Developing America's Workforce



County Roles, Barriers and Solutions - County Case Studies

City and County of Honolulu, Hawai'i



2021 POPULATION: **1,000,890**

U.S. REGION: WEST

ARCHETYPE: URBAN CENTERS

AND CORE SUBURBS



NACo Counties for Career Success Participant The City and County of Honolulu comprises Hawai'i's capital region, economic center and the most populated part of the islands. Providers in the county serve a diverse population which includes many residents from Native Hawai'ian, Pacific Islander and Asian American communities. The county's workforce development leaders report that available funding sources often focus too narrowly on employment outcomes. Without the flexibility to address the social determinants of employment, many workforce development programs end up losing the trust of participants.

Barriers



FUNDING

Solutions

EARN-WHILE-YOU-LEARN PROGRAM

The CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) to LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse) Bridge Program helps job seekers earn money while they learn in the City and County of Honolulu. The program began in 2023 as a partnership between Hale Makua Health Services, University of Hawai'i Maui College, the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, Ohana Pacific Health, Kaiser Permanente and Unite HERE! Local 5 to develop working CNAs into LPNs in one year. Students can learn and work with continued access to financial aid, workforce grants and an employer-sponsored tuition program. Earning while receiving training reduces financial barriers for students to pursue post-secondary education.



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