

PROMISING PRACTICE

EMPLOYMENT STRATEGIES | EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Rogue Community College -

Southern Oregon Health Occupations Poverty Elimination project (SOHOPE)



GRANTS PASS, OR



Improved communication and feedback between program partners enhance meaningful learning experiences in Southern Oregon.

With funding from the Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) program, Southern Oregon Health Occupations Poverty Elimination project (SOHOPE) provides financial assistance for eligible students to become educated, trained, and certified in high-demand healthcare careers through Rogue Community College's Allied Health Occupations department. Two out of every three program applicants are randomly selected to receive paid tuition and fees, textbooks, and supplies as well as job placement and support services designed to promote higher levels of achievement and success.

A few years after SOHOPE's HPOG 2.0 program implementation, administrators noticed participants were struggling with the timely completion of training program prerequisites. When they observed that completion goals were not being met, they restructured their staffing, outreach, and communication efforts to provide enhanced support for participants.

Playing an active role in participant success are SOHOPE's Completion Specialists. These dedicated staff members work directly with students and practicum sites to ensure participants are placed in

appropriate learning experiences based on their interests and goals. Their routine outreach lets participants know that they do not have to tackle the barriers to education alone. Additionally, they work with students to improve conflict resolution by developing each participant's professional and communication skills. The dedication of the Completion Specialists ensures that all students have the opportunity to be an active part of their learning experience and have ample time to improve professional skills before gaining employment in the healthcare field.

Now in its third year of HPOG 2.0, SOHOPE is seeing unprecedented goal completion, due largely in part to the critical and innovative work performed by their devoted Completion Specialists. With improved resources at their disposal, more participants are completing the training program and finding appropriate and fulfilling employment opportunities.

“Employers and participants equally benefit when there are resources in place to ensure success.”

- Julie, SOHOPE Completion Specialist

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