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NQP-York College Host Successful Health Career Reception

On June 20th, Nassau Queen Performing Provider System (NQP) and York College hosted the first-ever combined Health Career Reception to foster relationships between local employers and a talented crop of recent graduates. Twenty-five employers from Queens and Nassau County participated in the career fair, and more than 100 graduates attended the event which took place at York College in Jamaica, NY.

“This was the first event of its kind and we were thrilled at the response!” said Glenn Courounis, NQP’s Director of Organizational Development. He continued, “There is clearly significant synergy between local higher educational institutions, like York College, and NQP’s healthcare partners. Both are looking to develop a workforce skilled enough to meet the needs of tomorrow’s person-centered healthcare system.”

The Health Career Reception kicked off a burgeoning partnership between NQP and York College. The organizations are considering further opportunities for collaboration, including a possible Joint Advisory Committee to align York College’s educational programs with the needs of NQP employers.

This particular event enabled healthcare organizations to develop relationships with skilled candidates who are well-positioned to help facilitate healthcare transformation, improve care delivery, and alleviate current workforce gaps. The event included resume exchanges and mini-interviews, leaving employer and educator attendees alike satisfied with the experience.

“We believe our students are among the best prepared to enter the workforce”, said Oslene Carrington, York College’s Executive Director at the Office of Economic and Workforce Development. “Our program focuses on ensuring there is a very practical element to our courses, and that students graduate with very usable skills.”

NQP is one of 25 Performing Provider Systems in New York State participating in the New York State Department of Health’s Delivery System Reforming Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program. DSRIP’s goal is to redesign the way healthcare—in particular, the Medicaid program— is delivered by closing critical gaps in the continuum of care and reducing avoidable hospital use by 25 percent by 2020. To facilitate this transformation, the education, training, and development of the next generation of healthcare practitioners must remain a priority.

NQP continues to work with several local colleges, including York College, to ensure that a steady pipeline of well-trained, highly-skilled professionals are available for our healthcare partners and employers. These colleges are also collaborating with NQP to provide high-quality educational programs to meet existing and future workforce needs.

