

HPOG Program Summary



Kansas Department of Commerce Kansas Health Profession Opportunity Project (KHPOP)

Location:

Topeka, Kansas

Program Goals:

- Enroll 2500 in KHPOP training and education programs
- Ensure that 2,115 of those enrolled complete training
- Enable 1,395 of those who complete training to find employment in healthcare

Health Professions Taught:

KHPOP participants acquire portable and stackable certificates/credentials/ licenses /degrees to assume careers as a certified nurse aide, certified medication aide, home health aide, licensed practical nurse, medical assistant, medical record/health information technician, pharmacy technician, or registered nurse.

Approach:

KHPOP provides opportunities to enter healthcare professions to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients, youth aging out of foster care, recently separated or disabled veterans, high school dropouts pursuing GED completion, and other low-income individuals at or below 200 percent of poverty level.

The KHPOP approach is a combination of basic skill development, education, training, and needed services delivered by a collaboration of program partners, each offering key contributions, including Social Rehabilitation Services—identification of eligible potential participants; Local Workforce Investment Boards—case management and career coaching; KansasWorks State Board—grant guidance and direction; and Registered Apprenticeship—concurrent employment and training. KHPOP also applies and coordinates resources offered by other agencies, including the Kansas Board of Regents, Adult Basic Education, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Department of Labor, Kansas Hospital Association, Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved, Kansas State Department of Education, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and businesses.

Innovative KHOP elements include career coaches, monetary incentives for GED completers, employer financial assistance, HD videoconferencing, Work Opportunity Tax Credits, and Federal bonding of hard to place job seekers. KHOP also incorporates Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (IBEST) program allowing participants to pursue GED, healthcare occupational training, and education simultaneously and involving nine technical/community colleges.

Support services include case management, transportation assistance, childcare, dependent care, adult basic education, financial literacy, and substance abuse treatment. Services also address lack of self-management and people skills, lack of work history and experience, and language barriers.