



Report of Project Activities

Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Division of Business Partnerships



DENALI TRAINING FUND

PROGRESS REPORT

<p>NAME OF ORGANIZATION: University of Alaska NAME OF PROJECT: Allied Health Training Phase I Extension REPORT PERIOD: January 1, 2006-March 31, 2006</p>

PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Briefly describe the grant activities undertaken during the period and any accomplishments achieved.

*Community Health Aide/Practitioner -CHAP

The first CHAP Distance Education Technology Workshop was held in Fairbanks February 28-March 2, 2006 at the Tanana Valley Campus computer lab. 22 participants from across the state attended with 6 instructors from 2 of our 4 Training Centers; 8 Field instructors from 5 regional health organizations; an instructor from the AFHCAN project; a representative from the state telehealth project; the ANTHC CHAP Consultant; and five UAF/UAA faculty and staff.

Objectives:

1. Introduction to different distance educational technologies.
2. Participate in computer technology activities.
3. Explore distance education for future CHAP training opportunities.
4. Network with CHAP faculty (Training Centers and Field Instructors) for distance education.
5. Continued Resources.

The workshop was set up as a Blackboard course, which demonstrated the technology and will keep us connected afterwards. There were a variety of topics presented and hands-on experience including: distance education overview; course management software; software products to create interactivity; polycom capabilities; issues of connectivity in the village clinics; review and assessment of the Pre-Session I course in construction; E-live software; and, on-line library services.

Evaluations: The overall response was that this was an excellent workshop and has changed peoples' perceptions of the use of distance technology for CHAP education. Comment shared during wrap-up captures this "I have been very opposed to distance technology for CHAP training but after this workshop I can really see the use and benefits – with more training I will use it in my courses."

CHAP Forum

Plan and execute a one-week continuing education conference for CHA/Ps.

CHAP Forum is planned for April 24 –27th in Anchorage. 24 hours of continuing education will be available including a 6-7 hour orientation/training to the new CHAM.

CHAM Training Program

When the CHAM is completed and distributed, there will need to be an extensive program of training to familiarize health aide instructors, aides and practitioners with new practices and procedures.

Though the final copies of the new CHAM have not arrived in bulk we have started CHA rollout.

Orientation/training:

Bethel YKHC Training Center – January 27th, 11 instructors.

Nome NSHC Training Center – February 1st, 10 instructors.

Sitka SEARHC Training Center – February 10th, 3 instructors.

Anchorage ANTHC Training Center – February 13th, 18 instructors.

Additional 5 EMS instructors attending training.

Medical Office-Health Care reimbursement (HCR)

The position for Allied Health Coordinator was being actively recruited since the new Health Director position has been filled by Victoria Foote. Pam Warren was hired at the end of March to take the Coordinator position.

Pharmacy Careers: The pharmacy program spent primarily from the Phase 2 budget and activities are reported there. The Phase 1 funds covered two trips, one to Kotzebue/ Nome and the other to Bethel to meet with tribal health organizations to build rapport and connections and meet with high school students to inform them about this pharmacy technician program. Both visits generated a great deal of interest in the program and we expect to see an increased enrollment from those regions in the fall semester.

Medical Laboratory Careers: See Phase 2 report. Funds are expended from Phase 1

Radiological Careers: See Phase 2 report. Most of these funds were expended during the quarter.

Dental Assisting:

This quarter, DA194E Biomedical and Dental Science, is being pilot-tested with 13 students during our Spring semester. The faculty member has already made some adjustments to the online format and exam method based on this piloting. The Allied Health Director and Trainee Success Coordinator have traveled to rural, regional centers to introduce the 3 core course offerings to Tribal Dental Chiefs. From this, the first two courses will be offered next year, fall and spring: Infection Control and Essentials of Dentistry. If there is additional statewide interest, DA A110 Dental Radiography will be offered online in the fall.

Community Wellness Advocate Careers: Sixteen new students were admitted in the fall with 14 continuing into the spring semester....the largest class yet.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

Describe the grant activities you expect to complete during the next quarter.

CHAP Pre-Session I

Pilot is being developed as an on-line interactive PreSession I that utilizes the existing PreSession I curriculum and the current technologies available to rural Alaska villages. This pilot program will provide both synchronous and asynchronous (as needed by the instructor and students) delivery of course content and can be recorded/archived for evaluation after course completion.

Pre-Session I is currently being put into Blackboard (14 units). The new Community Health Aide/Practitioner Manual (CHAM) requires that the Pre-Session I Handbook also be revised. Additional activities include: working with an advisory board of CHAP field staff for review and input; creating a mentor system in the village clinic to work with the students; producing a “Mentor’s Handbook” with activities and quizzes; and a new student recruitment and selection process.

Additional training planned for CHAM

Train the Trainer: Anchorage March 27-28th

Train the Trainer: Anchorage April 13-14th

CHAP Forum: 2 tracks (up to 80 CHA/Ps) April 24-25th and 25-26th

Clinical Directors' orientation: April 26th

Additional regional trainings planned for TVC, BBAHC and YKHC, Barrow at this time.

Medical Office-Health Care reimbursement (HCR)

In the meantime Shawn Russel the faculty for Allied health has been working to set up new cohorts and expectations are that another cohort will begin sometime this spring.

Trainee Success

It is expected that during the next quarter that the Galena Summer Academy will be offered for three weeks in June. It is anticipated that 18 students will make the cut for that program. This allows students to explore the Health Care field and to try several courses as they progress towards a career.

Pharmacy Careers: This fund will be expended by next quarter.

Medical Laboratory Careers: These funds are nearly expended. See Phase 2 report for activities this quarter.

Radiological Careers: See Phase 2 Report

Dental Assisting: Next quarter will see the marketing of the Dental Assisting core courses, Infection Control, Essentials of Dentistry and Practice Management, primarily to Tribal Health organizations. The tribal organizations have provided their own on-the-job-training but experience tremendous turnover in dental assistants. We hope these course offerings will enhance their present training methods. Meetings with 2 dental chiefs have generated interest in this idea. These three courses are part of the required curriculum for the dental assisting certificate and the AAS at UAA. If a rural student completed any of the distance delivered courses, they would be able to complete the Certificate in one semester in Anchorage rather than two semesters.

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

PROBLEMS, DELAYS OR CONCERNS EXPERIENCED:

Are the grant activities progressing as planned? If not, what is the cause? Identify if there are any areas the Alaska Workforce Investment Office can provide assistance.

HCR Careers: It has been a problem to fill demands in the HCR area as the applicants have been wide spread. As we get key positions filled we can begin to organize this next group of students and work with their organizations to ensure success as more courses are delivered using distance delivery.

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.

Community Wellness Advocate Careers: Things are moving along nicely

PROBLEM RESOLUTIONS AND TIMEFRAMES:

For any problems identified, describe how you will resolve them and how long it will take.

HCR Careers: All positions will be refilled by April. This should help immediately to respond to students demand for courses.

Pharmacy Careers: All is well

Medical Laboratory Careers: The UAA Allied Health Sciences will recruit to fill this position, ideally by the end of Spring semester so the new faculty will have time over the summer months to become versed in distance education technology and be prepared to pick 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

Karen Perdue 4/17/2006

Signature

Date