

“On Wednesday, I was able to stand in on a couple of routine surgeries with Dr. Tobin. I have never been able to watch a live surgery which made this an amazing experience. All of the people in surgery were great to work with. Dr. Tobin and the rest of the staff were able to answer my many, many questions which made this experience even better.”



Justin Cunningham
REHPS Summer Program Participant in Winner, SD Pharmacy Student

REHPS activities, see page 3.

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CNA Institute attracts record number of applicants

This year marks the 4th annual CNA Institute held in Yankton. The Certified Nursing Assistant Institute is a 10 day program that meets the South Dakota Board of Nursing requirements for Certified Nursing Assistants. In addition to the 75 hour classroom and clinical course, students have opportunities to learn about the importance of human touch in caring for a patient. This Institute is a great opportunity to enter the healthcare field in a short time. Many CNAs go on to other professional health careers, such as radiology, laboratory technicians, licensed and registered nurses, medical assistants, physical therapists and physicians. In 2011, there were 19 applications for 10 slots. This year 31 applications were received. The CNA Institute is growing and the word is out about this outstanding healthcare career opportunity.



2012 CNA Institute: Left to Right: Instructor Becky Wolff, RN, MSN, MA; JayCee May, Kieran O'Malley, Courtney Miller, Nicole Doerr, Antonia Montoya, Kristen Boyle, Tory Gross, Natalie Arens, Megan Christopher, Halie Mechels, and Instructor Helene Hegge, RN, MSN.



Difficult Conversations, Mandatory Reporting & Referral: Topics of Traveling AHEC Program, see page 2.

- It is estimated that 22-35% of women entering emergency rooms are there for intimate partner violence (IPV) - related injuries regardless of the presenting complaint.



The South Dakota Area Health Education Center (SD AHEC) has a mission to “connect students to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health.” Established in 2009 through a HRSA grant awarded to the Sanford School of Medicine, the statewide program currently has two centers, the Yankton Rural AHEC and the Northeast AHEC.



Advisory Panel Gives Input

Expanding housing options through cooperative local efforts along with focusing on quality education and daycare access are priorities in attracting and retaining healthcare employees in southeastern South Dakota according to the results of a brief survey conducted by the Yankton Rural AHEC.

The five question survey was delivered to 24 Yankton Rural AHEC Advisory Panel Members with varied professional backgrounds including healthcare, education, business and local government. Sixteen of those surveyed responded, for a 66 percent response rate. Although not a scientific poll, the results do provide a glimpse into potential support for certain programs and priority areas.

Eighty percent say healthcare institutions and/or local development groups should be proactive in developing housing options for healthcare professionals. Of that figure, 40 percent say the Governor's House should be used to attract or retain healthcare employees. Recently, the South Dakota Housing Development Authority, made changes to the Governor's House Program allowing for more flexibility in its guidelines for community development.

"The Governor's House Program provides an affordable option in areas that typically lack housing development activity. Documenting its potential value in relation to healthcare services may encourage the state to allow the Governor's House to be used as an employee attraction and retention tool. It may not fit every situation or community, but we need flexibility in building housing capacity throughout rural South Dakota," said Greg Henderson, Executive Director of Planning and Development District III in Yankton.

Advisory panel members are needed in McCook, Moody, Charles Mix and Brule counties. See more survey results at www.yrahec.org.

Professionals focus on improving vets care

A recent study indicates one in three service members returning from Afghanistan or Iraq have suffered a brain injury or are now battling a mental health condition.

Sixty-three primary care providers, behavioral health professionals and clergy met for a day-long conference co-hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs of Sioux Falls and the Yankton Rural AHEC. Attendees gained valuable information to support potential interventions with veterans and their families. This free continuing education opportunity provided 6.25 credits.



Prevention of Violence Topic of AHEC Program

In January 2012, the Yankton Rural Area Health Education Center received a Prevention of Violence & Trauma of Women and Girls grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Women's Health. The grant's goal is to provide onsite educational programming to rural healthcare and dental clinics regarding intimate partner violence (IPV), teen IPV, child abuse and neglect (CA/N), and mandatory reporting laws.

IPV and CA/N are societal issues with far reaching effects outside of the actual victim with huge costs to healthcare, social service agencies, law enforcement, judicial systems, etc. Annually, IPV exceeds \$5.8 billion including \$4.1 billion in direct medical and mental healthcare expenses. Fatal and nonfatal CA/N costs approximately \$18.9 billion in childhood healthcare costs.

- 15.5 million children were exposed to physical IPV in the past year.
- The risk of CA/N is 3 times higher for families experiencing IPV.
- One in three adolescents is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse by a dating partner.

To address this issue, a series of Lunch and Learn programs for healthcare providers and staff are scheduled at 27 healthcare clinics across the state. The presentation provides an overview of the signs and symptoms of IPV and CA/N; characteristics of perpetrators; issues unique to rural victims; addressing difficult topics; consistent screening; and state mandatory reporting laws.





Summer Experience Program

Throughout the months of May, June and July, the following 12 students will be immersed in selected communities for four weeks. These students have the opportunity to learn from some of the best preceptors in the state, build relationships with members of the community, and receive a first hand experience of how rural communities offer unique opportunities.

Parkston



Megan Bechen



Danielle Schroeder

Philip



Tandis Hoffman



Kimberly Livingston

Redfield



Alyssa Osborn



Miranda Tracy

Wagner



Amber Burke



Mikaela Miller

Wessington Springs



Trent Harris



Anthony Loewen

Winner



Justin Cunningham



Tia Haines



2011 REHPS students, Leonard Wonenburg, PA-C, left, and Beau VanOvershelde, Pharmacy student, at Wessington Springs.

REHPS shoots promo video

Recently the REHPS Program teamed up with Epic Multi Media out of Sioux Falls SD to produce a promotional video on the REHPS Summer Experience Program. This video featured previous REHPS students, and the communities of Wessington Springs, Redfield, and Parkston which were our "best practice" model sites during our first year. This video will be used for various purposes including recruiting students to the programs, generating community involvement and recruitment, and promoting rural preceptors and inter-professional training.



Stands for Jobs
NATIONAL AHEC ORGANIZATION

REHPS to make poster presentation at NAO

The REHPS Disaster Preparedness Training Day Program has been selected for a poster presentation at the National AHEC conference in San Antonio, TX July 29-Aug 3. The poster will feature details of the yearly event training of over 300 health professions students in Core Disaster Life Support (CDLS), Triage, Immunizations, Anaphylaxis, SERV-SD/points of distribution (PODS), and Psych First Aid.



Upcoming Events -- Save the Date

June 17-22 USD's 6th Annual Healthcare Careers Camp

June 21 Preceptor Training Day, Howard

June 22 F.A.R.M. Event, Sioux Falls

July 29-Aug. 2 NAO Conference, San Antonio, TX

Aug. 13-16 Turner County Fair, Parker, SD

Aug. 22-23 National Guard Conference, Sioux Falls

Aug. 30-Sept.3 South Dakota State Fair, Huron

Visit the Yankton Rural AHEC display booth at the Turner County Fair in Parker and the South Dakota State Fair in Huron.



Sept. 19-21 SDAHO Conference, Sioux Falls

Oct. 2-5 SD Municipal League, Sioux Falls

Oct. 3 Yankton Scrubs Camp

Oct. 4 Avera Rural Health Conference, Sioux Falls