## **Press Release**

## Passaic County Community College Offers Healthcare Job Training Initiative

**PATERSON, NJ** — Passaic County Community College (PCCC) will begin the first in a series of training programs in August to train unemployed and selected incumbent entrylevel workers, at no cost to the trainee, for high-demand jobs in the healthcare field. *The Passaic County Multi-Skilled Healthcare Training Initiative (HCTI)*, funded by a \$4.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, will give qualifying applicants the opportunity to gain the skills they need for employment in the healthcare industry, which is predicted to become the largest employer in the County over the next five years for skilled workers.

The College is partnering in the initiative with St. Mary's Hospital in Passaic, St. Joseph's Medical Center in Paterson and Chilton Memorial Hospital in Pequannock, as well with other healthcare and job-training organizations in a dual effort to prepare for future job demand and to address the current unemployment rate in Passaic County, the highest in New Jersey.

**HCTI will offer six job training modules**: Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomy, Electronic Medical Records, Medical Coding, Supervisory/Front Line Management, and Customer Service Training. Trainees may train in more than one and, where applicable, can obtain either a certificate or preparation for certification exams. Students who complete multiple modules may earn up to 15 credits to be applied toward a college degree. Job placement services are also available.

The HCTI program begins August 2 with Phlebotomy classes. The Pharmacy Technician and Medical Coding courses will start in September, and other modules will begin soon after. Classes will be taught by PCCC instructors and offered at either one of the College's four campuses or at the worksite of participating organizations.

**To qualify for HCTI**, individuals must be unemployed or be employed in an entry-level position with one of the partner organizations. They need a high school diploma or GED and must take the College's placement test. A criminal background check is required for some programs. Passaic County residents will be given first priority.

For information and to apply, please call Lynn Wood: 973 684-5663 e- mail: HCTraining@pccc.edu

PCCC is one of only 55 training programs across the country to receive the prestigious threeyear grant, This program is funded by a U.S. Department of Labor HGEI Grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)