



***MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION  
OF WORKFORCE BOARDS***

2025 Promising Practice Award Winner

**ELECTRICIAN CANKUYA PROGRAM**

# ELECTRICIAN CANKUYA PROGRAM

- Community-Led Training Initiative by Lower Sioux Indian Community with:
  - Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council
  - Minnesota West Community & Technical College
- Initiative supports the Lower Sioux Community Hemp Program “Seed to Sovereignty.”
- <https://lowersioux.com/hemp-program-and-housing-project/>
- Key Features
  - 10-credit Electrician Certificate approved by MN Office of Higher Education
  - Training delivered on-site in Morton, MN
  - Joint case management and strong wraparound support
  - Integrated with sustainable housing and hemp construction



# ELECTRICIAN CANKUYA PROGRAM

- **Outcomes**

- 7 participants enrolled
- 6 completed the 10-credit program (86% completion rate)
- Currently – 4 secured employment, one moved to the east coast, and we are assisting with job search on the other participant.

# ELECTRICIAN CANKUYA PROGRAM

## Replication

- Build tribal partnership
- Understand and identify community needs
- Secure funding for the joint effort
- Bring in other appropriate and trusted partners
- Customize training delivery and location
- Joint case management
- Provide wraparound services and job placement support

## Success Factors:

- Trusted relationships with tribal leadership
- On-reservation delivery
- Cultural responsiveness + flexibility
- Strong coordination among partners

## Future Directions:

- Next training cohort in Mechatronics launching this fall