

NEWS RELEASE

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SUFFOLK WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TO HOST FAST TRACK HEALTH CARE PROGRAM GRADUATION

SUFFOLK, VA (December 14, 2018) The Suffolk Workforce Development Center will host the Paul D. Camp Community College (PDCCC) Fast Track Health Care Program Graduation on Monday, December 17, 2018, 157 North Main Street, Suffolk, Virginia. The Fast Track Health Care Program was designed to meet the needs of the health care industry in Suffolk and the Hampton Roads region. Students were in training for three industry recognized credentials: Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA), Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT), and Certified EKG Technician (CET). Several students' tuition was paid by the Hampton Roads Workforce Council, formally OPP Inc.

Angela Lawhorne, Director of the Workforce Development at PDCCC, had launched a pilot program in the Spring of 2018 at the Franklin campus. The Birdsong Trust Grant funded the equipment at the Suffolk Workforce Development Center to provide the same training at the Suffolk location. This will be the second graduating class for the program and the first at the Suffolk Workforce Development Center.

"We are happy to collaborate with partners like PDCCC to provide training and employment opportunities for Suffolk citizens and those in surrounding areas. The quality of training provided by PDCCC at the Suffolk Workforce Development Center yielded a 100% graduation rate which would not have been possible without the

generous grant of \$24,000 to PDCCC”, said Larry Brunson, Suffolk Workforce Development Center Coordinator. “These funds were used to purchase the medical equipment needed to train the students. Now after graduation, twelve deserving students will have the opportunity for a brighter and more self-sufficient future.”

“The Birdsong Trust Fund is excited to play a major part in this unique opportunity to help the citizens of Suffolk take advantage of Paul D. Camp’s offering of the Fast Track Health Care Program which will help meet the demands of the local healthcare industry in Suffolk,” said Birdsong Trust Fund Secretary Billy Chorey Sr. “It’s personally very gratifying for me to see local students given the chance to be placed into high demand jobs right here in Suffolk and to know that I’m a part of a great organization that helps to facilitate that very thing”.

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