

## HPOG Program Summary



### Suffolk County Department of Labor Suffolk County Healthcare Occupational Opportunity for Learning

#### **Location:**

Smithtown, New York

#### **Program Goals:**

- Enroll 860 participants in training and education programs
- Ensure that 645 of those enrolled complete training
- Enable 451 of those who complete training to find employment in healthcare

#### **Health Professions Taught:**

Successful SCHOOL participants earn certifications qualifying them to be CNAs, dental assistants, hospital admission clerks, medical assistants, clinical medical assistants, medical billing, medical billing and coding, medical office billers, medical laboratory assistants, monitor technicians, pharmacy technicians, phlebotomy technicians, physical therapy aides, and surgical technicians.

#### **Approach:**

SCHOOL assists TANF recipients, those earning 200 percent or less than the federal poverty level, and high school dropouts in training for and securing well-paying employment in the healthcare industry. The program provides career pathways and career ladders, vocational training, and support and placement services.

Key partners include the New York State Department of Labor (NYS DOL), which has created a unique identifier for the target population in the state database that enables SCHOOL to run program activity and performance reports. The state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance will also collaborate with the SCHOOL program. The local Department of Social Services provides a referral process, monitors progress toward meeting program goals, and tracks referral outcomes. The county executive's office expedites payments for travel and hiring staff. The Suffolk County legislature's Welfare to Work Committee provides input.

Support components for participants include program outreach, eligibility determination, vocational counseling and assessment, labor market information, guidance regarding the most appropriate course of training, childcare, transportation assistance, remedial education classes, computer software workshops, 100-percent tuition assistance, resume writing workshops, networking sessions, stress management, job search techniques, job fairs, one-on-one placement assistance, and referrals for additional support services.

SCHOOL continually builds the capacity of its staff to serve participants by providing them with information about the healthcare labor market, healthcare credential requirements, core curriculum requirements, and how to conduct performance evaluations and identify participant job succession opportunities.