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OWINN Awards Combined $268,000 to Eight Projects Aimed at Researching Nevada's Most Challenging Policy Issues
The research studies will focus on workforce development, economic diversification, and education policy areas across the Silver State

RENO/LAS VEGAS, Nev. — The [Office of Workforce Innovation](#) (OWINN) has awarded eight Nevada organizations a combined $268,000 through the [Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System](#) (NPWR) Research Grant. The funding will support research projects that use NPWR's data tool to study Nevada's most challenging policy issues in areas such as workforce and economic development, and education.

NPWR is an initiative that brings together data from Nevada state agencies to learn about education and workforce trends to help inform policies and programs across the state. NPWR creates reports to provide insight into education and workforce outcomes, to help Nevadans make data-driven decisions.

The 2024 grant awardees include:

Workforce and Economic Development:
- **University Center for Economic Development, part of the College of Business at the University of Nevada, Reno,** *Assessing Workforce Availability and Associated Skill Sets Needed to Close Gaps in the Value Network and Supply Chain of Nevada's Healthcare Industry Sector* will focus on specific workforce development needs associated with identified gaps in the value network and supply chain of Nevada's health care industry sector. Led by Dr. Frederick Steinmann.
- **Clark County Education Association (CCEA),** *Strengthening Nevada's P-20 Teacher Pipeline: An Assessment to Meet Workforce Projections* aims to understand the current trends for Nevada's P-20 student-to-teacher pipeline and to offer policy recommendations that will strengthen the current pipeline to meet Nevada's projected occupational needs. Led by Dr. Brenda Pearson.
- **Center for Migration, Demography and Population Studies at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas,** *AI-Enhanced Education in Nevada and its Transformative Impact on Workforce Development, Employment Prospects, and Tomorrow's Job Market Proficiencies* will research how the integration of artificial intelligence is impacting Nevada's K-12 and higher education systems in relation to the prospects for workforce development, employment opportunities and the skills demanded by the future job market in Nevada. Led by Dr. Tiffiany Howard.
- **The Lincy Institute at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas,** *Care Workers in Nevada: A Crisis Now and in the Future* will focus on Nevada's shortage of child care and home care workers, the need for this line of work, as well as this research seeks to gather

empirical data to examine the present and future of care work, especially for women, low-wage workers and workers of color. Led by David Damore, William Brown, Caitlin Saladino, and Fatma Nasoz.

Education:
- **Educational Psychology, Leadership, and Higher Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas,** *An Exploratory Study of Two Postsecondary Policies and Student Outcomes* will research tuition waiver and enrollment policies in relation to student outcomes, as well as how those policies impact college access and success for under-represented and underserved students. Led by Dr. Kenyon Whitman and Dr. Federick Ngo.
- **College of Education and Human Development at the University of Nevada, Reno,** *Nevada Goes to College: A Statistical Portrait of Higher Education Enrollment and Degree Attainment of Minoritized Students in Field of Education* will focus on undergraduate and graduate enrollment, degree attainment trends for minority students in NSHE and how these trends impact the field of education and the demographics of future educators in Nevada. Led by Dr. Carolyn Souza Fonseca da Silva.
- **Consultant to Workforce Connections,** *The Potential Economic and Fiscal Benefits of Connecting Over 30,000 Disconnected Youth in Nevada to Education or Employment by 2030* will focus on the economic and fiscal benefits through 2030 of educating and/or employing over 30,000 youth in Nevada and who as of 2023 were neither employed, pursuing their high school equivalency, nor enrolled in postsecondary education. Led by Grant McCandless.

Student:
- **Elizabeth Hofschulte Collins, Doctoral Fellow in Teacher Preparation and Retention for the National Institute for the Advancement of Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas,** *An Examination of Novice Teacher Career Persistence Trends* will focus on novice P-12 (Pre-k-12th grade) teachers in Nevada and finding out why some exit the teaching profession within the first five years of their career.

"The research our grant recipients are doing will help our state find critical solutions into some of the most in-demand sectors and help provide a positive impact for years to come," said Kristen Dwyer, NPWR Manager at the Office of Workforce Innovation. "We can't wait to see what results come from these projects as we continue to move our state forward with data-focused and evidence-based research."

Grant recipients will present their research and findings during OWINN's NPWR Research Forums on December 3 in Reno and December 5 in Las Vegas and will be shared through the NPWR website.

To learn more about the Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System, please visit npwr.nv.gov.

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About Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System
The Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System (NPWR) is a state-of-the-art research tool that provides Nevadans with unparalleled access to the knowledge needed to understand trends shaping the State's education and workforce outcomes. Using state-of-the-art technology and best-in-class security, NPWR is designed to inform education and workforce policies and initiatives across Nevada.

About the Office of Workforce Innovation
The Office of Workforce Innovation (OWINN) helps drive a skilled, diverse, and aligned workforce in the State of Nevada by promoting cooperation and collaboration among all entities focused on workforce development. Its chief objectives are to prepare all K-12 students for college and career success, increase the number of Nevadans with postsecondary credentials and increase labor force participation.

ABOUT DETR:
The Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation (DETR) is the state's lead workforce development agency. It consists of divisions that offer workforce related services, job placement and training, services for people with disabilities, investigation of claims of discrimination, unemployment insurance benefits, labor market data and more. Many of these services are provided through EmployNV Career and Business Hubs and in cooperation with its community partners.

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