

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: August 25, 2010

MEDIA CONTACT: Ann Hatchitt

PHONE: (512) 463-8556

Providence Healthcare Network and Falls Community Hospital Partner with McLennan Community College for \$1.3 Million Job-Training Grant

AUSTIN – Providence Healthcare Network and Falls Community Hospital have partnered with McLennan Community College to provide job training using a \$1.3 million Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

“I am pleased to see these funds providing in-demand skills for workers in our state,” said state Rep. Charles “Doc” Anderson. “This type of cooperative program ensures that our workforce is flexible and responsive to our employers and communities and will continue to keep Texas growing.”



TWC Commissioner Ronny Congleton (far right) presented a Skills Development Fund grant check to representatives from McLennan Community College, Providence Healthcare Network and Falls Community Hospital. Also pictured from left to right are: Providence Healthcare Network CEO Kent Keahey, Falls Community Hospital Administrator Willis Reese, McLennan Community College President Johnette McKown, and State Rep. Charles “Doc” Anderson.

Photo courtesy McLennan Community College

-more-

The grant will be used to custom train 2,272 new and incumbent workers and will provide continuing education and certification training that will allow the partners to comply with new federal data collection requirements and maintain excellence in health care delivery. Upon completion of training, the workers will earn an average hourly wage of \$27.18.

“Our Skills Development Fund grants serve everyone well,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “Workers get the specialized training they need and the communities benefit from a more highly skilled workforce.”

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2009, Skills Development Fund grants created or upgraded 19,516 jobs, which paid an average hourly wage of \$24.44. These grants assisted 170 Texas employers with their customized training needs. The Legislature appropriated \$90 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2010-11 biennium. Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the TWC Web site at <http://skills.texasworkforce.org>.

McLennan Community College contact: Lisa Wilhelmi, director of community relations, (254) 299-8640 or lwilhelmi@mclennan.edu

###ash

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.