

Twin Cities RISE!, RS Eden partnership receives \$1.5 million U.S. Department of Labor grant

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Reentry Connect, a collaborative project between Twin Cities RISE! (TCRI!) and RS Eden, was chosen recently as one of nine grant winners nationwide for funding from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), and the only recipient from Minnesota.

The award totals \$1.5 million over 30 months and is part of \$12.1 million in overall DOL grants to provide critical employment and support services for previously incarcerated female adults and youth as they make the transition back into their communities.

“We are honored and grateful, in partnership with RS Eden, to receive the Department of Labor grant funding,” said Art Berman, President & CEO of Twin Cities RISE!. “We will implement a new service model, integrating RS Eden’s case management expertise, our Personal Empowerment and work skills training capabilities, and the support of several other service providers, to more effectively address the special needs of female ex-offenders.”

Reentry Connect is a service hub designed to provide critical self-development and workforce development assistance, specifically for female ex-offenders, as they make the transition back to their communities. Comprehensive services will include integrated case management, support services, Personal Empowerment training, work skills development and job placement.

The collaboration will include nineteen partners, including the Minnesota Department of Corrections and Ramsey and Hennepin County Corrections Departments, as well as local educational, training and health providers.

“RS Eden is proud to partner with Twin Cities RISE!, a quality program whose mission and values we share 100%, and other community organizations to serve this important population of female ex-offenders. We are grateful for the opportunity from the Department of Labor to help create a brighter future for women as they transition back into our community,” said Dain Cain, President of RS Eden.

Members of the local congressional delegation, including Senators Klobuchar and Franken, and Representatives McCollum, Ellison and Paulsen, were instrumental in helping bring this award to the Twin Cities.

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“I am thrilled that Twin Cities RISE! and RS Eden have received this important grant from the U.S. Department of Labor that will make a tremendous difference in Ramsey and Hennepin Counties. These two nonprofits have a strong record of effectiveness in our community, and their hub in Saint Paul will provide the comprehensive assistance necessary for re-entry to the workforce,” said Congresswoman Betty McCollum. “The long-term work skills, training and education they will deliver are desperately needed in this challenging job market.”

For more information, please contact Amy Anderson, Development Associate, at 612-279-5867 or aanderson@twincitiesrise.org.