

Connections

Connecting students to careers,
Professionals to communities,
Communities to better health.

“There is a common misconception about rural health care being only about ear infections, colds, and hypertension. The rural health care providers have to be very knowledgeable in many fields ...”



Emily Coughlin, 2013 REHPS Student SDSU - Pharmacy
Commenting on her experience in Wessington Springs
See more REHPS students' comments on page 3.

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1000 W. 4th St., Ste. 5
Yankton, SD 57078
Phone: 605-655-1400
Fax: 605-668-8483

Email: info@yrahec.org
Website: www.yrahec.org



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.

A great success: Mitchell hosts its first CNA Institute in July

Ten students took part in the First Annual CNA Institute - Mitchell, July 15-26, 2013.

The 10-day program meets the South Dakota Board of Nursing requirements for Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs). 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. Professionals also visit with students exposing them to other health care professions.

The Yankton Rural AHEC manages the marketing/promotion, the student application process, and the overall organization of the Institute. Other partners include: Dakota Wesleyan University, Avera Education & Staffing Solutions, Avera Brady Health and Rehab, and Walmart.

In its five years, the Yankton institute has produced 41 CNAs. CNAs can work in a variety of settings and their demand is forecast to grow alongside the state's elderly population.

The 2013 Mitchell CNA Institute participants were: Katie Zeller (Elk Point), Chelsea Kulm (Mitchell),



Ten students, ages 16 to 19, participated in the Mitchell CNA Institute in July. In early 2014, look for details on CNAs in Yankton (June 2-13, 2014) and Mitchell (June 17-27, 2014).

Gretchen Petree (Salem), Denise Johnson (Hartford), Desiree Stephen (Gregory), Miranda Goldammer (Mitchell), Berkley Rietveld (Mitchell), Autumn Urbigkit (Mitchell), Haley Hinker (Mitchell) and Anna Flitner (Presho).

Chelsea Kulm, left, and Berkley Rietveld, right, adjust a gait belt as Miranda Goldammer, back, looks on.



Scrubs Camp draws 76 area students to Yankton. See page 2.

■ Professionals and educators met with students interested in healthcare careers on Oct. 1. Sports medicine and nutrition were just a few of the many topics. *At left, Freeman students.*



Scrubs Camp gives high school students a glimpse at careers

The need for healthcare workers in South Dakota grows. In the coming years, thousands of additional healthcare workers will be needed in the state. Indicating an interest in filling those needs, 76 area high school students came to Yankton to learn more on Oct. 1.

Professionals from sports medicine, pharmacy, emergency-trauma care, psychiatry, nutrition, and doctor of nursing practice all gave special presentations to the students.

Professionals discussed what they do and how they got into their chosen career field. Students were able to participate in hands-on activities to give them a better idea of what a career might entail.

Exhibitors included several regional educators who visited with students about requirements for various professions, such as nursing and pharmacy among many others.

The Scrubs Camps are made possible through the collaborative effort of the South Dakota Department of Education Office of Curriculum, Career and Technical Education and the South Dakota Department of Health - Office of Rural Health. Yankton Rural AHEC coordinated this event held at the Professional Office Pavilion & Education Center on the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital campus in Yankton.

SIM SD demonstrated emergency care with a mannequin featuring life-like symptoms.



Schools attending the event were: Bon Homme, Bonesteel - South Central, Gayville-Volin, Lake Andes, Niobrara, Centerville, Corsica, Menno, Freeman, Tripp-Delmont, Vermillion, Wagner, Winner and Yankton.

More than one dozen additional Scrubs Camps will be held around the state. Visit www.scrubscamps.sd.gov for more information.

A University of South Dakota nursing program representative visited with students about education. Other representatives included: South Dakota State University, Mitchell Technical Institute, Mount Marty College, Southeast Technical Institute, SD Human Services Center, Avera Education & Staffing Solution and YRAHEC.

Student creativity could unleash a \$750 prize

Telling the story of South Dakota's healthcare workforce shortage or cleverly promoting healthcare careers could produce a cash prize for high school students.

The 2014 Healthcare Video Contest is underway. Students, grades 9 through 12 in South Dakota, are encouraged to create a short video addressing health career shortages or boosting health career awareness. Videos are to be 5 minutes or less with no more than 5 participants per team.

Videos will be judged on four criteria: educational value, entertainment value, originality and content.

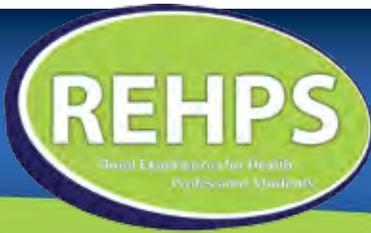
Cash prizes will be awarded for the top three teams in each category: first, \$750; second, \$500; and third, \$250.

The contest is sponsored by the SD Association of Health Care Organizations, the SD Healthcare Workforce Center and Yankton Rural AHEC.

Contact your high school counselor or health science teacher for more information. Also visit www.yrahec.org for contest details, forms and rules. Entry deadline to YRAHEC is January 6, 2014.



www.yrahec.org



Year 3 - 2013

REHPS students in their own words ...

“Once again this week, Miller has exceeded my expectations! I have learned more in these past four weeks, it seems, than months at school. There is something to be said about a small town feel and the people who make a place special.”

Rebecka Bogue
University of South Dakota
Physician Student/Beresford, SD



Claire Carson, left, and Rebecka Bogue in Miller



Martha Holstein, left, and Maria Christopher in Parkston

“I am so glad to have had this experience. Now that I have shadowed in and learned so much about these types of rural medical facilities, I believe that a small rural location is where I want to be.”

Maria Christopher
South Dakota State University
Pharmacy Student/Letcher, SD

“Overall, this experience has taught me so much about myself and myself as a future health care professional. I have fallen in love with rural health care. I hope and pray that one day I can find myself working in a facility such as this, serving a rural community, and doing what I love.”

Abbie Johnson
South Dakota State University
Pharmacy Student/
Mount Vernon, SD



Upper Right, Kevin Oliver fishing with Dr. Owens/ Redfield
Right, Abbie Johnson conducting community project on West Nile/Redfield



REHPS completes its third year with 18 students in 9 communities

The final five Rural Experiences for Health Professions Students (REHPS) sites wrapped up activities in August. Miller, Parkston, Redfield, Wagner, and Wessington Springs welcomed 10 students for four weeks of interprofessional experiences.

Read about the students’ experiences in their own words at www.rehps.org. Each of the 18 students in 2013 wrote blogs highlighting their time immersed in rural healthcare.

The other four communities hosting REHPS students in 2013 were: Custer, Platte, Sisseton and Winner.

Look for 2014 application details in early January. The REHPS program hopes to expand by three sites and six students next year. Funding is being sought to bring an additional two disciplines into the summer experience that already includes four: physician assistant, physician, pharmacy, and doctor of nursing practice.

“This week, I have been able to place two intubation tubes, start numerous IVs and assist in the medical decisions that have been made for numerous patients. It has been fun, exciting, and highly educational.”

Merritt Groh
University of South Dakota
Physician Assistant Student/
Vermillion, SD



Merritt Groh, left, and Murphy Mack

“Dr. Lim explained the importance of obtaining comprehensive histories from patients and not being so quick to order diagnostics, as this is what he learned while practicing in the Philippines. I found this interesting, as nurse practitioners are taught to practice in this way, leaning toward a holistic care model.”

Ashley Zwiefel
South Dakota State University
Doctor of Nursing Practice Student/
Burt, Iowa



Ashley Zwiefel, left, Dr. Lim, Emily Coughlin



Upcoming Events -- Save the Date

Oct. 29	Companioning the Bereaved, Yankton
Oct. 30	Scrubs Camp, Faith
Nov. 5	Companioning the Bereaved, Yankton
Nov. 5	Scrubs Camp, Pierre
Nov. 7	Companioning the Bereaved, Yankton
Nov. 20	Scrubs Camp, Mitchell
Dec. 4	Scrubs Camp, Rapid City
2014	<i>Happy New Year!</i>
Jan. 6	Healthcare Video Contest Entries Due
Jan. 16	Wagner Career Fair
Jan. 22-24	SDAESP/SDASSP Conf., Deadwood
Jan. 31	Disaster Training Day, Vermillion
Feb. 13	Chronic Kidney Disease Update, Yankton
Feb. 13	Regional Career Fair, Irene
Feb. 22	Scrubs Camp, Spearfish
March 7	Scrubs Camp, Madison
March 18	Scrubs Camp, Vermillion

Save the Dates

Finding your way through grief

Grief is a normal and necessary process as we all experience loss at different points in life.

Jennifer L. Goglin will present The Art of "Companioning" the Bereaved - Eleven Essential Principles on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at the Professional Office Pavilion on the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital campus in Yankton. The conference, which offers continuing education credits, will begin at 9 am and conclude at 3:30 pm.

The public is invited to a free presentation held at 7 pm on Oct. 29 or Nov. 7. The topic of this two-hour session is "Finding Your Way Through the Wilderness of Grief." For more information and to register for any of the conferences visit www.averasolutions.org. The conference is sponsored by Avera Sacred Heart Foundation, Avera Education & Staffing Solutions, and YRAHEC.

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