

Environmental Health Information Partnership

2005—2006 EnHIP Outreach Awards

Benedict College – Columbia, SC

Continuing to Facilitate the Use of the NLM's Web-based Databases Through Efforts of Benedict College

This project is a follow-up to Benedict's 2004 project. The goals are to: increase the on-campus awareness of environmental health information and other information available within NLM's 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.

Objectives are to continue the on-campus survey of junior and senior students at Benedict College to further ascertain their knowledge and use of NLM databases and inform students about the benefits and services that are available within the NLM databases. Three strategies will be used to increase usage: provide monthly highlighting of an NLM database; encourage database use within student academic organizations through use-competition; and provide annual re-surveys to determine use after exposure to the databases. Information brochures about NLM databases will also be provided to at least 50 percent of the local community, a follow-up survey will be conducted, and NLM database research information will be provided to concerned citizens within the community relating to any identified types of cancer.

California State University, Northridge – Northridge, CA

Presentation of NLM Databases Across Curriculum at a University

The goal of this project is to raise awareness of NLM Environmental Health databases among CSUN faculty and students across all disciplines. The objectives are to: develop sample one-hour lesson plans for specific courses that demonstrate how the NLM environmental Health databases can be used by faculty and students; and develop a means of distributing these instructional materials.

The 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.

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

Environmental and Toxicological Information Outreach

The goals of this project are to increase awareness of NLM online resources related to the use of toxicological, environmental, occupational, and hazardous materials/waste at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CRDUMS); provide instruction in the use of the Web-based resources; and enhance the use and distribution of health-related information to the Drew University faculty, staff, and students.

Training will be conducted for approximately 100200 faculty, students, and staff of Drew University and its affiliated training sites. The focus of the training will be how to retrieve scientific literature in the fields of medicine, nursing, dentistry, and healthcare systems; information from TOXNET on toxicological profiles on hazardous chemicals that cause health and environmental effects; Haz-Map information about the possible effects of exposure to chemicals and biological agents; and information from Tox Town on common toxic substances encountered in everyday life.

Diné College – Shiprock, NM

Health Survey of Navajo People in the Aneth Region of Utah

The goals of the project are to support a research study comparing the current self-reporting of health symptoms to a previous study conducted in 1998 to determine if self-reported health symptoms change in relationship with distance from oil and gas production facilities. Activities will include development of education and outreach on the dangers of oil/gas exposure, ways to decrease risks and promote community empowerment and input for a remedial program. Survey participants will also be asked about their ideas on ways to decrease risks and what topics need more research. The project objectives are to 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; and collect air data on CO, VOCs, H₂S and SO₂.

This is the second year of this study. Changes needed to be made to the survey form due to issues with the Navajo language and in particular the dialect of Navajo spoken in the Aneth area and survey techniques have been modified to be more cost effective.

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Florida A&M University, College of Pharmacy – Tallahassee, FL

Using NLM Online Resources to Develop a Model Health Literacy Program for Minority and Disadvantaged Communities

The goal of this project is to develop a model community-based health literacy improvement program to enhance health literacy in underserved populations, incorporating the online resources of the National Library of Medicine. This is a three-phase project; each phase will take approximately 12 months to complete. Phase one includes designing the health literacy workshop, developing formal agreements with four targeted training sites in Tallahassee, purchasing and placing one computer at each site, and conducting training sessions on utilization. In phase two, approval by the University's Institutional Review Board will be secured and patients/patrons will be randomly selected and followed relative to their utilization of the resources provided to them. Phase three will consist of analysis of the findings from phase two. A portion of the funding will be used for supplies to support the project.

Jackson State University – Jackson, MS

Enhancing Environmental Health and Biomedical Sciences Research and Education at Jackson State University

The goal of this project is to enhance environmental health and biomedical sciences research and education at Jackson State University (JSU) by organizing and implementing workshops to increase awareness and accessibility and to train participants on the use of the National Library of Medicine's online environmental health and medical resources. The focus of the training will be on MEDLINE/PubMed, MedlinePlus, TOXNET, Haz-Map, and Tox Town. The target audience will include 30 JSU faculty members in biomedical sciences and environmental health research, 40 graduate students, and 50 undergraduate students. A total of four workshops will be conducted.

Medgar Evers College, City University of New York – New York, NY

Using NLM Online Resources to Promote Knowledge of Human Genomics and Related Minority Health Issues: An Education and Outreach Program for Students, Faculty, and Community

The goal of this project is to develop and design the framework and content for a computer-enhanced educational module that addresses genomics and one genomics-related health issue in the African American community, incorporating the online resources of the National Library of Medicine. Possible NLM resources to be incorporated include MedlinePlus, Genetics Home Reference, and GENE-TOX.

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Using NLM Online Resources to Promote Knowledge of Human Genomics and Related Minority Health Issues: An Education and Outreach Program for Students, Faculty, and Community

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The module will be implemented initially through a workshop for MEC students majoring in biology, environmental science, and nursing, and one of two target community groups: African American doctors in Brooklyn who belong to the Provident Clinical Society of NMA; or residents of the Brooklyn community. This project will seed the development of the "Medgar Evers College Genomics Education and Outreach Program, to educate and disseminate information about human genomics and the issues that affect and are relevant to the African American community.

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. This is a continuation of the 2004 EnHIOP project. This year, an additional computer will be purchased to respond to the increased interest and usage of the computer purchased last year.

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

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

The goal of the project is to help to reduce environmental health disparities through information access to groups and communities in Puerto Rico. Project objectives are to develop and schedule a set of training activities directed to middle and high school teachers and students to equip them to serve as liaisons to provide information and orientation about HIV and STDs to other teens and young adults at risk to acquire HIV or STDs; train UPR biology and premedical students in the effective use of NLM resources; train groups of women to access, retrieve, and understand access women's health information available on the Internet; and train a group of first year UPR Pharmacy School graduate students in the 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 training sessions will be conducted at the Community Technology Centers (CTC) of ASPIRA, Inc. of Puerto Rico (a nonprofit organization devoted to the educational and leadership development of Puerto Rican youth), the UPR Natural Sciences Library Computer Center in Rio Piedras, and the Computer Center of the UPR Medical Sciences Campus.

Xavier University of Louisiana – New Orleans, LA

Teaching Elderly Adults to Use the Internet to Access Health Care Information

The purpose of this project is to teach a targeted group of African American senior citizens to use the Internet to access health care information through NLM Internet resources. The target audience is a senior center in a predominantly African American neighborhood near the University with a high rate of impoverished households and where almost half of the households have grandparents as the caregivers of minor children. Funding will be used to place a computer, printer, and supplies at the senior center to facilitate access to NLM resources, including MedlinePlus®, NIHSeniorHealth, and ClinicalTrials.gov. Training will be provided by a clinical pharmacist. Seniors will be encouraged to print copies of the information for subsequent review and reference, and to encourage other seniors at the center to participate. A total of six training sessions are initially planned, to be provided to groups of five seniors over a one-week period per month. As a part of student training, fourth-year pharmacy students will participate in assessing the effectiveness of the intervention strategies to enhance knowledge and foster appropriate health behaviors.