

**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING  
PROGRAM YEAR 2018 NONFORMULA GRANTS (7-1-18 to 6-30-19)**

**2018 TALENT PIPELINE GRANTS**

**Grantee:** Kankakee County (LWIA 11)

**Award Amount:** \$216,331.80

**Project Summary:** The project proposed by Kankakee County (LWIA 11) provides incumbent worker training to approximately 30 employees of CSL Behring's 1,600 Kankakee County workforce. CSL Behring is a biopharmaceutical manufacturer producing plasma-derived and recombinant therapeutic products and has a Pennsylvania headquarters and total employees of 20,000. Per a 2018 article in Intersect Illinois magazine, the CSL Behring expansion project has the biggest impact in Illinois over the past year. CSL Behring is building a 1.8 million square foot campus, investing well over a billion dollars in capital improvement and creating thousands of new jobs. The target incumbent worker population of about 30 employees includes engineers, control project leads, control engineers, and automation project leads. LWIA 11's prior experience with CSL Behring includes a 2016 Illinois Talent Pipeline grant for recruiting and placing 36 dislocated workers in on-the-job training. The 2016 grant funds of \$500K were fully expended and the 36 individuals are still employed at CSL Behring (100% Retention rate).

**Project Partners Include:** Kankakee County, LWIA 11 acting as the Illinois Talent Pipeline grantee and providing IWTS data entry, while CSL Behring is providing 50% employer matching funds and contracting with Siemens Controls / Werum Automation as the training provider.

**Grantee:** McHenry County Workforce Network

**Award Amount:** \$195,538

**Project Summary:** The Manufacturing pre-apprenticeship program proposed by McHenry County Workforce Network (MCWN) will provide a career pathway for underserved populations to up-skill into a Registered or Non-Registered Apprenticeship program and/or directly into permanent employment with a local employer. As area employers have been having increased difficulty finding qualified job applicants, they are turning to the workforce system and over-looked labor pools such as opportunity youth and returning citizens. MCWN will recruit from the at-risk young adults and returning citizens participating in its current Workplace Readiness courses. 20 participants will be served. 14 are funded from the grant and 6 are funded through the Illinois Manufacturing Association (IMA). The program will serve the employers and job seekers in Local Workforce Area 2 and the program has the potential to be shared with other LWAs within Economic Development Region 4, and with the state. MCWN is the Title 1B administrator for LWA 2 and has successfully administered federal workforce programs for over 45 years.

**Project Partners Include:** McHenry County College providing outreach, feedback, coaching, project coordination, oversight, monitoring and reporting, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit Court providing participant referral, outreach, feedback, and partnership support, Illinois Manufacturers Association Education Foundation providing outreach, funding for 6 participants, direct participation, and feedback, the McHenry States Attorney's Office providing outreach, coaching, feedback, and referrals, 4 area employers providing program development assistance, content assistance, outreach, 3 apprenticeships and 4 work-based learning program opportunities.

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**Grantee:** Revolution Workshop

**Award Amount:** \$200,000

**Project Summary:** The project proposed by RW will partner with KRA Corporation and Associated Builders and Contractors, Illinois Chapter, Inc. (ABCIL) to recruit and train 45 WIOA eligible candidates (35 adults and 10 dislocated workers) in a 12-week pre-apprenticeship. KRA operates the American Jobs Center located about a mile south of the shop. This makes them the logical partner to assist RW with recruitment, verifying eligibility of WIOA participants and entering all information into the Illinois Workforce Development System (IWDS). RW will focus on a target population including minorities and women ages 18-40 with a genuine interest in “blue collar” work. Special emphasis will be placed on recruiting returning citizens, opportunity youth, and women as these groups have historically been denied opportunities in the construction and manufacturing sectors. RW will leverage ABCIL’s Accredited Training Sponsorship with the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) to register all successful trainees in the national registry. RW will be responsible for providing all technical training that includes NCCER Core, Carpentry 1 and OSHA 10 certifications. Additionally, RW will work with ABCIL to identify trainees to continue their apprenticeship training through ABCIL USDOL registered apprenticeship program. NCCER Core and Carpentry 1 are already approved curriculum and provide the 1st year of related technical instruction for a carpentry apprentice.

**Project Partners Include:** MOUs with 3 employers committing to hire two or more and interview 10 to 12 participants, KRA Corporation providing recruiting, eligibility, and IWDS data entry, ABCIL providing registry in the NCCER, Blue Cards, and Core, Carpentry Level 1 certifications, Literacy Chicago providing TABE testing and a 2-week, 40-hour bridge program for trainees that test below 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading and math.

**Grantee:** A Safe Haven Foundation

**Award Amount:** \$175,050

**Project Summary:** The project proposed by A Safe Haven Foundation (ASHF) will provide 30 justice-involved adults, both men and women, with subsidized Work-Based Learning in Gas Metal Arc Welding (Manufacturing Sector), the increasingly in-demand credential: American Welding Society (AWS) Certification, together with literacy, job readiness, support services, career job placement and retention services. The ASHF welding program takes place in a facility adjacent to ASHF’s main location. Upon entry, 100% of the ASHF client population is homeless or has no place to stay. ASHF has over 20 years’ experience preparing Adult ex-offenders. ASHF gets client referrals from the Illinois Department of Corrections, Cook County Sherriff’s Office, Department of Child and Family Services, Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, Illinois Department of Family and Support Services, emergency responders, shelters, hospitals, the Veterans Administration, probation officers, and substance abuse treatment programs.

**Project Partners Include:** MOUs with KRA Career Services providing IWDS co-enrollment and WIOA eligibility determination, Near West American Job Center at Pilsen providing client referrals, assessment and TABE testing services to clients with barriers to employment. Job-seeker services are also provided. Eight employers have signed MOUs to hire program participants as needed.

**Grantee:** Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. – Illinois Chapter (ABCIL)

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**Award Amount:** \$305,500

**Project Summary:** The project proposed by ABCIL will provide Construction Sector paid apprenticeship training through ABCIL's Community Builders (CB) Apprenticeship Training Program now active across 72 ABC Chapters nationally. ABCIL will train 30 participants in 2 cohorts. Each cohort will be recruited in partnership with Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), Veteran's Affairs offices, Probation Offices, Community-based organizations, and the Local Workforce Innovation Area. Once the individuals have been identified and WIOA eligibility established, these individuals will be trained in the CORE and Carpentry/Electrical Level One in a "boot camp" style, work-based learning program with the selected students attending class five days a week, 8-hour days for up to 12 weeks. They will receive certifications from the NCCER in CORE and Carpentry/Electrical Level One; including their OSHA 10 certification. The individuals who complete this training successfully will be ready to go on the job site as a first-year apprentice and will be able to help meet the workforce demands for the peak time in the construction season. Support Services will be in the form financial support for travel, food, Milestone Achievements, and childcare while in the CB program. Also, all participants will leave with personal protective equipment and a set of tools for their new career with the employers we have within ABCIL's 350+ construction employer membership.

**Project Partners Include:** MOUs with 9 employers committing to 3-7 permanent hires and additional hires as needed, Real Time Relief providing recruiting, Safer Foundation providing placement services, Lake County Workforce Development providing recruiting, Waukegan Housing Authority providing housing, Project H.O.O.D. Community Development Corp. providing recruiting.

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