

Phase I Synopsis: Results from Massachusetts' National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Demonstration Grant to Address the Opioid Crisis

Potential funding for Phase II of the Opioid Crisis Grant opportunity is available to all areas impacted by the opioid crisis.

During Phase I of the grant opportunity, Massachusetts has been awarded approximately \$5 million in DOL funding to combat the opioid crisis and the damage it has left in its wake. To date, funding has been used to enroll over 450 participants impacted by the opioid crisis in program services, place 253 participants in training, and place over 200 participants in temporary and permanent employment. Funding has also been used to provide supportive services to program participants.

Local area grant operators have developed strategic partnerships, engaged with employers, and formed advisory committees to direct resources to provide maximum impact to address the opioid crisis.

Program participants have completed a range of training opportunities resulting in certificates of completion, and certifications. Training opportunities include:

- CDL Training
- Mental Health First Aid
- HVAC
- CrossFit
- Project Management
- Security Professionals
- Veterinary Assistant

Participants have been placed successfully in the following occupations:

- Phlebotomy Technicians
- Estheticians
- Nurses' Aides
- Certified Medical Administrative Assistants
- Recovery Coaches
- Addiction Counselors

Attachment B

The true impact of National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Demonstration Grant is reflected in those directly impacted and shared in grant participant success stories below.

Excerpts from Participant Success Stories:

Success Story # 1

Participant was referred by Sheriff's department 4 week prior to release. Recovery coach reached out to participant on first day of release and subsequently provided virtual services including resume development, assistance with online job applications, and referrals to employers. Support services were made available, and the participant entered employment and was able to attain a license. The participant stated, "I am very grateful that your staff reached out to me on the first day, I could not have done it without him and this program. Thank you!"

Success Story # 2

Participant struggled with being in and out of the judicial system for many years. Program enrollment and continued staff support enabled to the participant to first obtain a CDL permit and begin CDL training. The participant noted. "I have been in and out of jail for most of my life, my goal is to work as a CDL driver, make clean money and buy a house."