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PRESS RELEASE

Baker-Polito Administration Announces $1Million Grant to Expand Training Capacity for Massachusetts Jobseekers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

1/25/2021

Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

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MASSACHUSETTS — Today, the Baker-Polito Administration announced the 2020-2021 Senator Kenneth J. Donnelly Workforce Success Grants for Expanded Training Capacity & Employment Program Performance. These grants will support additional seat capacity in ongoing sector-based employment programs that provide training and job placement and retention services to unemployed Massachusetts residents.

“To maintain a competitive and sustainable economy, Massachusetts must continue to invest in a skilled and well-trained workforce. These grants will give workers and companies the opportunity to gain access to occupations critical to the future economic success of the Commonwealth,” said Gov. Charlie Baker.

This round of Donnelly Workforce Success Grants is the first to be funded through an allocation from the Workforce Training Fund Program (WTFP) in order to complement programs funded directly through the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund (WCTF). In 2018, the Massachusetts Legislature voted to rename grant awards from the WCTF in memory of the late Senator Kenneth J. Donnelly, who was a steadfast champion of promoting workforce opportunities for people who might otherwise lack a pathway to economic stability. Donnelly Workforce Success Grants serve people across Massachusetts whose life experiences and circumstances make it difficult for them to succeed in employment without targeted support.

“The economic impacts of the pandemic have brought about sudden and significant changes to the job market in Massachusetts,” said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. “Our administration is dedicated to providing jobseekers with the latest training and support they need to be successful in meeting that change.”

Qualified organizations will enroll additional unemployed Massachusetts residents in high-demand priority occupations identified through the Regional Workforce Skills Planning Initiative regional blueprint process, such as Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, the Trades, and Information Technology.

“By continuing to invest in programs that are successfully serving local businesses and the people most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic we can address head on the economic fall-out of this pandemic,” added Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Rosalin Acosta.

The WCTF is administered by Commonwealth Corporation on behalf of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development.

“Commonwealth Corporation is pleased that these organizations are receiving the funding needed to expand their innovative training and placement services. We know the outcome of the work being done will not only benefit those in the program but the Massachusetts workforce as a whole,” said Commonwealth Corporation President and CEO Christine Abrams.

The Senator Kenneth J. Donnelly Workforce Success Grants in this round of funding are awarded to:

- **International Institute of New England**: providing training and placement services for unemployed residents to obtain C.N.A. jobs in the Greater Lowell region- $200,000
- **Lawrence CommunityWorks**: providing training and placement services for unemployed residents to obtain Early Childhood Educator / Paraprofessional jobs in the Merrimack Valley region- $199,658
- **MassHire Greater Lowell Workforce Board**: providing training and placement services for unemployed residents to obtain for Electronics Assembly / Manufacturing Technician jobs in the Greater Lowell region- $160,000
- **Middlesex Community College**: providing training and placement services for unemployed residents to obtain Computer User Support Technician jobs in the Greater Lowell region- $121,847
- **Polus Center for Social & Economic Development**: providing training and placement services for unemployed residents to obtain Pharmacy Technician jobs in the Central / North Central and Hampden

County regions- $199,998

- **Quinsigamond Community College**: providing training and placement services for unemployed residents to obtain Medical Administrative Assistant jobs in the Central region- $197,183

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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

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EOLWD manages the Commonwealth's workforce development and labor departments to ensure that workers, employers, and the unemployed have the tools and training needed to succeed in the Massachusetts economy.

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