

*MEDIA ADVISORY*

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## **The Health Partnership Council Sponsors “Hot Jobs for the Future”**

**Date:** Friday, April 30, 2004

**Time:** 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Place:** Providence Marriott – Charles and Orms Streets

**Event:** The Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training predicts that the fastest growing occupations through 2006 will be in the healthcare industry with 17,000 new jobs being created. High school administrators, guidance counselors, educators, and community leaders will learn about these “Hot Jobs for the Future” during a networking session with healthcare industry representatives.

The Health Partnership Council (HPC) will introduce Rhode Island’s educational professionals to “hot jobs” in healthcare and the skills required to succeed in this “hot” industry. The HPC will raise awareness of the need to develop a “homegrown” workforce in order to continue to offer quality care to citizens of Rhode Island.

The HPC is a consortium of hospitals, healthcare organizations, higher education, community-based and professional organizations, legislators, insurers and labor. The HPC strives to provide cost effective preparation and educational opportunities as well as a data collection system that stimulates and guides workforce initiatives. The HPC has identified through youth focus groups that 75% of students seek career information from educators and guidance counselors. However, only 40% of Rhode Island’s high school graduates have college-ready transcripts, delaying their entrance into the workforce.

“In order to meet the workforce needs the healthcare industry faces, the connection between healthcare and education must be strengthened,” said Ed Quinlan, President of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island. “This program will highlight the need to prepare our students to be active members of our workforce through appropriate coursework and career counseling.”

This event is sponsored by the HPC, Hospital Association of Rhode Island, the Human Resources Investment Council, Colleagues in Caring and the Association of Healthcare Human Resources Administration of Rhode Island.

