



SFY 2025 Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) Final Report

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Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
Employment and Training Programs Division

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Introduction

SFY 2025 Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) funding supports low-income, unemployed or underemployed individuals to address employment, economic, and technology access disparities. Grant funds must support short-term certification and transferable skills in high-demand fields, workforce readiness, customized financial capability, and employment supports. At least, fifty percent of funds must be used for programming targeted at greater Minnesota. This was a onetime appropriation and was available until September 30, 2025.

Funds for this project are appropriated in [Minnesota Session Laws – 2023, Chapter 53, S.F. 3035, Article 20, Section 2, Subdivision 3\(oo\)](#). The amount available to the CLUES for SFY 2025 is \$950,000.00 (Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development is permitted to retain up to 5% of the \$1,000,000.00 appropriation for administration and monitoring of the grant).

Summary of Goals and Objectives Presented in the Work Plan

The CLUES Career Development program was developed to address workforce development and career readiness needs within Minnesota’s diverse communities, supporting both the Twin Cities and Greater Minnesota, particularly under-resourced populations. The program was initiated with the goal of preparing individuals for sustainable employment and economic stability by targeting key workforce gaps through training, financial empowerment, work readiness instruction, and career support. The program assists youth and adults in gaining meaningful employment, securing credentials, and building long-term career prospects.

The CLUES Earn2Learn program was first piloted in the summer and fall of 2024 as an extension of the CLUES Career Pathways programming. This program was specifically designed to offer youth ages 14-24 a stipend while they gain valuable skills through project-based learning in STEAM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics).

CLUES’ education program helps participants gain the skills they need to thrive personally, professionally, and within the broader community. The program is designed to assist community members in developing English language skills at various proficiency levels, with specialized classes such as pronunciation and conversational English to enhance practical communication. In addition to ESL, the program offers citizenship preparation classes and GED instruction, as well as digital literacy training, employment assistance, and career guidance, to support participants in achieving personal, educational, and professional goals. By offering both morning and afternoon classes, the program provides flexibility to accommodate the diverse schedules of adult learners.

Participant Data

Participants Served: Individual Services (cumulative)

	Project to Date: 7/1/2024 –9/30/2025
Total Participants Served	358
(1) Gender	
(1) Male	122
(2) Female	232
(3) Gender Non-Confirming	2
(4) Prefer Not to Answer	2
(2) Age	
(1) 16-24	64
(2) 25 and older	294
(3) Race/Ethnicity	
(1) Hispanic/Latino	306
(2) American Indian or Alaska Native	4
(3) Asian/Pacific Islander	10
(4) Black, African American, or African	25
(5) White	72
(6) Multi-Race, Other, Prefer Not to Answer	106
(4) Education at Enrollment	
(1) 8 th grade and under	0
(2) 9 th Grade-12 th Grade	7
(3) High School graduate or equivalent	12
(4) Post-Secondary Education	59
(5) At-Risk Characteristics	
(1) Limited English proficient	0
(2) Participants who receive Public Assistance	169
(3) Economically Disadvantaged	300
(4) Participants who report a disability	9
(5) High school drop-out – all participants included	7
(6) Participants who are justice involved	6
(7) Pregnant or parenting youth	0
(8) Person from 1 st Generation Immigrant family	0
(9) Participants showing as Homeless Participant/Runaway	3
(10) Not employed at program enrollment – all participants included	128

Program Services, Activities, and Other Related Assistance

	Number
1. Received Education or Job Training Activities	185
2. Received Work Experience Activities	0
3. Received Post-Secondary Exploration, Career Guidance and Planning Activities	161
4. Received Case Management, Guidance, Counseling Services	161
5. Received Support Services	25

Outcome Data

Indicators of Performance	Number
1. Attained work readiness goals	185
2. Attained education goals	150
3. Entered vocational/occupational skills training	150
4. Obtained fulltime, unsubsidized employment	47
5. <i>On-the-Job</i> training placement (part-time)	2
6. Average wage at full-time employment	\$23.82
7. Entered Job Search and Unemployed	3
8. Not in Job Search and Not in School (Opportunity Youth at Exit)	0
9. Completed Program Objective	54
10. Exited the Program	73

Participant Satisfaction Survey Results	Number
Number of participants rating experience as “Excellent”	45
Number of participants rating experience as “Very Good”	29
Number of participants rating experience as “Average”	10
Number of participants rating experience as “Below Average”	0
Number of participants rating experience as “Poor”	0

Expenditure Data

Expenditures from June 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 for grant 470F6300:

SFY 2025 Budget Category	SFY 2025 Budget	SFY 2025 Expenditures through September 2025
Administration	\$95,000.00	\$95,000.00
Direct Services/Project Staff	\$538,795.00	\$599,433.14
Direct Customer Training	\$300,015.00	\$209,210.58
Participant Wages and Fringe	\$8,200.00	\$6,800.00
Support Services	\$8,000.00	\$8,200.00
TOTAL	\$950,000.00	\$917,315.52

Stories of Impact

Ibrahim, an Earn2Learn student, launched a podcast series titled “Loosely Related,” with the goal of sharing his experiences with mental health, ADHD, and college life. With his project, he hoped to inspire and support young people in their personal and professional development. “Loosely Related” exemplifies the innovative ways CLUES participants are leveraging their skills and creativity to address vital needs and connect with their generation. This initiative not only showcases Ibrahim’s leadership and communication abilities but also highlights the program’s success in fostering student-driven projects with real-world impact. Ibrahim is currently a junior at the University of Minnesota. Despite navigating a demanding academic schedule and significant personal obstacles, Ibrahim has been unwavering in his commitment to complete his podcast and has maintained a strong work ethic, perseverance, and resilience to overcome challenges.

Emily, at just 20 years old, is a graduate of CLUES’ Youth in Action (YA!) program, a Latino-focused initiative promoting higher education, career exploration, and civic engagement. Building on her YA! experience, she joined CLUES’ Phlebotomy program while attending college, quickly standing out as an engaged and insightful participant. Emily successfully completed the vocational portion at Century College, earning her phlebotomy certification, and is now pursuing her goal of becoming a nurse and has applied for a part-time phlebotomy position with Children’s Hospital to gain hands-on experience while completing her degree.

Carla attends evening Level 3 advanced English classes as well as morning GED classes. Her hard work and determination have recently earned her a promotion to Team Lead at her job and the “Team Member of the Month” award. Carla’s commitment to improving her English skills while advancing her career has been inspiring. Beyond her own success, she encourages her classmates to learn English through music, creating a CLUES Spotify playlist with over 650 songs that she continues to expand daily.

New Grant Funds

State grant funds for the SFY 2025 were 97% expended by September 30, 2025, the grant’s end date. New direct appropriation state funds of \$1,662,500.00 have been granted to the CLUES for the SFY26-27 biennium.