

This project’s primary goal is to transition low-income, rural underserved, marginalized, and underrepresented populations in Tulare County and Mono County regions, with a focus on English Language Learners (ELLs), into postsecondary and Integrated Education and Training (IET) programs, work-based learning opportunities, and jobs that are high-skill, high-wage in the High Road Healthcare industry sector and occupations in Allied Health.

Designed to implement training and work-based learning activities that align with the region’s most in-demand occupations in healthcare, this project will research, plan and build upon a robust infrastructure of regional partners working together to build a strong workforce and job market with accessible career pathways that lead to economic security and personal fulfillment for its rural workforce. Adult participants will complete a contextualized curriculum (IET Model) following the completion of the Get Focused, Stay Focused “Career Choices and Changes” training as part of the Pathway to Careers™ model (available in both English and Spanish). Rural new and incumbent workers will receive equity-focused, immersive, and personalized training that aligns with their proficiency level, career track, and personal interests. The plan will support career readiness, close skills gaps, promote economic recovery of the community, and fill high-quality jobs for the regional workforce while addressing worker voice and many of the concerns faced by the adult learners in the local community including access, equity, diversity, inclusion, climate resiliency, workforce development, remote work, and pay.

TARGET POPULATION

This project will plan to serve Tulare County and Mono County region’s underserved, low-income rural communities with an emphasis on English Language Learners and immigrants communities.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Develop plans to close skills gaps for participants using contextualized Pathway to Careers™ model with immersive learning (XR/VR) methods and technologies.
- Elevate and increase regional workforce development outcomes by 15% for participants enrolled in various short-term healthcare programs, emphasizing pathways (IET and traditional) to High Road employment.
- Increase underserved and under-resourced populations (i.e. ELLs, immigrants, justice impacted) by accessing and completing career prep and training leading to high-wage employment and advancement in the healthcare sector.

KEY PARTNERS

- Get Focused, Stay Focused
 - Tulare Workforce Investment Board
 - Kern Community College District (Porterville College, Cerro Coso Community College)
 - Kern Adult Education Consortium (Porterville Adult School)
 - EnGen / Transfr
 - The Clover Agency / The Career Hub
 - Kandula Communications
 - Sierra View Medical Center
 - Adventist Health System/West
 - Kaweah Delta Health Care District
 - Gateway Post Acute
 - Sequoia Transitional Care
 - Sierra Valley Rehab Center
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