

**COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER'S NORTHFIELD WORKS PROGRAM RECEIVES
GRANT FUNDING FROM MNDEED**

NORTHFIELD, MINN. (May 15, 2018) – The [Community Action Center of Northfield](#) announced that [Northfield Works](#), its community job partnership program aimed at ending poverty by providing job training and placement for low-income, underemployed and unemployed people in the Northfield area, has received a total of three grants from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). The grants, which were received at the full funding level request of \$174,000, are part of Minnesota DEED's [Pathways to Prosperity \(P2P\) Grant Program](#). Within Northfield Works, the grant funding will allow clients to gain access to training and educational opportunities that may otherwise be too expensive, providing them opportunities to climb industry ladders while saving their hard-earned income for their own family, housing and food needs. This funding will also allow Northfield Works to triple its current capacity to serve clients from 15 to 55.

Funding from the P2P Grant Program is designed to support programs and services that provide workforce development and training opportunities to economically disadvantaged adults that will help them develop increased career awareness, acquire basic skills education, participate in skills-training programs and enter into employment in high growth, high demand industries with long-term employment opportunities. These P2P funds can support industry-recognized credentials within four of Northfield's growth industry sectors: health care, public sector, construction and manufacturing.

“Northfield Works staff is grateful for the funding that will allow many more Northfielders the opportunity to receive support to help reach their career goals and aspirations,” says Northfield Works Team Lead Adele Porter.

Northfield Works has a longstanding history of partnering with area employers to provide hands-on job training and employment experience. This P2P grant is no different – Northfield Works partnered with seven other organizations on this P2P grant. Dakota Prairie Adult Basic Education (ABE) contracts with Northfield Works to provide contextualized workplace English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, and South Central College has agreed to provide post-secondary educational opportunities. Seven local employers have also agreed to partner with Northfield Works in the development of contextualized workplace ESL curriculum, guidance and advice on credentialing for client career paths in industry areas. Additionally, partner organizations may offer potential flexible positions for clients who need to get a foot in the door at a workplace. These employers are Northfield Hospital & Clinics, Three Links Care Center, Superior Healthcare Management LLC, All Flex Circuits, Larson's Printing, Northfield Public School District and St. Olaf College Bon Appétit.

Community members are encouraged to support the Northfield Works program by volunteering their time, knowledge and skills in a variety of ways:

- Short-term and long-term mentoring
- Emergency transportation assistance
- Tutoring for classes in specific industry-recognized areas (nursing, child care, etc.)
- Serve as a Northfield Works liaison with a Northfield Works partner employer
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To learn more about volunteering with the Northfield Works program or becoming a partner employer, email northfieldworks@communityactioncenter.org or call 507-664-3580.

The Community Action Center of Northfield exists to promote a healthy, caring and just community for all people through resources, advocacy and volunteer effort. We help our Northfield-area neighbors meet basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter, and provide crisis support, transportation and more. For more information about the Community Action Center, visit www.communityactioncenter.org or call 507-664-3550.

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