OIC-HEP ABSTRACT

Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) of Washington is requesting funding from the United States Department of Education to continue and expand the OIC-HEP program. OIC is an Economic Development and Career Training Organization, federally designated as a Community Action Agency to provide education, career, and support services to primarily rural and BIPOC communities in Central Washington State. OIC-HEP project goal is to equip migrant and seasonal farmworkers with foundational knowledge and skills to advance in an in-demand postsecondary career pathway of their choice by providing targeted academic and career prep services. OIC-HEP's 6 objectives, 14 measurable outcomes, and activities will address the identified needs. The objectives are to 1) Increase the number of MSFWs who are knowledgeable about the importance of obtaining an education credential. 2) Increase the number of participants who earn a High School Equivalent Diploma. 3) Increase the number of participants who gain knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary for long-term employment. 4) Increase the number of participants who transition out of seasonal farm work into a career pathway of their choice. 5) Increase the number of MSFWs who excel during post-program placement. 6) Increase the number of MSFWs who are knowledgeable about the importance of preventative health. OIC-HEP addresses the Competitive Preference Priority 1 by offering flexible and affordable academic, English literacy, and career skills training to 85 eligible commuter students per year at Education and Career Campus (ECC)-Yakima, ECC-Moses Lake, ECC-Sunnyside, ECC-Pasco, ECC-Wenatchee, and local IHEs. Promising interventions will be implemented by skilled, compassionate, and bilingual instructional staff. These services will result in a minimum of 58 (69%) or more students obtaining their HSED (GPRA 1), 49 (85%) or more of these graduates will transition into postsecondary training, military, or will obtain first-time or upgraded employment (GPRA 2).