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CALIFORNIA AWARDS MORE THAN \$2.7 MILLION TO IMPROVE AND EXPAND REGISTERED NURSE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SACRAMENTO – Strengthening California’s commitment to increasing the state’s nursing workforce, the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) today awarded \$2,768,219 to fifteen registered nurse education programs. The funds were made available through the Song-Brown Program, which is administered by OSHPD through the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission.

“Through the Song Brown Program, California is able to build its nursing workforce by increasing the educational capacity of nursing programs within California. These grants help encourage a nursing workforce that will reflect California’s diversity and expand access to quality healthcare in medically underserved areas,” said OSHPD Director Dr. David Carlisle. The following registered nurse education programs received awards:

Azusa Pacific University	\$120,000
Cabrillo College	\$85,000
California State University, East Bay	\$240,000
California State University, Fresno	\$156,000
California State University, San Bernardino	\$192,000
California State University, Stanislaus	\$240,000
College of the Canyons	\$284,754
College of the Siskiyous	\$85,000
Hartnell College	\$130,000
Los Angeles County College of Nursing	\$284,107
Merced College	\$200,000
Miracosta College	\$110,000
Riverside City College	\$324,358
Santa Ana College	\$125,000
University of San Diego, Hahn School of Nursing	\$192,000
Total	\$2,768,219

The awards are funded by the California Health Data Planning Fund, which was statutorily established to receive and expend revenues in support of healthcare related programs. The funds are generated through annual fees collected from health facilities. Since Governor Schwarzenegger took office in 2003, the Song-Brown Program has awarded close to \$43 million to health professions, education and training programs throughout California.

For information on the Song-Brown Program, visit
<http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HWCDD/manpower/songbrown.htm>.