

DISTRICT 1199C TRAINING & UPGRADING FUND AWARDED US DOL CONTRACT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SEIU

"It gives us great pleasure to announce that the District 199C Training & Upgrading Fund, in partnership with SEIU Education and Support Fund (ESF) and Healthcare Career Advancement Program (H-CAP), was awarded an Industry Intermediary Contract, by the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA), to expand the utilization of Registered Apprenticeship in the care economy," announced Teresa Collins, executive director of District 1199C Training and Upgrading Fund.

"We are excited about the opportunity presented by this partnership and to work with US DOL on expanding opportunities in early childhood education and home and community-based services. Working together, and with other key stakeholders around the nation, we are confident that we can help build an equity-oriented Registered Apprenticeship system in the care economy, which is so critical to our nation," Collins said.

"As the lead agency, this contract will allow us to use a collaborative approach in increasing the use of Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) within the care economy to help address staffing challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The contract aims to show how Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) can be a solution to the workforce challenges impacting the care economy sector, by:

- (1) reducing turnover among the care economy workforce
- (2) decreasing the cost of recruitment for the care economy sector employers
- (3) increasing measurable skill gains for apprentices, including attainment of certifications, licenses, and degrees
- (4) improving client outcomes due to better training of the workforce

"This award aligns with the work the District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund does on a daily basis by (1) providing access to career pathways in healthcare and human services for incumbent workers and job seekers through education, training, and work-based learning; and, (2) building the capacity of the Delaware Valley's healthcare industry to create a highly-skilled workforce through on-the-job training opportunities and the development of an education pipeline that aligns with career ladder steps. This not only allows us to do our work in the Philadelphia region but expands our work across the nation," said Collins.