

**TO: Workforce Investment Board**

**DATE: 05/12/2005**

**FROM: WIB Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: Nursing Program Expansion and Medical Assistant Lattice Project**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information only.**

**DISCUSSION: On March 18, 2005, grants were awarded to 18 organizations under the Governor's Funding Category, Industries with a Statewide Need – Nurses and other health related industries.**

**The Merced County Local Workforce Investment Area was selected to receive funding. The grant duration runs from March 1, 2005 through February 2007 and covers the cost of training 48 RNs over two years. Supportive services are also included. Additionally, the grant funds will be used to address issues related to training, retention and an educational lattice for medical assistants. A regional study will gather information to determine current physicians and employer medical assistant training qualification and retention needs, and will determine the feasibility of developing an educational lattice from medical assistant curriculum to the local nursing program.**

**Grant award totals \$683,616 over the two years. The cost of training 48 RNs over the next two years is supplanted by this award, freeing up dollars for other training needs. The Medical Assistant project received \$32,746 of the total award.**

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**