



Contact: Matt Wakely
mwakely@futurohealth.org
847-493-9003

For Immediate Release

November 1, 2023

FUTURO HEALTH NAMED AS CALGROWS INNOVATION FUND GRANTEE

- *New Program Allows Eligible Home and Community-Based Direct Care Workers to Receive Free Job Training and the Chance to Earn up to \$2,500 -*

(SACRAMENTO, Calif.) -- [Futuro Health](#), a nonprofit organization with a mission to increase the health and wealth of communities by growing the largest network of allied healthcare workers in the nation, is offering free online training courses and potential incentive payments to California caregivers through the [CalGrows Innovation Fund](#). The initiative, launched by The California Department of Aging (CDA), supports in-home and community-based caregivers of older adults and people with disabilities by providing training, incentives and a career path for the future.

In the coming years, the CDA reports that California will face a labor shortage of up to 3.2 million paid caregivers. California's Master Plan for Aging (MPA), a 10-year blueprint to build a California for all ages and abilities, includes expanded support for direct care workers in its fourth bold goal, "Caregiving That Works." The CalGrows program delivers support for California's unpaid family and friend caregivers, as well as the paid direct care workforce, through training, career pathway development, and incentives for eligible paid caregivers.

Futuro Health is offering ten free quality online CalGrows training courses, all available in both English and Spanish. Courses cover a variety of topics aimed at enhancing the skillsets of caregivers and community-based healthcare workers. Eligible paid direct care workers can also receive up to \$2,500 in incentives for course completion. Direct care workers can include home care aides, care managers, dementia care specialists, activities coordinators, and more. Unpaid family and friend caregivers can also participate in training programs, although they are not eligible for incentives. The CalGrows program is specifically for non-IHSS direct care workers.

"The key factor for me was flexibility being online self-paced. It was really convenient, fit with my schedule, and the software itself was all very easy to use very intuitive," said [Rich H., Futuro Health Scholar, Direct Care Worker CalGrows Program](#). "A lot of the training that I received with Futuro Health was to be a better listener. To be a better problem-solver. How to be more mindful of someone's cultural differences. I have this incredible base to build on now," said Elizabeth C., Futuro Health Scholar, Direct Care Worker CalGrows Program.

Futuro Health is one of 78 organizations statewide that received a grant through the CalGrows Innovation Fund earlier this year. Grants were awarded to diverse organizations with innovative ideas to offer training and incentives for the eligible direct care Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) workforce and unpaid family and friend caregivers in all 58 California counties.

Registration is now open for Futuro Health's 10 free quality online training courses in both English and Spanish. These courses cover a variety of topics, such as: Palliative Care, Care of the Family with Psychotherapeutic Medications, The Cognitive Decline with Aging, Hospice/End of Life Care, Working with the Elder Population, and Multiple Chronic Conditions, including end-of-life care, grief, managing stress, dementia, Alzheimer's disease, communication skills and English language learning. For more details on the courses offered, incentives available and how to register, visit www.FuturoHealth.org/CalGrows.

#

About Futuro Health

[Futuro Health](#) improves the health and wealth of communities by growing the largest network of credentialed allied health workers in the nation starting in California. We make education journeys into allied health careers possible by growing the talent that employers need and creating a path to opportunity that workers want. For more information on best practices in workforce development, visit www.FuturoHealth.org.

About The California Department of Aging

Under the umbrella of the California Health & Human Services Agency, the California Department of Aging (CDA) administers programs that serve older adults, adults with disabilities, family caregivers, and residents in long-term care facilities throughout the State. These programs are funded through the federal Older Americans Act, the Older Californians Act, and the Medi-Cal program. CDA actively collaborates with many other State departments (and other entities) on transportation, housing, and accessibility, emergency preparedness and response, wellness, and nutrition, falls and injury prevention, improving services to persons with dementia, reducing fraud and abuse, and many other issues. To learn more, visit www.aging.ca.gov.