



## Report of Project Activities

Department of Labor and Workforce Development  
Division of Business Partnerships



DENALI TRAINING FUND

## PROGRESS REPORT

<b>NAME OF ORGANIZATION:</b> University of Alaska <b>NAME OF PROJECT:</b> Allied Health Training <b>Phase I Extension</b> <b>REPORT PERIOD:</b> April 1, 2006- June 30, 2006
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### PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

#### **Community Health Aide/Practitioner -CHAP**

Contractual agreement between Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and UAF signed October 28, 2005. Four development projects were included in Scope of Work. The following is a brief narrative status report and related expenses to date.

#### **Activity 1: CHAP Faculty Training** Status: Complete

A training event, "CHAP Distance Education Technology Workshop", was held in Fairbanks Feb28-March 2. The course was developed and presented by University of Alaska Fairbanks staff. The goal was to bring CHAP faculty from the training centers and field together and introduce them to a variety of distance education modalities and their usefulness in CHAP Training. The target audience consisted of 16 participants representing seven tribal organizations. In addition, participants from the State of Alaska Telehealth Project and UAF/UAA faculty and staff were in attendance. ANTHC facilitated travel which will be reimbursed through the grant.

Participants were invited to stay in Fairbanks and attend a university sponsored event, "Celebrating the Adult Learner" March 2-4. Eight tribal organizations were represented by 15 individuals.

Both events received favorable feedback from participants.

A follow-up to the CHAP Distance Education Technology Workshop, "eLive" training was held 4/18/06 and facilitated by UAF staff. Another eLive course TBA.

#### **Activity 2: Continuing Medical Education** Status: Partially complete

The project calls for developing a distance learning course that meets annual Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements of CHA/Ps. Components of all the sections have been developed or taught but not in a coordinated distance course format. The Patient Encounter Form has been revised to reflect the new CHAM and numerous scenarios were developed to help CHA/Ps with appropriate form use and review. Orientation to the CHAM has been a priority for all tribal organizations. The CHAM orientation itself qualifies for 8 hours of CME. In addition, students must take new Standing Orders Tests for Sessions II, III, and IV. These tests offer an additional 10 hours of CME. Given that most CHA/Ps in the program will receive 20 hours of mandatory

training related to the CHAM and Standing Orders; this activity was considered a lower priority than the other three activities.

**Activity 3: Pre-session:** Status: Partially complete

A distance delivered pre-session course is in progress. This course started on May 22 with 9 students from several tribal organizations. Each student and preceptor is using the 2006 *Alaska Community Health Aide/Practitioner Manual*. The timing of the manual completion required that the pre-session curriculum be revised to reflect the new manual. Although this may be seen as a delay in offering the course, it would not have been necessary to revise had the course been offered before the new manual was available. Most of the work is being done by UA staff and contractors. It is unlikely that the original goal of 25-30 students will be met but the objectives of the activity have been met.

**Activity 4: MSO/CHAM** Status: Partially complete

Work on the Medical Standing Orders and rollout of the 2006 *Alaska Community Health Aide/Practitioner Manual*, started after the complete 4-volume text was sent to the printers. Advance copies of the final text were copied and used to orient instructors at all four CHAP Training Centers so that they could start session using the new CHAM in February 2006. An aggressive plan was developed to outreach to as many tribal organizations as possible to deliver CHAM orientation materials. Two Train-the-Trainer courses were offered and a Train-the-Trainer packet of written materials/CD-ROM was developed and distributed to class participants and CHAP Directors. At the same time, Session II, III, and IV Standing orders were reviewed and updated to reflect the 2006 CHAM. Each session of has an instruction, test, and key component. The examination to become a Community Health Practitioner is also being revised to reflect the 2006 CHAM. Components include the medical math test, open and closed book tests, and open and closed book keys. Much of the work was done by a contractor with the assistance of ANTHC staff and UAF faculty. Highlights by month:

January:

- Orientation and rollout planning and scheduling
- Assessment of activities
- 1/27, On-site orientation for 9 Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation CHAP Training staff (Bethel)

February:

- Work on Standing Orders for Sessions II, III, IV
- 2/1, On-site orientation for 15 Norton Sound Health Corporation CHAP Training and field staff in Nome (5 CHA/Ps, 8MLPs, 1 MD, 1 EMS)
- 2/10, On-site orientation for 7 Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium CHAP Training and field staff in Sitka (3 MLPs, 3 EMS, 1 other)
- 2/13, On-site orientation for 15 ANTHC CHAP Training staff, 1 CHA/P, in Anchorage (1 CHA/P, 13 MLPs, 1 MD, 1 other)

March:

- Standing Orders for Sessions II, III, IV complete
- CHP Credentialing Exam in progress
- 3/2, Orientation training for xx Southcentral Foundation Family Medicine Staff in Anchorage
- 3/13-14, Train-the Trainer course provided in Anchorage. 19 participants from 6 tribal organizations
- 3/ 29-30, Orientation to 28 Tanana Chiefs Conference staff in Fairbanks (15 CHA/Ps, 4 MLPs, 4 MDs, 1 RN, 4 Pharmacists)

April:

- CHP Credentialing Exam being field tested by three CHPs undergoing re-credentialing process
- 4/ 4-6, Orientation to 40 Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation staff in Dillingham (20 CHA/Ps, 1 MLP, 8 MDs, 1 RN, 1 EMS, 2 pharmacists, 4 admin, 2 dental, 1 other)
- April 13-14, Train-the Trainer course provided in Anchorage. 6 participants from 3 tribal organizations
- 4/24-26, 2 8-hour CHAM training held as part of annual CHAP Forum. 81 participants from 20 tribal organizations, Anchorage
- 4/26, Orientation overview for Alaska Tribal Health System Clinical Directors, Anchorage

May:

- CHP Credentialing Exam completed
- Train-the-Trainer Resource Packet distributed to participants of both classes and CHAP Directors
- 5/29-6/2, Orientation to 15 North Slope Borough/Arctic Slope Native Association staff in Barrow (11 CHA/Ps, 2 MDs, 1 pharmacist, 1 other)

### **Medical Office-Health Care reimbursement (HCR)**

Pam Warren was hired at the end of March to take the Allied Health Coordinator position. She has been spending much of her time getting oriented to the University system and our partnerships with TVC, UAA, UAS and providers. Pam wasted no time in traveling to Bethel and Galena to explore corporate requests for more training and a course delivery plan was put in place with Shawn Russell's help.

There have been several meetings with TVC and plans on course and programs that are needed in the Bush are developing. A monthly meeting for the faculty is in place for TVC and our faculty will now be a part of that.

Pam has developed for distance the Medical Law and Ethics course. It is ready to be delivered. She has also started to explore developing Anatomy and Physiology. Efforts to incorporate other faculty for this development are underway.

Enrollments this past spring have increased considerably. A complete list is attached with most of the student names and ID's included. Three health courses (Medical Coding, Medical Terminology and CNA) ran this spring with 50 students. Our Math for Health Care completed for distance and offered canceled due to lack of enrollment.

### **Trainee Success**

The Student Success coordinator position was filled. Lilly Sommer has hit the ground running with her village contacts and visits.

Through the efforts of Lilly and Shawn several students have already been identified to begin the HCR sequence this fall.

### **Galena Summer Academy-completed successfully**

The Galena Summer Academy ran for three weeks at the beginning of June. 17 students completed 5 credits earning their ETT certificates. This totaled 1232.5 hours of training. Students received an exploratory course in health and behavioral health, created learning plans as well as completing 2 courses for college credit. We are checking student releases so that photos and movies can be shared.

**Pharmacy Careers:** The pharmacy program spent primarily from the Phase 2 budget and activities are reported there. The Phase 1 funds were spent down completely this quarter.

**Medical Laboratory Careers:** See Phase 2 report.

**Radiological Careers:** See Phase 2 report.

**Dental Assisting:**

This quarter, DA194E Biomedical and Dental Science, pilot-tested with 13 students was successfully completed. The faculty member has already made some adjustments to the online format and exam method based on this piloting. The Trainee Success Coordinator has worked closely with the YKHC Dental Clinic Education Coordinator to establish a student/employee cohort to take the first two courses: Infection Control in the Fall and Essentials of Dentistry in Spring '07. Partner marketing work is underway with several other Tribal Health dental facilities to extend these offerings to their dental assistants as well, in particular with Maniilaq and Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.

**Community Wellness Advocate Careers:** We had 14 students this spring semester....the largest class yet.

**PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:**

**CHAP:** These funds have been exhausted and no further work is expected on this funding stream.

**Pharmacy Careers:** All is well.

**Medical Laboratory Careers:** See Phase 2 report

**Radiological Careers:** All is well

**Dental Assisting:** Program is progressing. Additional adjunct faculty would increase our ability to offer these distance programs but recruitment continues to be very challenging for Dental Assisting. The Phase 3 proposal includes a .5 FTE faculty which would support this program expansion.

**Community Wellness Advocate Careers:** Discussions with SEARHC faculty and UAS Career Ed Dept continue regarding ways to integrate existing curriculum into UAS AAS in Health Sciences to facilitate transfer into higher level degree programs.

**PROBLEMS, DELAYS OR CONCERNS EXPERIENCED:**

**Pharmacy Careers:** All is well.

**Medical Laboratory Careers:** See Phase 2 report

**Radiological Careers:** All is well.

**Dental Assisting:** Program is progressing. Additional adjunct faculty would increase our ability to offer these distance programs but recruitment continues to be very challenging for Dental Assisting. The Phase 3 proposal includes a .5 FTE faculty which would support this program expansion.

**PROBLEM RESOLUTIONS AND TIMEFRAMES:**

**Pharmacy Careers:** All is well

**Medical Laboratory Careers:** The UAA Allied Health Sciences recruited to fill this position. Interviews are occurred in June and a selection was made. The new faculty will start in early August with some time to become versed in distance education technology before picking up the teaching load in Fall 2006

**Radiological Careers:** All is well

**Dental Assisting:** The Allied Health director and Trainee Success Coordinator will continue to carry out a market plan strategy with tribal human resources and professional development/retention employees and increase the visibility of these courses as a retention strategy.

**Certification:** I certify that the above information is true and correct and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.

Karen Perdue, AVP - Health Programs



**Name and Title**

**Signature**

**Date**