

Press Release Template

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Citizens for Citizens, Inc. Receives \$475,943 Workforce Inclusion Grant

Center for Workforce Inclusion, Inc. awards grant directed to assist in workforce training for job seekers 55+

Fall River. July 15, 2024. – Citizens for Citizens, Inc. announced today that it was awarded a \$475,943 Workforce Inclusion grant from the Center for Workforce Inclusion, Inc. (Center). Almost 90 percent of this grant – originally from the U.S. Department of Labor – will provide temporary employment to no less than 42 low-income older Bay Staters living in Bristol or Plymouth Counties. These older adults will participate in the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), a cornerstone program of the Older Americans Act and the only federal job training program targeted exclusively to low-income, older job seekers.

In its 59th year, SCSEP promotes personal dignity and self-sufficiency through work. The training attained through SCSEP provides in-demand skills for older, unemployed, low-income Americans. The Center, a top-tier U.S. Department of Labor National Grantee of SCSEP, works through a network of local partners delivering career training programs for eligible 50-plus-year-old workers across the United States. To date, the Center has helped more than 500,000 gain unsubsidized employment from the SCSEP program. “Our long-term, local partners are a key to the strength of the Center and provide the systems to train older Americans into strategic advantage for employers across the country.” said Gary A. Officer, Center for Workforce Inclusion President and CEO. “We are very pleased to continue our support of Citizens for Citizens, Inc. for the 56th consecutive year.”

“SCSEP helps our community’s eligible 55+ job seekers learn new skills and refresh old ones when they are coming back into the workforce,” said Elizabeth Berube, Executive Director. At their training sites, SCSEP job seekers help local community, faith-based, and public agencies carry out their mission, such as the Brockton United Central Methodist Church, Fall River Council on Aging, Forever Paws Animal Shelter, and Taunton Career Center and the Swansea YMCA. By working in SCSEP positions, SCSEP is providing hope and dignity to low-income, older job seekers who have the toughest employment challenges. “This grant from the Center is essential to our being able to deliver these vital workforce training services to our community.”

About Citizens for Citizens, Inc.

Since 1965, Citizens for Citizens (CFC) has offered assistance and hope to individuals and families living in poverty in Southeastern Massachusetts. The mission of Citizens for Citizens is to advocate on behalf of low-income residents and address the causes and effects of poverty through the provision of direct and integrated services, the promotion of self-sufficiency and the advancement of social change.

About the Center for Workforce Inclusion

The Center for Workforce Inclusion has led the way in age-inclusive workforce development for over 60 years. We collaborate with training experts nationwide to equip experienced older workers with the skills required to succeed in the evolving modern workplace, and we connect employers with experienced workers who fit their specific company needs. As a 501(c)(3) organization, our goal is to help employers benefit from the unique strengths of older workers while ensuring that older workers stay competitive in a changing job market. For more information, please visit www.centerforworkforceinclusion.org.