as a Second Language Home Care Immersion Training Program* Homebridge will partner with SEIU Local 2015 to provide language skills and advanced home care training to immigrant, refugee, and formerly incarcerated populations. Participants will immediately earn \$25 an hour after graduating and have opportunities for advancement.
- *\$5 million for Dental Assistant Training Program* will scale successful earn-as-you-learn bootcamps to more regions and fill the gap between unlicensed dental assistants and licensed Registered Dental Assistants. Target populations include low-wage workers, communities of color, youth, immigrants, and workers without a college degree.
- \$5 million for Good For Others This program will support training for nonprofit pathways in the San Diego area and aims to serve 400 new and 50 incumbent workers. Graduates will gain measurable skills in nonprofit management, fundraising, financial management, program development and evaluation, marketing and communications, volunteer management, legal and ethical considerations, and strategic planning.

A complete list of awardees can be found on <u>CWDB's website</u>.

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