



## PROMISING PRACTICE

### Training and Supportive Services

Project HOPE (Health Occupation Preparation for Employment)  
at South Carolina Department of Social Services  
Columbia, SC

# Hard work meets HOPE at the South Carolina Department of Social Services.



**Project HOPE is an award-winning training program serving the entire state of South Carolina. The program provides participants the chance to enter the high-demand healthcare field. Training and supportive services ensure all participants succeed from recruitment to job placement. Project HOPE's success comes from five core phases, but one shines above the rest.**

A five-week bootcamp provides intensive career preparation. Every participant must attend the all day (8:30AM to 4:30PM) bootcamp after program selection. An experienced team of local health science instructors lead hands-on training. They focus on healthcare education readiness and job placement for the program's targeted occupations from the very start.

The curriculum consists of healthcare courses, speaker forums, and career shadowing. Students learn basic life-saving techniques by obtaining First Aid and CPR certification. They also become familiar with medical technology and terminology. Besides academic training, students learn about possible training barriers. Speakers cover topics like financial literacy, parenting skills, abuse, and time management.

Once students are in their fourth week of camp, job shadowing begins. Project HOPE has strong partnerships with healthcare employers throughout South Carolina. Project HOPE job developers assign students to various facilities in their partner network. This effort allows students to explore career options and understand employer expectations. Shadowing creates a pathway for students to gain employment.

The Project HOPE team provides case management services to students throughout bootcamp. Career counselors track student progress and help students develop individual career education plans. Students are taught how to tackle personal and professional hurdles before they arise. Everyone leaves bootcamp with an understanding of real-world employer expectations.

**Project HOPE knows that preparation is key to student performance, retention, and employment.**

This Promising Practice was self-identified by the grantee and information contained in this document was provided by the grantee.