

# Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

# Farmworkers Advancement Program PY 2024-25

# Award List and Project Summaries

On March 18, 2025, $9,999,054.89 of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I Governor's Discretionary funds were awarded to twelve organizations under the Farmworkers Advancement Program (FAP) for Program Year 2024-25 (PY 24-25) Solicitation for Proposals (SFP). Awardee project list and project summaries are listed below. Funding decisions are final.

## Award List

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| **Applicant Name** | **County** | **Award** |
| Caravanserai Project | Riverside | $984,532.03 |
| Center of Employment Training | Imperial, Monterey, San Diego, Santa Cruz, Riverside, and Ventura | $985,200.00 |
| Central Valley Opportunity Center, Inc | Madera, Merced, and Stanislaus | $985,200.00 |
| Equitable Food Initiative | Fresno, Santa Barbara, Monterey and Santa Cruz | $490,112.37 |
| Five Keys Schools and Programs | Riverside | $448,248.27 |
| Fresno Building Healthy Communities | Fresno, Madera | $985,200.00 |
| Kern/Inyo/Mono Consortium Workforce Development Area- Kern County Employer's Training Resource | Kern | $985,200.00 |
| Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Project | Ventura | $482,881.99 |
| North Bay Jobs with Justice | Sonoma, Lake, Napa | $985,200.00 |
| Sonoma County Fundación de la Voz de los Viñedos | Sonoma | $712,756.73 |
| University of California Riverside | Imperial, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura | $980,407.00 |
| West Hills Community College District | Fresno and Kings | $974,116.50 |

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| Project Summaries |

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| **APPLICANT** | **Caravanserai Project**  2150 E Tahquitz Canyon Way, Unit 3Palm Springs, Ca, 92262 |
| **CONTACT** | Mihai Patru, CEO  1-240-838-6570  [mihai@caravanseraproject.org](mailto:mihai@caravanseraproject.org) |
| **AWARD** | $984,532.03 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Small farming enterprises and small farming entrepreneurship |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Immigrant Farmworkers |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | Caravanserai Project: From the Land will contribute expertise in climate-smart technologies, including vertical farming and sensor-based irrigation, to empower farmworkers with practical, scalable solutions. |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | Caravanserai proposes a comprehensive program to support farmworkers in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. The six-month program integrates foundational business skills, such as financial literacy and market analysis, with cutting-edge agricultural technologies like controlled environment agriculture (CEA) and automated irrigation. Participants will receive bilingual cohort-based workshops, one-on-one coaching, and tailored support to register businesses, open financial accounts, and adopt climate-smart practices. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | * Train 50 farmworkers in innovative agricultural technologies and business practices. * Invest $300,000 worth of small business grants in these small farming enterprises. * Facilitate the creation or enhancement of 15 small businesses through step-by-step guidance. * Improve financial literacy for 80% of participants, enabling better ROI tracking and market analysis. * Increase resilience to climate challenges through the adoption of controlled environment agriculture by at least 30% of participants. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **Center of Employment Training**  701 Vine Street  San Jose, CA 95110 |
| **CONTACT** | Pascal Do, COO  1-408-799-8521  pdo@cetweb.edu |
| **AWARD** | $985,200.00 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Career pathways in Business Office Administration, Custodial Services and Maintenance, Electrician, Green Building Construction, HVAC, Truck Driving, and Welding. |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Documented and undocumented farmworkers including migrant seasonal ages 17.5 and up. |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * Workforce Development Boards * Technical Advisory Committee Employers * Balance Staffing * LA Hearne Company * EFI * Existing WIOA Partners |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | The Center of Employment Training’s (CET) project focuses on providing hands on skills training in high demand occupations relevant to the target service location for farmworkers to promote career advancements and skills attainment through our Contextualized Training Model or through customized cohort training with identified local area employers within or supporting the Ag industry sector who promote Good Jobs Principals align with our targeted industry sectors, and who commit to hiring on program graduates within promotion positions with wage gains. The project will provide wrap-around supportive services and leverage additional services through partnering agencies. To help support the cultivating and strengthening partnerships. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | * Project will serve at least 105 farmworkers with full tuition support and graduate at least 74% of participants * Of the successful program graduates, the project will place 65% into wage gain employment and follow them for up to 1 year to ensure employment retention. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **Central Valley Opportunity Center, Inc**  6838 Bridget Court  Winton, CA 95388 |
| **CONTACT** | Jorge De Nava, Jr., Executive Director  1-209-357-0062  [jdenava@cvoc.org](mailto:jdenava@cvoc.org) |
| **AWARD** | $985,200.00 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Agricultural industry and target sectors such as farm/dairy/poultry/ranch production, Agri-logistics, Agri-manufacturing, and Ag-technology. |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Farmworkers |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * Central Valley Opportunity Center * Madera County Workforce Investment Corporation * Merced College * Stanislaus County Workforce Development * Worknet Merced County |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | Central Valley Opportunity Center, Inc. (CVOC), the Workforce Development Boards of Madera, Merced and Stanislaus Counties, along with the local community college are proposing to provide farmworkers with training and career services in the heart of the agriculturally rich San Joaquin Valley. The proposed service area is comprised of the three California counties of Madera, Merced, and Stanislaus. The service area’s economy and employment are heavily reliant upon agriculture. The proposed service area includes the 5th and 6th highest agriculture revenue producing counties in the State. The agriculture industry in the region has created an abundance, but it has not created higher wages or job stability for farmworkers. To eliminate sporadic employ, which often leads to lower earning among the farmworkers in San Joaquin Valley, this partnership proposes to offer a wide range of comprehensive services. Services would include vocational training in a variety of occupations, which includes agricultural upskilling training, and occupational trainings that prepare individuals to advance outside of the agricultural sector. In addition to occupational training, CVOC plans to offer courses leading to academic development, language development, basic job skills training, and wrap around services. CVOC will partner with the local community college to offer specialized vocational training in agriculture technology to equip participants with essential industry skills. Workforce Development Boards in each county will assist with collaborative case-management, participate in planning and collaboration meetings, and assist with project outreach and marketing. The partnership will work with farmers, growers, and other critical stakeholders within the agricultural industry to identify emerging skill gaps, trends, and the evolving needs of the agricultural workforce. Employers will play a vital role in informing the continuous improvement of our courses and their insight will enable us to adjust our curriculum to ensure that it remains relevant, practical, and aligned with industry standards, preparing students with the skills necessary for success in the agricultural field. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | This project will provide employment and training services to 70 farmworkers. Expected outcomes are as follows:   * 70 farmworkers enrolled in occupational skills training. * Co-enroll 20 farmworkers into education services such as ESL and GED. * A minimum of 50 participants will obtain some form of credential. * 54% of participants will be placed in upskilled Ag sector employment. * A minimum of 70% of participants will receive wrap-around support services. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **Equitable Food Initiative**  200 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 700  Washington, DC 20001 |
| **CONTACT** | Peter O’Driscoll, Executive Director  1-617-407-8171  [podriscoll@equitablefood.org](mailto:podriscoll@equitablefood.org) |
| **AWARD** | $490,112.37 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Agriculture of fresh produce |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Farmworkers |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * The Center for Land-Based Learning, a pioneer in California in developing leadership training for the farm workforce * The Center for Employment Training, a vocational training organization with 11 locations across California * GoodFarms, a berry grower with operations in Watsonville, Santa Maria and Oxnard * AgSocio, a farm labor contractor based in Salinas |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | EFI requests a Track 2 grant of $497,475 from the Farmworker Advancement Program from March 2025 through August 2026, to cover staffing and indirect expenses associated with consolidating a statewide, multi-stakeholder steering committee to standardize a framework for documenting and credentialing agricultural skills; and to pilot methodologies for assessment of these skills. This grant will complement philanthropic foundation investment in this work and will build on EFI’s workforce development expertise. It will provide the basis for a subsequent Track 1 proposal in 2026 to develop curriculum, begin frontline worker and supervisor training, and issue formal skill credentials that will be recognized both by industry and relevant state agencies.  EFI is a capacity-building and certification organization that provides tools to strengthen labor management systems across the produce industry, certifies the farms of agricultural employers to rigorous labor standards, and partners with employers and workers to offer new skills and career ladders to the agricultural workforce. EFI has worked with Jobs for the Future to create a standardized framework for skill documentation, and to engage workers and employers in identifying and strengthening the foundational, crop-specific and technical skills required for an evolving produce industry.  In alignment with California’s Ag Vision strategy, EFI will focus is on improving recruitment, retention and productivity for employers facing a labor shortage, climate change and new technologies, and on creating transparent career pathways that allow farmworkers to gain and demonstrate credentialed skills that allow them to progress toward higher wages, better job quality, and more promising professional prospects. Multistakeholder collaboration will determine an appropriate governance structure for the eventual credentialing system, to ensure recognition from industry groups, worker organizations, state agencies and workforce development experts. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | * A stakeholder steering committee of organizations with expertise in workforce development will be collaborating to formalize a skill credentialing system. * An agricultural skill library will have been developed to document foundational, crop-specific and technical skills, which will have been clustered into career ladders. * A functioning culturally aligned methodology for assessing baseline competency and new skill acquisition will have been tested and refined. * A Track 1 FAP proposal will have been submitted to fund subsequent development of standardized curricula, pilot training and assessment of farmworkers in at least three locations, and a roadmap and process for establishing formal state and industry recognition of credentials acquired through this training. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **Five Keys Schools and Programs**  320 13th Street, Second Floor  Oakland, CA 94612 |
| **CONTACT** | Chris Faucher, Director of Agricultural Programs  1-818-857-0961  ChrisF@FiveKeys.org |
| **AWARD** | $448,248.27 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Agriculture |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Farmworkers and individuals employed in agriculture-related industries |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * Farmworkers Institute of Education & Leadership Development (FIELD) * City of Riverside * City of Norco |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | The Five Keys Ecological Agriculture Training Cultural Center and Farm (EAT!) will design and pilot the implementation of a series of workshops, trainings and academic skills development opportunities with scaffolded support from Five Keys/EAT! and the Farmworkers Institute of Education and Leadership Development (FIELD). With the launch of an official partnership between Five Keys/EAT! and FIELD, Five Keys/EAT! will leverage FIELD’s High School Diploma and Core Academic Skills Programs alongside both organizations’ ongoing and emerging partnerships within Riverside County to provide participants with the personal and professional skills development needed to enable them to increase their vocational and job readiness skills, attain and retain employment, enter new career pathways, and advance/transition into industries adjacent to, or beyond agriculture. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | * EAT! will develop and implement a series of workshops with 100 farmworkers with a focus on career path planning and personal development that include general workforce readiness (resume, interview skills, job search), digital literacy, personal financial management. They will engage in supported career path planning. * 100 farmworkers participate in EAT!’s series of industry-aligned workshops with a focus on upskilling and skillset diversity. Our industry-aligned workshops are intended to build entrepreneurial skills and provide certifications needed for small businesses or working in established businesses such as OSHA 10 General Industry; CPR/First Aid; Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training; Integrated Pest Management Certification; National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program; Agricultural Compost Professional Certification; Regenerative Agriculture; Irrigation Training State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **Fresno Building Healthy Communities**  3467 N First Street  Fresno, CA 93747 |
| **CONTACT** | Sandra Celedon, President and CEO  1-559-256-8723  [sceledon@fresnobhc.org](mailto:sceledon@fresnobhc.org) |
| **AWARD** | $985,200.00 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Public Health and Workforce Development in the Non-Profit Sector |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Migrant and seasonal farmworkers aged 18 and older, with a focus on underserved subgroups |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * The Central Valley Health Policy Institute at California State University, Fresno * Friends of Calwa |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | Fresno Building Healthy Communities proposes the Community Health Career Pathways for Farmworkers program to provide farmworkers with training and certification as Community Health Advocates (CHAs). This program builds on the successful CHA model implemented during the Fresno COVID-19 Equity Project. Participants will develop skills in public health, bilingual communication, and digital literacy. The program will also provide referrals to wrap-around support services, such as housing and childcare assistance, to address barriers to participation.  Training will be delivered through a hybrid model, combining in-person workshops and online learning, followed by paid work-based learning placements at local non-profits. The program’s outcomes will strengthen the regional workforce while improving health equity for underserved populations. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | * Enroll and train 90 participants in CHA training programs. * Certify 90 graduates and achieve a 94% employment rate, placing 85 participants in living-wage roles with local non-profits. * Conduct health and workforce outreach to thousands of underserved community members. * Create a replicable and sustainable model for workforce development addressing systemic inequities. |
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| **APPLICANT** | **Kern/Inyo/Mono Consortium Workforce Development Area- Kern County Employer's Training Resource**  1600 E. Belle Terrace  Bakersfield, CA 93307 |
| **CONTACT** | Jeremy Shumaker, Assistant Chief Workforce  Development Officer  1-661-635-2758  [shumakerj@kerncounty.com](mailto:shumakerj@kerncounty.com) |
| **AWARD** | $985,200.00 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Manufacturing, Trades, Transportation, and Utilities, Warehousing and Logistics, Health Care and Social Assistance, and Educational Services |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Farmworkers who meet the criteria of 18 years of age and meet WIOA Title I Adult eligibility. |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * America’s Job Center of California (AJCC) * Kern High School District - Bakersfield Adult School (KHSD-BAS) * Proteus Inc. |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | The Kern/Inyo/Mono Consortium Workforce Development Area–Kern County Employers’ Training Resource (KIM) proposes to provide 85 participants with job skills training, on-the-job trainings (OJTs), work-based learning, access to training roles in adjacent sectors, such as agriculture, and offer a new strategic approach to prepare farmworkers for in-demand employment outside of the agriculture sector. To support career shifts for farmworkers, KIM will provide various forms of supportive services. KIM will also provide wrap-around services to support program participants through case management, referrals to service providers, career navigation, and more. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | * Will serve 85 participants through enrollment and 85 participants through completion of certified training and work-based learning. (100%) * 35 participants to be scheduled for completion of credentials (41%). * The program anticipates an employment rate of 73% in the 2nd Quarter After Exit at 62 participants. * The program anticipates an employment rate of 68% in the 4th Quarter After Exit for 58 participants. * The goal of 66% credential attainment 4 Quarters After Exit for 23 participants. * Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit of $7,800. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Project**  505 South A StreetOxnard, CA 93034 |
| **CONTACT** | Arcenio Lopez, Executive Director  1-805-822-2418  [arcenio.lopez@mixteco.org](mailto:arcenio.lopez@mixteco.org) |
| **AWARD** | $482,881.99 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Agriculture, Cooperative Farming, and Regenerative Agriculture |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Indigenous Farmworkers and Non-Indigenous Farmworkers |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * CAUSE (Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy) * Líderes Campesinas * Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association (ALBA) * Ventura County Workforce Development Board (VCWDB) * California Center for Cooperative Development (CCCD) * California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | The MILPA project aims to upskill Ventura County farmworkers, preparing them to transition from farmworker to cooperative farm owners. This project responds to the growing interest among farmworkers to move away from low-wage farmworker employment and toward cooperative farming models that offer greater economic mobility and equity. Over an 18-month planning period, the project will develop three key deliverables: a culturally and linguistically tailored upskilling curriculum, business plan, and co-op model for a cooperative farming operation. The curriculum will focus on regenerative agriculture, cooperative structures, and transferable skills. Through monthly coalition meetings, field visits to cooperative farms, and collaboration with experts and stakeholders, the project will ensure community-driven outcomes while fostering meaningful partnerships for long-term sustainability. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | * Goal #1: Develop a Culturally and Linguistically Tailored Curriculum - Create an upskilling curriculum in collaboration with ALBA’s FEED project, focusing on cooperative farming, regenerative agriculture, and essential transferable skills to support farmworker economic mobility. * Goal #2: Create a Sustainable Business Plan - Develop a detailed business plan that outlines the implementation and long-term sustainability of a farmworker cooperative in Ventura County, incorporating insights from key stakeholders and industry experts. * Goal #3: Define the Cooperative Model - Finalize a clear and actionable vision for the cooperative model, ensuring it reflects the needs, aspirations, and cultural values of the farmworker community. * Goal #4: Ensure Continuous Community Engagement - Actively involve the farmworker community in the planning and development of project deliverables through surveys, forums, and monthly meetings, ensuring the program is responsive to their input and priorities. * Goal of increasing the average annual earnings of program participants by 10% within three (3) years of completing the program. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **North Bay Jobs with Justice**  55 Ridgway AveSanta Rosa, CA, 95401 |
| **CONTACT** | Connor DeVane  1-702-756-5669  [connor@northbayjwj.com](mailto:connor@northbayjwj.com) |
| **AWARD** | $985,200.00 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Climate Resilience, Fire, Forestry, Restoration, and Wine Agricultural Industries. |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Immigrant and Indigenous farmworker community of the North Bay region. |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * Corazón Healdsburg (CH) * La Familia Sana (LFS) * Resilience Works (RW) * The Occidental Arts & Ecology Center (OAEC) * Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance (TERA) * Audubon Canyon Ranch’s Fire Forward program (FF) * Pepperwood Preserve (PWD) * UCANR’s UC Environmental Stewards (UCES) |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | This project will implement and scale a unique Spanish Language workforce development and training series that will deepen the skills and develop the leadership of Indigenous and immigrant farmworkers, supporting them to begin and advance careers and/or obtain off-season employment in the climate resilience and forest health sectors over the course of 21 months in the North Bay. 40 participants will complete a series of practical trainings that directly mitigate the impacts of climate change and increase community resilience. The project will position participants for long-term employment with family-sustaining wages. The project emphasizes a train-the-trainer framework so that participants can support the training of future cohorts and the overall scaling of the program. The project recognizes and uplifts Indigenous farmworkers’ expertise from working on the land as well as Traditional Ecological Knowledge. Participants will receive incentives for completion of individual trainings. Participants will receive wrap-around services to boost their economic wellbeing and build basic skills. Participants will have the option to opt into employment with local employer Resilience Works upon project completion. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | Over the course of 21 months, participants will complete at least 12 trainings and receive up to 3 certificates, representing over 256 hours of education per worker. All 40 participants will receive at least seasonal employment in climate resilience fields, and each will have access to stable employment through RW, as well as opportunities for employment with project partners. Through specialized wrap-around services, participants will experience increased wellbeing and economic advancement. The number of skilled and qualified climate resilience workers in the North Bay will increase by 40. The project will serve as a replicable model for workforce development. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **Sonoma County Fundación de la Voz de los Viñedos**  3245 Guerneville Rd.  Santa Rosa, CA 95401 |
| **CONTACT** | Jennifer Dieckmann, Project Director  1-707-522-5867  [jennifer@scggf.org](mailto:jennifer@scggf.org) |
| **AWARD** | $712,756.73 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Sonoma County Winegrape Industry |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Farmworkers |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * Sonoma County Economic Development Collaborative * Sonoma County Winegrape Commission (also known as Sonoma County Winegrowers, SCW) * John Deere; California Department of Food and Agriculture; California Association of Winegrape Growers * Sonoma County Farm Bureau * Sonoma County Ag Commissioner * American AgCredit * Ciatti Company * Morrison * First 5 Sonoma * Nuestra Comunidad |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | Non-profit, community based-organization Sonoma County Fundación de la Voz de los Viñedos (The Foundation) will leverage its strong organizational capacity and decades of experience providing education to more than 5,000 farmworkers to support and expand its proven models of education through 1) Two Custom Leadership Academies, which will provide advanced professional development training that includes digital literacy and work-based learning, to prepare participants for advancement into frontline supervisor and/or managerial roles; and will also include presentations from partnering local community-based organizations (CBO)s to build awareness of no-cost, wrap-around support services available for families and farmworker youth, and for job seeking assistance, among others; 2) Six intensive ESL courses on-site at employer-provided farmworker housing locations to enhance farmworker English communication skills in support of workplace advancement and community engagement; 3) Three Financial Literacy Workshops to prepare farmworkers for advanced workplace roles that require farm budgeting, risk management, and capital planning; 4) Two Climate-Smart Tractor Driving Schools to train farmworkers to safely operate cutting-edge agricultural equipment; and 5) Two Farm of the Future Summits to pilot and accelerate advancement of innovative agricultural technology, giving participants access to the next generation of game-changing sustainability solutions and thought leaders in agricultural innovation, and thereby positioning these participants for transformative career advancement opportunities. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | Through its comprehensive training and support strategy in collaboration with a strategic alliance of diverse partners, the Foundation will support 550 Sonoma County farmworkers in receiving industry-recognized certificates for English literacy (150); Financial Literacy (100); Ag Technology (175), as well as for Custom Leadership Academy Graduates (100) who will receive certificates in digital literacy and leadership development skills by the end of the project period. Of those, 70 farmworkers will earn 10 percent wage increases by the end of the project period, and post-project participant surveys will demonstrate median quarterly earnings of $11,297 in the second quarter after program exit (EDD, OEWS Employment and Wage Statistics, Sonoma County). |

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| **APPLICANT** | **University of California Riverside**  900 University Avenue  Riverside, CA 92521 |
| **CONTACT** | Kevin Vaughn, Ph.D., Dean  1-951-827-4105  [kvaughn@ucx.ucr.edu](mailto:kvaughn@ucx.ucr.edu) |
| **AWARD** | $980,407.00 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Early Childhood Education (ECE) within the growing childcare industry |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Low-income farmworkers |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * Escuela de la Raza Unida * Riverside County Office of Education-Migrant Head Start * United Families * Rawlins Child Development Center * Numerous licensed family childcare providers |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | The project will offer accessible Early Childhood Education (ECE) courses in Spanish, integrated with English as a Second Language (ESL) components, providing participants with the skills necessary for professional advancement. These courses will focus on culturally relevant practices that empower participants to effectively engage with diverse children and families. Additionally, the program will incorporate hands-on internship opportunities, job readiness training, and wraparound services designed to support participants throughout their educational journey. By combining practical experience with theoretical knowledge, the initiative aims to enhance the employability of farmworkers within the childcare sector and foster their long-term career growth. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | The proposed outcomes of this initiative include enrolling 175 participants in certified training and work-based learning programs, with an expected completion rate of 85%. Additionally, we aim for employment rates of 68% in the second quarter and 85% in the fourth quarter post-exit from the program. By prioritizing credential attainment, we intend to enhance participants' competitiveness in the job market while addressing the pressing labor demands in the childcare sector. This initiative not only aims to foster career advancement for farmworkers but also contributes to the overall quality of early childhood education in the targeted region. |

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| **APPLICANT** | **West Hills Community College District**  275 Phelps Ave.  Coalinga, CA, 93210 |
| **CONTACT** | Brian Boomer, Director of Grants  1-559-934-2152  [brianboomer@whccd.edu](mailto:brianboomer@whccd.edu) |
| **AWARD** | $974,116.50 |
| **INDUSTRY FOCUS** | Ag-Tech, Healthcare, and Transportation and Logistics |
| **TARGETED PARTICIPANTS** | Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers and their dependents, primarily from low-income families, many of whom identify as Hispanic |
| **KEY PARTNERS** | * Castillo Bros. Transport, Inc. * Superior Ag, S&L Contracting * Grow View Enterprise * Aria Health Clinic * Westside Medical Group * Coalinga State Hospital * Educational and Training partners include Advanced Career Institute, Coalinga College, Lemoore College, and Skills Valley * Non-profit organizations supporting this work include the California Farmworkers Foundation, the regional California Adult Education Program Consortium, and the US Department of Education-funded High School Equivalency Program |
| **PROJECT DESCRIPTION** | FAP at WHCCD will enroll and train 75 participants, ensuring 64 participants receive credentials in high-demand fields, and helping 57 participants secure employment by the second quarter after program completion. Key activities to achieve these goals include the following:   1. Outreach and Recruitment: Using culturally relevant strategies to engage the target population. 2. Training and Skill Development: Offering specialized training in fields like Ag-Tech, Healthcare and Transportation and Logistics. 3. Work-Based Learning: Collaborating with local employers to provide Paid Work Experience (PWEX). 4. Support Services and Case Management: Assigning case managers for personalized guidance through training and job search, with access to essential support services like transportation assistance and childcare. 5. Evaluation and Follow-Up: Tracking participant progress and program outcomes, with follow-up services to support long-term job retention and career advancement. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | FAP at WHCCD will serve seventy-five (75) participants in west Fresno and Kings Counties. Of the 75 participants enrolled, WHCCD anticipates that 64 (85%) will complete a credential, 57 (76%) will be employed two quarters after exit, where the median quarterly earnings will be $8,500, and 53 (70%) will be employed four quarters after exit. WHCCD anticipates delivering a milestone stipend to each of the 75 enrolled participants, work clothing vouchers to 50 participants, childcare support for 30 participants, transportation assistance to 50 participants, and 300 hours of Work-Based Learning (PWEX) for 50 participants. |