

ABSTRACT

Applicant Organization: The Research Foundation of SUNY on behalf of the University at Buffalo, Department of Family Medicine/NYS AHEC System

Project Title: **NYS AHEC System RESTORE Program**

Applicant Organization Address: 77 Goodell St, Suite 220, Buffalo, NY, 14203 (Erie County)

Project Director: Leishia B. Smallwood, Director, NYS AHEC System

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Area to be Served: Greater Buffalo-Niagara Region, NY (includes Erie and Niagara Counties, with Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Tonawanda, and Lockport as the main metropolitan areas)
(Erie County |029|QOZs: 01.10, 05.00, 16.00, 25.02, 31.00, 34.00, 40.01, 47.00, 56.00, 61.00, 67.02, 83.00, 84.00, 92.00, 123.00, 163.00, 164.00, 165.00, 168.00, 170.00, 171.00, 172.00, 174.00, Niagara County |063| QOZs: 202.00, 205.00, 211.00, 212.00, 217.00, 231.00, 232.00, 237.00)

Funding Request: **\$500,000**

Total Cost per Participant: \$4,000 (not inclusive of program personnel, consultant, and supply expenses)

Project Summary: Our program will convene community partners with experience offering programming to women, in order to tailor the career services offered to participants, increasing the likelihood of successful job placement for participants, and further connecting them within networks of support. The NYS AHEC System, along with our partners, will (a) provide coordinated, employment focused services to women impacted by the opioid crisis; (b) offer additional supportive services to women impacted by the opioid crisis; and (c) establish cooperative relationships among supportive service providers to train and employ women

workers affected by the opioid crisis. Our employment focused services will include but are not limited to soft skills development, resume writing, workshops, job readiness training, connection to relevant programming, networking and support services, and job placement efforts for women in the Greater Buffalo Niagara area. This program will supplement ongoing efforts by the NYS AHEC System to counteract the effects of the ongoing crisis in the region and across the state, while leveraging our history as a workforce development organization.

Program Objectives:

- (1) Provide employment training opportunities, career service supports, and other soft skill development trainings.
- (2) Connect a cohort of women to specialized and/or credentialed employment training (i.e. certified nursing certificate, peer advocacy support school, practice facilitator training, etc.).
- (3) Connect new trainees to open vacancies in the region.
- (4) Develop collaborative relationships with external agencies to expand referrals and linkages to employment focused and supportive services.

Proposed Outcomes

- Train a minimum of 200 participants via at least 12 job-related trainings (i.e. resume writing, soft skills development, job searching skills, etc.)
- Connect at least 20 women to supportive or other career services not directly offered
- Provide connections and financial support to credentialed employment training for a minimum of 20 women
- Secure employment for a minimum of 5 women after 6 months following program exit
- Secure employment for a minimum of 10 women after 1 year of program exit