



SFY 2024-25 Minnesota Grocers Association Direct Appropriation

Final Report

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

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As requested by Minnesota Statute 3.197: This report cost approximately \$149 to prepare.

Upon request, this material will be made available in an alternative format such as large print, Braille or audio recording. Printed on recycled paper.

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Introduction

The Minnesota State Legislature appropriated \$190,000 (\$200,000 minus \$10,000 for DEED administration) in [Minnesota Session Laws – 2023, Chapter 53, S.F.3035, Article 20, Section 2, Subdivision 3 \(ccc\)](#) for State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2024-2025 to the Minnesota Grocers Association Foundation for Carts to Careers, a statewide initiative to promote careers, conduct outreach, provide job skills training, and award scholarships for students pursuing careers in the food industry in Minnesota.

Program Goals and Activities

The Minnesota Grocers Association Foundation (MGAF) offers educational opportunities to the food industry, provides scholarships to employees of member companies or their dependents, supports community efforts and initiatives through grants, and presents important industry information to the general public.

The grant work plan included the following outcomes for the SFY2024-2025 Carts to Careers program:

1. **Provide job skills training and/or grant tuition support awards to individuals interested in careers within the Minnesota food industry.** During the grant period, 181 individuals received these services, exceeding the goal of 75. Demographic information on those served is contained in Participant Data section of this report.
2. **Increase interest in careers in the Minnesota food industry by expanding awareness about career opportunities in the industry.** During the grant period a broader scope of employees and MGA member companies was educated about the career opportunities and training available.
3. **Address needs in different areas within the industry by increasing programs/training courses.** Examples of training provided are the Retail Management Certificate training through Alexandria Technical College and ServSave food handling training.
4. **Serve both rural and metro communities of Minnesota with program offerings.** Of the 181 served during the grant period, 117 were within the seven-county metro area and 64 were outside the metro area.
5. **Students advance in their education and careers and are satisfied with the outcomes.** Program participants served during the grant period have provided very positive feedback

Participant Data

The grant period for SFY 2024-2025 funds ran from July 1, 2023 through November 30, 2025. The participant data for this period is below.

Demographic Data

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTIC	NUMBER SERVED
Total Served	181
Male	102
Female	79
Age 18	4
Age 19-24	15
Age 25 and older	162
Hispanic/Latino	25
American Indian/Alaska Native	3
Asian/Pacific Islander	18
Black/African American	9
White	91
Multi-Race	9

Program Services, Activities, and Other Related Assistance

SERVICE PROVIDED	NUMBER SERVED
Education or Job Training Activities	94
Work Experience Activities	79

Indicators of Performance

OUTCOME	NUMBER ATTAINED
Attained work readiness or education goals	173
Received academic credit or service-learning credit	8

Expenditure Data

Expenditures from July 1, 2023 through November 30, 2025 were as follows:

Budget Category	Expenditures
Administration (up to 10% allowed)	\$6,000.00
Participant Wages and Fringe Benefits	\$0.00
Direct Staff Services	\$32,800.00
Training Services	\$151,200.00
Total	\$190,000.00