JVS Boston awarded $607,983 MA Workforce Development Capital Grant

MA Life Sciences Center grant will provide laboratory equipment for future JVS-Quincy College Healthcare and Biotechnology Career Institute

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BOSTON--Jewish Vocational Service Boston (JVS Boston), one of New England’s largest providers of adult education and workforce development services, has won a $607,893 grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) Workforce Development Capital Grant program.

Supplementing previously awarded federal and state funding, the new grant will provide a full suite of state-of-the-art biotechnology laboratory equipment and supplies to outfit the Healthcare and Biotechnology Career Institute that JVS and its partner Quincy College are working to open in 2023. The Institute will be housed at the Arlington Street building formerly occupied by the Boston Center for Adult Education, which merged with JVS in 2020.

JVS Boston CEO David Fleishman said: “We’re deeply grateful to the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center and to the Commonwealth for this key grant enabling us to fulfill our vision for the new Healthcare and Biotechnology Career Institute. By focusing on creating new opportunities for underserved adults, including many immigrants, BIPOC people, and English language learners, we will empower more Boston-area workers with the skills necessary to fill the most in-demand life sciences jobs. At the same time, this program will make the life sciences industry more diverse and inclusive.”

The career institute that the capital grant is helping to support is expected to double, from 30 to 60 per year, the number of students participating in JVS Boston’s Bridges to College and
Careers Biotechnology Pathway Expansion: Healthcare and Biotechnology Career Institute. JVS expects 300 people to participate in the program from next year through 2027.

Students completing the JVS Boston course will gain the laboratory skills necessary to succeed in the 450 hours of laboratory work required to complete the Biotechnology and Good Manufacturing Practice Certificate at Quincy College. The new Healthcare and Biotechnology Career Institute will also provide space for JVS alumni employed in the biotechnology field to mentor current students in the program and help them find jobs and advance in biotechnology fields.

JVS Boston's grant is one of 39 recently announced by the Baker-Polito administration that will enhance and expand industry-aligned training programs at 22 institutions and support new and expanded STEM curricula at 40 schools, enabling more than 25,000 students to receive enhanced training and education opportunities for life sciences at STEM careers.

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About JVS Boston

Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonsectarian organization founded in 1938. JVS serves more than 10,000 individuals annually and is one of the largest community-based providers of adult education and workforce development services in New England. JVS’s mission is to empower individuals from diverse communities to find employment and build careers, while partnering with employers to hire, develop, and retain productive workforces. In support of this mission, JVS provides a wide range of adult education, vocational training, job readiness, career counseling, and job placement services, as well as related supportive services.