



Partnership Brief: Registered Apprenticeship Program *Window Cleaning Over 24 Feet*

4/2022

Purpose: Improve work conditions and career prospects for window cleaners by establishing a registered apprenticeship program.

Partners: SEIU Local 26, Minnesota Training Partnership, and 3 employers.

Dates: 2021 – present.

Funding: Paid through contract with employers.



Description: Workers who clean and maintain the windows in high-rise buildings contend with some of the most dangerous working conditions in Minnesota. In 2021, SEIU Local 26's window washers initiated a strike that gained them a fully funded apprenticeship program and a certification process to help ensure on-the-job safety. In collaboration with Minnesota Training Partnership, the program was designed with the window cleaners, utilizing their experience and expertise.

With SEIU Local 26, staff at Minnesota Training Partnership interviewed workers to create a 2,644-hour registered apprenticeship program. They worked with organizations in New York and California to develop a curriculum that aligns with national standards. The program includes in-person and online training components, along with onsite skill development work.

Minnesota Training Partnership registers, coordinates, and tracks all credentials and certifications, including: Fall Protection-Competent Person, Fall Arrest Equipment, Hazmat Right to Know, Lock Out-Tag Out, Heat Stress, MNOSHA AWAIR, OSHA-30/General Construction, Mental Health First Aid national certification, Basic First Aid/CPR/AED, Scissor Lift, Boom Truck, Ladder Safety, Wire/Fiber/Suspension Ropes/Rigging, Chair work, Water-fed poles, Extreme/Hazard Situational Awareness, Specialty and Glazing Systems, Scaffold Safety, Swing Stage, and Registered Apprenticeship certification.

Results:

36 Registered Apprentices in training, speaking 3 languages, with more than half BIPOC.

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