



# LINCOLN HEALTH FOUNDATION

*Improving Health Care and Outcomes for Residents of Lincoln Parish*

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<b>Initiative:</b>	Healthier Outcomes & Improved Access to Health Care
<b>Project Name:</b>	Louisiana Delta Community College <i>Nursing Assistant Education Program</i>
<b>Funding Period:</b>	May – June, 2015
<b>Project Coordinator:</b>	Doug Postel, Interim Dean of College Advancement
<b>Project Administration:</b>	Louisiana Delta Community College, Ruston Campus
<b>Total Funding Requested:</b>	\$23,700

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## **Program Summary**

Nurse Assistant continues to be one of the highest demand jobs in North Louisiana. Lincoln Parish healthcare facilities are in constant need of well-trained CNA's. The position requires short-term training at a DHH approved program, such as the program provided by Louisiana Delta Community College (LDCC). As a result of the recent merger of all Louisiana community colleges, tuition rates have been significantly increased significantly, causing the CNA program tuition rates to be increased to approximately \$982.50 per student. The vast majority of participants in the program come from low-income homes. Participants are not eligible for federal financial aid (such as PELL grants) due to the fact that it is a short-term training program (5 weeks). Most of these students cannot afford to attend school without some type of assistance. Graduates earn a starting wage of \$9-10 per hour. LDCC will require proof of income as part of the program enrollment process, and enrollee will be required to pay for a pre-registration drug screen and background check.

## **Funding Objective:**

LDCC-Ruston will provide two (2) Nursing Assistant classes in the summer of 2015. The funding from the Foundation will cover all associated expenses including the instructor, textbooks, supplies, required screenings, tuition and fees. The Foundation's overall goal in funding this initiative is to respond to the ongoing need for CNA's in Lincoln Parish health care facilities and provide support to Lincoln Parish enrollees who might not otherwise be able to afford CNA tuition rates due to overall tuition increase in Louisiana community colleges.