

Grant helps to fund numerous Berkshire health care training programs

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PITTSFIELD – A \$500,000 grant awarded by the Commonwealth Corporation has successfully been deployed to fund 18 health care industry training programs, according to a statement from the MassHire Berkshire Workforce Board.

Running from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024, the grant, part of the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund, has facilitated no-cost training opportunities for Berkshire County residents aspiring to build careers in the health care sector.

During this period, the MassHire Berkshire Workforce Board has distributed the funds, resulting in 113 individuals successfully completing training out of 138 enrollments. Notably, 75 percent of the graduates found job placements within one month, with a starting wage of up to \$20 per hour.

Partnerships with Berkshire Health Systems and Integritus Healthcare have been pivotal in the program's success, the statement said. BHS will have conducted 11 training sessions by the grant's completion for a three-week Nursing Assistant Training Program.

Integritus Healthcare, through the grant's support, is sponsored to host seven sessions for a five-week Certified Nursing Assistant Training program.

To explore opportunities for hiring skilled health care training graduates or to express interest in upcoming training programs, visit masshireberkshire.com.