ALTSA Recruits Workforce of the Future

Equipped with knowledge, resources and sweet incentives, Adora Brouillard, Training Unit Program Manager with the Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA) tabled at Olympia School District’s Health Care Career Fair Saturday, March 2. Surrounded by dozens of organizations and hundreds of students, Brouillard provided insight and information about becoming a Home Care Aide.

“There is a shortage of home care aides in Washington and it is something ALTSA is addressing,” said Brouillard. “We need to prepare for an aging population that is going to need long-term support services. That means putting a career as a home care aide front and center by promoting and attending events such as this.”

Beyond staffing an information table at career fairs, Brouillard has organized meetings with representatives from organizations such as the Health Care Authority, Department of Health and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to bring awareness to and strategize on how Washington can promote career opportunities in long-term care services.

Through a collaboration between ALTSA and OSPI one such effort is the creation of offering home care aide training in high schools. The curriculum allows students to earn high school credits while preparing them to become a certified aide.

“The high school home care aide program is an exciting opportunity. Students can complete the curriculum, become certified while in school, graduate and enter an in-demand and meaningful job with career growth potential in health care,” said Brouillard. “We’re optimistic about this program and how it can help Washington address that our aging population needs support and provide students with a great opportunity to graduate and be job-ready in a high demand field.”

Learn more about what ALTSA and staff like Brouillard are doing to prepare for an aging Washington.
— Story by Kat Kersten