

Workforce Development: Minding the Gaps

East Side Neighborhood Services: Over the past 100 years, East Side Neighborhood Services has contributed to building strong, healthy communities and vibrant economies by creating independent workers from new and vital populations.

Disconnected Older Adults

The **Senior Community Service Employment Program** provides work readiness training to low-income adults 55 and older. Every year, over 220 older adults re-enter the workforce with subsidized employment after addressing barriers such as skills, transportation, interviewing, and self-confidence. Low-income older adults often rely on Social Security, Medicare, Food Stamps, and subsidized housing, and have less readily available resources available. Being employed allows independence, learning, social connections, and meaningful engagement. The workforce cannot afford to ignore this population.



Expanded Support

- Increase the number of people served.
- Provide wrap-around services after trainee leaves subsidized employment.
- Expand training curriculum, skills development, and interpersonal learning opportunities.
- Address short-term Benefit Cliff crises.
- Deepen engagement with long-term health and social welfare services.

Medical Pathways: Certified Nursing Assistant

The **Nursing Assistant Plus (NA+)** plus program addresses the need for a more robust medical talent pipeline. Universal shortages in the medical care field are present in hospitals, care clinics, assisted living/nursing homes and in home care. Our program helps participants understand the foundation of care through academic and hands on learning. NA+ strengthens learning through a curated course of empowerment. Participants attain a Mental Health First Aid Certificate, Basic Lifesaving Certification, placement on the State Registry of Nursing Assistants, and living-wage employment.

Expanded Support

- In-house Medical Trainers.
- Increase number of students in training.
- Decrease time and backlog for certification.
- Expand pipeline of medical certification to include: Phlebotomy, Peer-Recover Specialists, End-of-Care Life, Critical Mental Health Skills, and Medical Records.
- Expand partnerships with hospitals, care clinics, and home care services.
- Foster relationships in medical and mental health fields.



Funding Request

East Side requests a \$1,000,000 appropriation over one year to expand/build programming.



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