

**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Statewide Distribution**



**For Immediate Release**  
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**IWD, Partners launch new Pathways to Health Care Careers Website**

**Des Moines, IA** – Pathways to Health Care Careers is a unique project designed to recruit, screen and provide training and support services to Limited English Proficient (LEP) refugees and immigrants in Iowa to help them pursue careers, with progression, in the health care industry. IWD recently launched a website - <http://www.iowapathways.org/> - to help provide more information, as well as provide an opportunity for online registration.

Aiming to serve nearly 300 individuals between fall 2010 and fall 2012, this project is a partnership effort between Iowa Workforce Development, Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, Mercy College of Health Sciences and a number of employer partners.

“We are pleased to be partnering with the other organizations to provide such a wonderful opportunity to Iowa’s refugees and immigrants,” said Elisabeth Buck, director of Iowa Workforce Development. “Health care is one of Iowa’s fastest growing industries and this project will help us bring a more diverse base to that industry.”

This innovative approach aims to meet the staffing needs of the Iowa health care sector, while simultaneously opening a high-potential career path to the state’s newest Iowans. Funding for this project is provided by a \$3.4 million grant from the US Department of Labor.

For more information, visit <http://www.iowapathways.org/>.

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**An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program**

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.  
[www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org) • [www.iowaworks.org](http://www.iowaworks.org) • [www.iowajobs.org](http://www.iowajobs.org)