

Environmental Health Information Partnership

2004—2005 EnHIP Outreach Awards

Benedict College – Columbia, SC

Facilitating the Use of NLM's Databases Through Efforts of Benedict College

The objectives of this project are to increase the on-campus awareness of environmental health information available using NLM databases; increase the on-campus utilization of NLM databases; and provide NLM-based information outreach to communities currently being assisted by the Benedict College Environmental Health Science Program.

Using on-campus electronic mail and campus library resources, faculty and staff will be surveyed to ascertain their knowledge of NLM databases. After determining the extent of on-campus knowledge of the databases, on-campus literature will be provided to increase the knowledge by at least fifty percent. Survey questions will be incorporated to determine the extent of on-campus use of the databases and information brochures would be provided about NLM databases to at least fifty percent of the Williston and Newcastle communities through active community organizations.

California State University, Northridge – Northridge, CA

Presentation of NLM Databases Across Curriculum at a University

The health information outreach project, targeting students attending California State University, will review the university catalog to find courses that could potentially use NLM online resources. This concept of incorporating a lecture discussing how to use NLM resources and services with an applied approach will be publicized throughout the university. Interested faculty who agree to incorporate some form of the training in their coursework will be awarded a stipend of \$250. This will provide incentive to the faculty in their participation. Funding will also be used to support printing, inks, small equipment purchases, or other incidental expenses that will support the project.

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science – Los Angeles, CA

Environmental Health Curriculum for Primary Health Care Providers

The purpose of this project is to enhance the knowledge, skills, and ability of pre- and postdoctoral students to recognize how local environmental conditions can affect health and disease and integrate such knowledge into the differential diagnosis of commonly treated diseases.

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Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science – Los Angeles, CA

Environmental Health Curriculum for Primary Health Care Providers

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The goals include: develop a training course in environmental health for pre- and post-doctoral students at the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CRDUMS); develop methods to familiarize the students and their patients with the content and instructions on how to search the medical, toxicological and environmental health information available from the NLM website and other Internet resources; and identify means to implement and sustain the training course.

The primary target groups are physician post graduates and medical students completing their clinical clerkships at CRDUMS. The physician post graduates are primary and specialty physicians and dentists whose training takes place in an underserved area of South Central Los Angeles County. This course will be integrated as a part of the primary care training programs' curricula for primary care training.

Diné College – Shiprock, NM

Health Effects from Oil Field Operations on the Navajo Nation

The project plans to build the community's capacity to address their health concerns over the long term through training of students and the students' subsequent training of others in the community. The project involves creating environmental health curriculum, both at high school and college levels. The project objectives include:

- Collect air data on CO, VOCs, H₂S and SO₂
- Survey community members to determine self-reported health effects
- Evaluate the data with respect to location from emission sources and air-shed plum migration
- Train students in the use of geospatial analysis
- Communicate the results of the assessment to community members and the tribal leadership
- Use the results to prioritize resources and develop programs to address the health needs of impacted communities

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Haskell Indian Nations University – Lawrence, KS

The Good Medicine Information Outreach Program

The purpose of the “Good Medicine” project is to extend useful health information to the urban American Indian population of the metro Kansas City area. The objectives of the project are three-fold: to train generations, from American Indian youth to Elders, to use the digital resources of the NLM; to encourage the promotion of this information and establish links on the Haskell Indian Nations University and Heart of America Indian Center home pages; and to encourage the formation of the “Good Medicine” American Indian Health Network which will be catalyst for a number of associated promotional activities throughout the Kansas City metro area.

Meharry Medical College – Nashville, TN

Approach for Building New Community-based Library Partnerships with Local Community Churches

The goal of this project is to encourage and support the diffusion of principles of access to health information technology by increasing awareness in one faith-based organization in Nashville/Davidson County. The project will document a conceptual model for implementation and effectiveness of approaches that involves a collaboration of public libraries and faith-based organizations in the diffusion of health information technology. The project plans to increase the awareness of 75 members of the Claiborne Street Missionary Baptist Church around access to health information technology by providing 10 sessions on use of a computer for accessing health information.

Morehouse School of Medicine – Atlanta, GA

The Atlanta Project

The “Atlanta Project” plans to facilitate learning and training on NLM databases and other types of information that will support the Atlanta Project objectives by purchasing a learning management system. Partnering with existing health disparities programs and involved leaders such as Dr. David Satcher, the learning management system will become a compendium for training and expansion of the program. Kiosks will be used by trained community leaders who will rotate in participating clinics. The kiosk will be linked to the Internet and include NLM databases and information on local interests, including directions to other clinics, hospitals, pharmacies, shelters, and government-assisted programs.

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Morgan State University – Baltimore, MD

Environmental Health Information Outreach

The purpose of the “Environmental Health Information Outreach” project is to improve upon the teaching and seminar presentations that take place at Morgan State University within the campus and meetings and presentations at other sites. Funding will be used to purchase equipment in order to facilitate the health information outreach presentations on campus and in the community.

Oglala Lakota College – Kyle, SD

Taking Charge—Living Wisely

The goal of the project is to enable the Oglala Lakota people to identify healthy life styles and reasons to pursue the change in lifestyles through exercise, balance diet, and understanding toxicants and environmental toxicants. The project will use food models and the “Visible Man” presentation on CD-ROM to illustrate healthy and unhealthy outcomes. The presentation may be used by the Environmental Science Department and the Department of Education as well as the Department of Nursing. The presentation will be communicated to the faculty and the student senate and eventually to the student body and community groups. Nursing students and the Lakota Studies Department will have input in developing the actual format for the models and presentation.

Southern University A&M College – Baton Rouge, LA

Reach for Rural Health Online

This project is an extension of REACH for Rural Health Online—a Southern University community campus partnership designed to assist community leaders in accessing and using scientifically sound environmental health information. The purpose of this project is to identify, recruit, and train ten health reporters from local newspapers, ten environmental toxicology students, ten law center and nursing students, ten county extension agents, and ten Baton Rouge community members to use MedlinePlus, TOXNET, and Tox Town. Promotional activities for the program will be developed by a recruitment, planning, and workshop team. Key leaders from each of the potential user groups will collaborate to promote the conference by utilizing their organizations’ Web sites and newsletters. A media breakfast and press release will be considered in the planning stages to launch REACH for Rural Health Online.

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Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Delta Iota Chapter – Hampton, VA *Sixhousehold Products Outreach Training (SPOT)*

The purpose of this project is to educate Hampton Roads residents regarding the hazardous nature of certain household products, proper use of the products, and the proper methods of management and disposal of residual product and containers for the protection of public health, safety, and preserving the environment. NLM's Tox Town and Household Products databases will be used to educate the residents in a train-the-trainer environment. The goal is to have parents and grandparents to educate each other and members of their families. At the end of the training, participants will be able to identify common household hazardous materials, their effects on people and the environment, safe alternatives to these products, and their proper use, storage, and disposal; access Tox Town and the Household Products Databases; describe what to do in the event of accidental poisoning from household hazardous materials, including the role of a poison control center; know the procedure in Hampton Roads for hazardous waste disposal, the results of incorrect disposal, and suggestions for improving local hazardous waste disposal programs and policies.

Texas Southern University – Houston, TX *Environmental Health Community Resource Information (EHCRI) Project*

The overall purpose of the EHCRI project is to enhance the ability of selected underserved minority and economically disadvantaged communities to understand and make informed health and prevention decisions on issues related to the role of environmental factors in human health and disease. In addition to providing education programs, the EHCRI project will establish links between members of the community whose health is directly affected by adverse environmental conditions, and Texas Southern University Environmental Health faculty, health care providers and university/public library personnel. Some of the environmental health issues to be addressed in this project include asthma, elevated blood lead levels, occupational exposures, and severe urban smog.

University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus – San Juan, PR *UPR-Medical Sciences Campus: Outreach Project in Environmental Health Information*

The project plans to develop and schedule a set of training activities, workshops, and conferences directed to middle and high school teachers and students, and school librarians in effective use of NLM resources.

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University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus – San Juan, PR

UPR-Medical Sciences Campus: Outreach Project in Environmental Health Information

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The project also will support the librarians of the Medical Sciences Campus Library to serve as trainers for middle and high school librarians. The training sessions will be performed at the Community Technology Centers of ASPIRA, Inc. of Puerto Rico (a non-profit organization devoted to the educational and leadership development of Puerto Rican youth) and the recruitments and promotional activities will be developed using the ASPIRA network with school directors and district superintendents. In addition, community newspapers will be used to promote the activities of the project.

University of Texas at El Paso – El Paso, TX

Enhancing Campus/Community Access to Health Disparity Information

The goal of the project is to provide publicly available information on Hispanic health disparities. The project plans to identify relevant links, databases, and other publicly available health information resources relevant to Hispanic health disparities; organize these electronic resources (e.g., by illness/disease) and provide documentation regarding each; configure the dedicated publicly-available computer to make these resources easy to access; and publicize these organized resources locally using public service announcement, and make them electronically available via UTEP's Hispanic Health Disparities Research Center Web site.

Xavier University of Louisiana – New Orleans, LA

Diabetes Community Outreach Program

The purpose of this project is to enhance patient education activities by providing access to the e-health information available through the NLM. It is further anticipated that these resources will assist in efforts to improve glycemic control, increase patient understanding of diabetes, and improve the quality of life in targeted minority communities suffering from diabetes. Kiosks will be set up in spaces provided by the Diabetes Pharmaceutical Care Clinic, which the university is wiring for Internet access. Students and clinical pharmacists will be available to assist patients in accessing tutorials. Patients will also be encouraged to obtain printed copies of the information available in the tutorials for subsequent review and reference. As part of student training, it is expected to engage the fourth year pharmacy students and undergraduate pharmacy students enrolled in research courses in small projects and pilot studies designed to assess the effectiveness of the intervention strategies to enhance knowledge, increase compliance, and foster appropriate health behaviors.