



Report of Project Activities

Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Division of Business Partnerships



DENALI TRAINING FUND

PROGRESS REPORT

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: University of Alaska
NAME OF PROJECT: Allied Health Training Phase IIIB
REPORT PERIOD: October 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007

This report includes details for the following projects:

- Dental Assisting
- Pharmacy Careers
- Radiology Careers
- Medical Laboratory Careers
- Health Sciences
- Medical Office / Health Care Reimbursement
- Direct Services Careers (CNA/PCA)
- Community Health Aide Program
- Trainee Success Projects
 - Trainee Success Coordinators
 - Galena Project

PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Permanent Faculty Funding for Three Programs

As reported at the end of last quarter, faculty positions in three programs (Med Lab Tech, Pharmacy Careers, and Limited Radiography) were transferred to General Funding (GF) beginning FY08. It is a huge accomplishment that honors the University's commitment to sustainability. See program details below.

Dental Assisting

The Dental Assisting program continues to be funded by Denali. It was the last program transitioned for distance courses. This fall, Dental Radiography has 6 students enrolled and completed. They were from Talkeetna, Sitka, Juneau, Seward, and Kodiak and their participation was supported by dentists' offices in those locations. The UAA Denali Program's National Accreditation visit was successfully completed in October. Marketing efforts were launched throughout the state for the Spring course Essentials of Dentistry.

Pharmacy Careers

Three classes were offered during the fall semester, Introduction to Pharmacy, Pharmacy for Technicians I, and Pharmacy Calculations. Of the total 33 enrolled trainees, 21 completed the courses.

The Alaska Pharmacy Association created a scholarship for Pharmacy Technician trainees and worked with UAA to award it to one student for the upcoming spring semester.

Radiology Careers

For fall semester, 23 trainees from Southeast, Eastern Aleutian Tribes and Northwest enrolled in the following classes: Radiation Protection and Biology for Limited Radiography Professionals, Principles of Radiography for Limited Practice I and Radiologic Procedures for Limited Practice II. Twenty one students completed. The Radiation Protection class is the first in our series and represents the beginning of the fifth cohort of trainees since the program's creation.

Medical Laboratory Careers

The distance delivered Medical Laboratory Technology programs will now have two faculty in addition to the existing two on-campus faculty. The second faculty search is nearing completion and hopefully the new faculty member will be hired by next quarter. The fall semester ended this quarter for the Phlebotomy and Clinical Assisting programs. Eleven of fifteen enrolled trainees completed the classes. They were from Western and Northwest Alaska.

The Med lab Tech program held an industry meeting that drew more than ten lab managers from around the state. They engaged in dialogue about the UAA training programs and recruiting for students/employees to this field.

Health Sciences

The official curriculum process to establish an Allied Health Education track is ready to begin next quarter. This is an extensive process through the UAA governance system. Most of the courses exist through UAA, UAF or UAS and will be distance delivered.

Medical Office-Health Care Reimbursement (HCR)

At the close of December the Rural Allied Health Program identified and initiated hiring to fill the vacant faculty position. Sixty eight trainees from across the state participated in six HLTH courses. Numbers of degree-seeking trainees are increasing, and one graduated from the program during this quarter.

The Health Programs Instructional Designer developed new course HLTH 193 Medical Office Technology. This class was specifically requested by rural industry. The class addresses the industry-identified need for personnel trained to use electronic health records and medical office management software and it can be used to meet graduation requirements (replaced CIOS 150 with graduation petition).

Direct Careers (CNA/PCA)

The Fall 2007 semester ended with a total of 17 enrolled trainees, all of whom completed the course and successfully passed the State Certification written and skills exam on the first attempt.

Sitka has continued with use online materials-local CNA courses are supplemented with the availability of distance materials. This has proven to be a very positive addition for trainees by allowing access to upcoming assignments, weekly expectations, and testing information, clinical information, upcoming due dates, etc.

Community Health Aide/Practitioner (CHAP) Program

CHP 293 Breast Health Care Course Eight of the nine trainees who enrolled completed the course; each with strong grades (A's and B's.) The final assignments of integrating the course content into a community project were excellent. Projects included: a resource booth at the Halloween Carnival; a lengthy article in a village newspaper; a two page breast health care fact sheet distributed to all women in her community, family members in other states and to the other classmates; movie parties sharing course films and discussion with great ideas of how to remember to do monthly breast self exams; and, a community exercise program that has included nutrition, and cancer prevention and screening information. The trainee course evaluations were very positive and the course highly recommended for a variety of future trainees.

Trainee Advising

This quarter Spring information packets were mailed to 192 village clinics to reach more than 450 CHAs/CHPs. The packets included a list of Spring '08 distance audio conference courses; corporation contact links to CRCDC rural campus registration information; how to get UAF credit for Emergency Trauma Training (ETT) and Emergency Medical Training (EMT); contact information for further advising by the CHAP Academic Liaison. Advising packets were also distributed to the five CRCDC campuses working with the statewide CHAP tribal organizations and the CHAP Training Center instructors.

Coordination between UAF and CHAP Training Centers The CHAP Academic Liaison coordinates UAF activities with the four CHAP training centers. This quarter that included participation on the Academic Review Committee and CHAP Directors' meetings. The training centers deliver CHP 131, 132, 133, and 134. During this quarter, trainees completed sessions as follows and received a salary increase from their regional health corporation. Session I (CHP 131) = 12 trainees; Session II (CHP 132) = 12 trainees; Session III (CHP 133) = 18 trainees; Session IV (CHP 134) = 6 trainees.

CHAP Instructor Convocation "Weaving Theory and Practice: Enhancing Our Circle of Communication for CHAP Training Center and Field Educators" was the theme for the 2007 CHAP Instructor Convocation held in Anchorage October 15-19. Forty eight CHAP instructors from around the state participated. A CD of the proceedings was created and distributed to those who attended and those were unable to attend.

CHAM Revision Update. This quarter the revised Immunization chapter and Tetanus sections were completed, consistent with the new immunizations and schedule, for the CHAM Medicine book. These will be distributed to all CHAM holders through the CHAP ANTHC office.

Trainee Success Projects

The Trainee Success Coordinators of all three MAU's convened by teleconference in October and in December to coordinate work on their common goals by sharing lists, mailing lists, admissions and registration information, technology tutorials, and to continue learning from each other's successes. Individual activities are discussed below.

Trainee Success Coordination - UAA

The success coordinator continues to offer essential support to the distance trainees by providing assistance with registration and technology skills for the online classes. She has had more than 70 contacts working closely with 30 trainees.

Trainee Success Coordination - UAF

The focus of the Trainee Success Coordinator continues to be working with new trainees and providing program information in rural areas. Thirty students received direct support from the coordinator in this quarter. Seventy nine were assisted by the technology person for ELive issues and 58 received Blackboard assistance.

Trainee Success Coordination - UAS

The Sitka coordinator had a total of 30 contacts with 15 individuals this semester. A revised tracking form has been created to document those contacts.

Galena Project

No activity this quarter.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

Dental Assisting With the completion of the National Accreditation Site Visit for Dental programs, the lead dental assisting faculty will place more attention on the rollout of these distance courses and consider other options with shorter, non-credit offerings or classes for high school students to introduce them to the dental professions.

Pharmacy Careers Recruitment to fill the half time faculty position will hopefully be completed by next quarter. In the meantime, our trusted pool of adjunct faculty will teach the scheduled classes.

Radiology Careers Recruitment and marketing efforts will occur across the state to build enrollment for the 6th cohort of Limited Radiography trainees to begin fall semester. Since some drop in trainee numbers occurs between spring and fall semesters, we are considering offering the sequenced courses over the summer months. This may support the trainees' momentum within the program.

Medical Laboratory Careers The new faculty selection and hiring will occur in the 3rd quarter. This will make distance delivery of the AAS program in Medical Laboratory Technology possible. There are several trainees around the state already interested in enrolling. We foresee the first offerings next fall.

Physical Therapy Assistant

The feasibility study will proceed.

Health Sciences The curriculum review and approval process will be completed during next quarter for the Allied Health Educator and Pre-professional tracks of the BSHS.

Medical Office-Health Care Reimbursement (HCR)

Run trial course HLTH 193, Medical Office Technology. Train new faculty member to provide outreach and education services to rural Alaska. Continue coordination with rural campuses and rural industry. Serve Bethel cohort of high school students taking HLTH 110 Professionalism in Health Care.

Trainee Success Projects The trainee success coordinators will all continue supporting trainees. They will also continue their collaboration including February teleconference. UAF will distribute tutorial CD to introduce new trainees to distance course technology. The UAA coordinator will continue much of the recruitment work for all four programs including another round of interactions with the tribal health organizations – SEARHC, BBAHC, YKHC, Manilaaq, Norton Sound Health Corp, TCC.

Direct Careers CNA/PCA

Sitka campus will offer a pilot of the distance delivery for the full 9 credit CNA course. This course is being made available to local area Sitka trainees for the initial pilot in order to give the instructor more control over course content and scheduling of required lab hours and clinical hours. Application to the State Board of Nursing for course approval is being submitted for this pilot course. Once approval is obtained, distance delivery can be expanded to appropriate areas around the state which meet State regulations for site approval and clinical instructors.

Community Health Aide/Practitioner (CHAP) Program

Teach the new CHP 293 course: Anatomy, Function and Medical Language by distance delivery for CHAs/CHPs. Reconvene the Pre-Session I workgroup. Hire a support person to compile Student Workbook, Instructor manual and other materials; plus create an “asynchronous” delivery model.

**PROBLEMS, DELAYS OR CONCERNS EXPERIENCED and
POSSIBLE PROBLEM RESOLUTIONS AND TIMEFRAMES**

Dental Assisting Progressing as expected.

Pharmacy Careers Progressing as expected.

Radiology Careers Progressing as expected.

Med Laboratory Careers Progressing as expected.

Physical Therapy Assistant Progressing as expected.

Health Science. Progressing as expected.

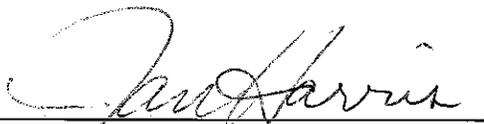
Medical Office-Health Care Reimbursement (HCR) Progressing as expected.

Direct Services Careers PCA/CNA Statewide delivery of this curriculum has been inconsistent and coordination efforts need to be revitalized among the local campuses. Working group will be reconvened.

Community Health Aide Program Progressing as expected.

Trainee Success Progressing as expected.

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



Jan Harris,

Associate Dean, CHSW

Denali Project Director



Date