
Promising Practice Fact Sheet – Workforce Development HEALTHCARE BRIDGE at DALEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE Chicago, Illinois

Program

Description: Contextualized vocational program for adults at low grade levels. CBO recruits and provides case management, with employers on advisory board. Funding includes Workforce Investment Act and local housing authority dollars.

Target Population: Pre-bridge program serves adults at 4.6 to 6.5 grade level; medical bridge at 6.6 grade level and up; no TANF clients at present

Goal: Bridge program to help low-skilled adults enter and successfully complete health care pathways.

Cost: Funded through Adult Basic Education, Workforce Investment Act (WIA), student financial aid, and Chicago Housing Authority funds.

Evidence: Administrative data

Caseload Data: New, small program – spring 2010 cohort is 29 students

Assessment: Screened and assessed by academic advisors

Services Overview:

- Contextualized learning with pathway to Certified Nursing Assistant (CAN)/Patient Care Technician (PCT) and License Practical Nurse (LPN)/Registered Nurse (RN) programs; case management; tutoring
- CBO recruits and provides case management; college provides instruction; employers serve on advisory board

Eligibility: Low-skilled adults

Findings:

- 132/146 or 90.4% completion rate for medical bridge program (CAN/PCT level).

Implications for policymakers and program developers to consider:

- Key role of community-based organization in this program, providing recruitment and case management.
- Employers on advisory board
- Funding sources include WIA and the local housing authority.
- Illinois has adopted a WIA 40% training policy to foster increased investment in bridge programs, as well as innovative funding arrangements for these programs.