



# FY 2018 Real Pathways RI Additional Funding Recipients

Real Pathways RI is a new workforce development initiative that supports partnerships between and among public, private, and nonprofit agencies that focus on serving populations with traditional barriers to employment (ex. veterans, homeless, long-term unemployed) or regions of the state with above average concentrations of poverty or unemployment. Lead by a lead convener, these partners will collaborate to provide workforce development services that are demand-driven, linked to the larger workforce development network, and designed to maximize the opportunities for middle class employment.

In June 2017, the Governor's Workforce Board awarded fourteen (14) Real Pathways RI partnerships.

In August 2017, the Board made additional funds available to help reduce adult education waiting lists throughout the state. Adult Learners are individuals who actively want to improve their skills and education level through high school degree preparation, English language acquisition, or job training, yet are unable to do so due to resource restrictions. The Board provided six (6) additional awards totaling \$428,144.50.

Please see below for the list of partnerships receiving additional funds.

---

## Rhode Island Core Skills Partnership

**Lead Applicant:** RI Adult Education Professional Development Center (at West Bay Collaborative)

**Initial Award Amount:** \$126,717.15

**Additional Funds Awarded:** \$95,332.00

**Estimated Additional Individuals Served:** 250

**Abstract:** Currently, the Adult Education system uses 'managed enrollment' system - meaning an individual who signs up for AE services at a time when registration is 'closed' is placed on a wait list and 'called back' when a spot becomes available. It is estimated that only 10-15% of wait listed individuals actually respond to this 'call back'. The Core Skills Partnership is designed to seize the opportunity when an individual first inquires about AE services and begin the intake, assessment, and referral process immediately. Many individuals may find they were not in need of 'full' AE services and can be referred to a service provider that can meet their needs immediately instead of being placed on a waiting list. Connections to services will happen immediately, and only if necessary would an individual be 'waited listed' for a fixed adult education class.

## Pathways to Manufacturing for English Language Learners

**Lead Applicant:** Dorcas International Institute of RI

**Initial Award Amount:** \$23,522.05

**Additional Funds Awarded:** \$65,000

**Estimated Additional Individuals Served:** 200-300

**Abstract:** 'Fixed class' adult education models don't always fit a participant's work/life balance. As a result, many individuals move from Department of Education (RIDE) approved providers to non-RIDE recognized community and alternative programs. These programs, often on a very well-intended volunteer basis, provide basic education and literacy without the rigor and certification of a RIDE-approved program. This proposal would partner with several community-based and often culturally-focused partners to offer Dorcas trained and RIDE-certified staff and instruction at these partner locations; enhancing the reach of the RIDE-approved system.

## Progreso Hospitality Partnership

**Lead Applicant:** Progreso Latino

**Initial Award Amount:** \$85,000

**Additional Funds Awarded:** \$99,999.00

**Estimated Additional Individuals Served:** 100

**Abstract:** Progreso Latino is one of the largest providers of English Language learning courses in the state. Under this proposal; Progreso Latino will serve roughly 100 students current on wait lists through a tiered service of ESOL, adult basic education, and job development, in line with the Progreso Hospitality Collaborative program. Progreso will offer up to 33 weeks of group language instruction, as well as monthly ESOL Social Laboratories which promote socialization, discussion, and connections with employers.

## Pathways to Apprenticeship

**Lead Applicant:** RI Institute for Labor Studies

**Initial Award Amount:** \$59,526.35

**Additional Funds Awarded:** \$47,875.50

**Estimated Additional Individuals Served:** 125

**Abstract:** In partnership with the RI Family Literacy Initiative, ILSR will add approximately five more classes throughout Providence County providing high school degree preparation and English language instruction. The traditional 'fixed class' model would be followed, but additional space and opportunity for instruction will be added in time for winter/spring 2018 registration. With an average seat load of 20-30 per class; adding 5 additional classes would provide over 125 new opportunities for students.

## Greater Providence Healthcare Career Pathways

**Lead Applicant:** Genesis Center

**Initial Award Amount:** \$127,478.13

**Additional Funds Awarded:** \$69,938.00

**Estimated Additional Individuals Served:** 85

**Abstract:** This proposal will provide for four new offerings offered outside of the traditional classroom setting and in the community, leveraging an existing 'enhanced capacity' grant received from the United Way a few years ago. Services would include contextualized English Language courses as well as National External Diploma Program (NEDP - a type of high school equivalency). Course locations would include community programs as well as the Providence NetWorkRI Center.

## Rhode Island Works Wonders for Foster Youth

**Lead Applicant:** Foster Forward

**Initial Award Amount:** \$127,500.00

**Additional Funds Awarded:** \$50,000.00

**Estimated Additional Individuals Served:** 20

**Abstract:** The current Youth and Adult Education system doesn't always have the capacity to serve disconnected foster youth in pursuit of their high school degree. In the past, the Foster Forward program was able to offer GED services to Foster Youth onsite, but that funding opportunity ended a few years ago. This proposal would provide for a community based partner to provide GED classes on site at Foster Forward, where supports, counseling, and wraparound services will be available for foster youth.