

Environmental Health Information Partnership

2007—2008 EnHIP Outreach Awards

Benedict College – Columbia, SC

Facilitating Campus Awareness of the Role of National Library of Medicine Databases in Preventing Potential Health or Environmental Disasters

Within this project, principal investigators will routinely train student members of the Benedict College Environmental Health Association on the use of National Library of Medicine databases. These assigned students will develop attractive monthly flyers to inform the college about NLM database roles in preventing or preparing for health or environmental emergencies. The principal investigators or project administrators will then rate their flyers. Students with accepted flyers will receive stipends and will be permitted to disseminate their flyers at locations that provide greatest campus-wide access and visibility. At the conclusion of the project, a survey will be conducted to determine campus-wide awareness and attitudes about the project.

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

Environmental and Toxicological Information Outreach

The objectives of this project are: to develop and pilot-test a disaster preparedness presentation in community settings that will include information about NLM online resources and the recently enacted California Universal Waste Rule; to increase the awareness of NLM online resources related to the use of toxicological, environmental, occupational, and hazardous materials/waste at Drew University; to provide instruction in the use of NLM Web-based resources; and to enhance the use and the distribution of health-related information to the Drew University faculty, staff and students.

Target audience is expected to include high school students, church members, employees, professional staff and students of the Charles R. Drew University and its affiliated training sites. Approximately 300 individuals will be trained. Trainers include experts in the fields of toxicology, environmental health, and informational and instructional technology.

Diné College – Shiprock, NM

Navajo Ethno-Medical Encyclopedia Project (NEME)

Due to unavailability of clean water to many community members in the Navajo Nation, many unregulated water sources are currently being used. The goal of this project is to provide some preliminary testing of unregulated water sources currently in use and to provide information to Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency for further support and community education.

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Navajo Ethno-Medical Encyclopedia Project (NEME)

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In addition, through partnership with Loma Linda University's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Public Health program, mapping of these sources, including global positioning system (GPS) coordinates of rural homes will be done with the intent of improving local emergency response to these community members. Many dwellings on the Navajo Nation lack clear addressing and local Community Health Representatives (CHRs) often have to rely on obscure directions to get to a particular home. Project Goals are to improve water quality for rural communities through education; and to provide GIS Mapping to support emergency response to rural areas. The objectives are that preliminary testing will be conducted in six chapter areas of most commonly used unregulated sourced; and that through GIS, map location of unregulated sources and houses in the area, including Shortest Path Analysis Target Audience: NN EPA, Chapter members and NN Emergency Response Teams.

Hampton University – Hampton, VA

The Z-HOPE™/NLM EnHIOP Initiative: National Disaster Preparation & Response Information Program

The purpose of the Z-HOPE™/NLM EnHIOP Initiative, Disaster Preparation & Response Information Program, is the expansion of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority's current national community service initiative, Z-HOPE™ (Zetas Helping Other People Excel) combined with a concentrated focus on training and awareness education of communities of color with information on disaster preparedness and response using a train-the-trainer format. This national, multi-site project will use culturally tailored interactive health promotion strategies to empower participants to plan, prepare and respond to natural and man-made disasters. The premise is that participation in the program will yield a cadre of informed, productive trained community citizens who will choose to exercise their knowledge of disaster preparation and response with others in their respective communities. The additional resources will increase the capacity of the 56 selected chapters located in the selected communities across the nation to provide informative workshops to at least 5,000 persons between the ages of 12-90 years (a minimum of 25 per session) participants in their community.

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Howard University – Washington, D.C.

Healthy Homes/Healthy Bodies

The consumer-based databases (MedlinePlus, Tox Town, ToxMystery, Household Products Database, etc) of the NLM provide the much needed educational resources providing high quality information to parents to maintain a healthy and safe environment to their children. Once parents are aware of the potential dangers presented within and out of the home environment, steps can be taken to prevent or reduce exposure to toxicants. In addition, we propose to supplement the information provided by schools, parents and communities by creating a series of day-long interactive workshops for parents and young children to jointly learn about the importance of a healthy diet, and healthy eating options. Parent participation is critical to ensure that the lessons learned will continue to be reinforced in the home. By the end of the program, children and their parents will be able to use the NLM consumer databases and use them to take a more participatory role in their health care and health-related choices.

Jackson State University – Jackson, MS

NLM Web-Based Resources: A Catalyst for Biomedical and Environmental Health Research and Education

The goal of this project is to enhance environmental health and biomedical sciences research and education at Jackson State University and around the world by organizing and implementing a pre-symposium workshop in conjunction with the Fifth International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research to be held at the Jackson Marriott Hotel in September 2008. Hence, the implementation of the workshop activities would help to increase awareness and accessibility, and train participants on the use of the National Library of Medicine's online health and medical resources.

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

Educational Outreach to the College and Community: A Workshop for Disaster Readiness Incorporating NLM On-line Information

The goal of this activity is to develop a workshop program and to hold two workshops that will educate the college and its service community in Brooklyn, N.Y. about disaster readiness. The workshop will include a live Internet presentation and materials from the National Library of Medicine, e.g., MedlinePlus, Disaster Preparation and Recovery. In addition, an activity will utilize NLM resources to illustrate one aspect of disaster management, DNA identification, for high school students. High school students are important for promoting student interest to pursue related science careers and promoting scientific literacy (genetic citizenship) among the population in general.

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Meharry Medical College – Nashville, TN

Health Literacy Network Development

To continue to build the Health Literacy Network Capacity among four local community churches in Nashville/Davidson County, Tenn. The core activities will include training in the use of electronic management of health literacy and emergency and disaster preparedness information, resources and training meetings with the Nashville Public Library and the Office of Emergency Management. The purpose of this project is to connect faith-based organizations with public libraries and emergency and preparedness agencies in their community to learn about how to access health information regarding prevention, early detection, and disease management while understanding the progression of chronic diseases. Additionally, the enhanced activity will include identifying response information resources and services that will assist communities in developing strategies for emergency and disaster preparedness.

Morehouse School of Medicine – Atlanta, GA

Disaster and Emergency Planning Outreach Workshops at Select Atlanta Churches

This project will present workshops at three Atlanta Churches on disaster and emergency planning. Collectively, these churches serve a population of 1,800 and the project has the potential of reaching at least 500 individuals, including the relatives of those attending workshops. The Morehouse School of Medicine already houses a Regional Coordinating Center for Hurricane Response and believes strongly in preparing people with the information they need to have in the event of a disaster or emergency. Morehouse School of Medicine librarians will demonstrate, through interactive workshops at each church site, the use of selected NLM databases such as WISER, Haz-Map, Household Products, Tox Town, TOXMAP and MedlinePlus. Morehouse School of Medicine librarians will show participants where to go for disaster or emergency information, how to create a disaster or emergency plan and how to share it with relatives not living with them. The workshops will include overview, training and interaction.

Oglala Lakota College – Kyle, SD

Taking Charge-Living Wisely: Ek' sabe' yah an unpi, Phase IV

For this project, the Oglala Lakota College Department of Nursing will: seek assistance to design and launch a website, including faculty and staff development to keep it current. The website will be linked to the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and instructions will be added on how to use MedlinePlus and MEDLINE, the TOXNET databases, and the Native American website; involve students in projects to make teaching DVDs and computer games for teaching children about tooth care, diet and fitness; use the interactive DVD developed for children by the NLM about environmental health; visit Head Start centers; make age-appropriate DVDs for adult students about diet and fitness with some environmental health information; and plan to go to two more college centers to offer training for the NLM databases, recruitment for the nursing program, and some teaching about nutrition, fitness and staying well.

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Southern University A&M College – Baton Rouge, LA

Healthy Response to Power Outages

The goal of this project is to promote community-wide healthy behaviors during a power outage to promote management of stress and food and water safety among racial and ethnic minorities. The objectives are to: educate community health nursing students on stress management and food and water safety during a power outage; utilize community health nursing students to educate members of their communities on stress management and food and water safety during a power outage; assess the current knowledge of the community regarding stress management and food and water safety during a power outage; educate the community about stress management and food and water safety during a power outage; evaluate knowledge after educational intervention on stress management and food and water safety during a power outage; and provide an electronic tool kit utilizing MedlinePlus.gov as a resource.

Texas Southern University, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Houston, TX

Pilot Project to Train Pharmacy Students about Emergency Preparedness and Outreach to Community Pharmacists

Texas Southern University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (TSU COPHS) is located in Houston, Tex. As one of the largest coastal cities in the U.S., Houston experiences hurricane, tropical storm, and flooding threats every year. Education about emergency preparedness is very important in Houston. Pharmacists, one of the most trusted professions and conveniently located in the neighborhood, can be great resources to teach residents about medication management preparation for emergency evacuation. Currently, skills in medications management for emergency preparedness have not been emphasized in the pharmacy curriculum at TSU COPHS. There is no didactic lecture or practice site that focuses on this matter. The goal of this project is to provide training to pharmacy students about emergency preparedness and provide outreach to community pharmacists about available electronic resources to health professionals and the public.

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

Outreach Project in Environmental Health Information 2007-2008

Goal of the Project: To reduce the inequality in the access to information related to health among minority groups, communities in disadvantage, and health students. Training in the use of NLM databases and resources (especially in environmental health) will be provided to the following groups:

- Graduate students admitted to the programs in Pharmacy, Nursing, and Basic Sciences (Microbiology, Anatomy, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Biochemistry) and faculties of the Medical Sciences Campus
- Students of ASPIRA Inc.'s alternative high school (CASA project) in subjects related to health and environment that impact their lives (sexually transmitted diseases and HIV). CASA is a program that serves at risk students and school dropouts
- Middle and high school teachers, middle and high school students, and school librarians
- Biology and pre-medical students at the University of Puerto Rico
- Elderly members in the communities of Carolina, Mayaguez and Ponce related to health issues that affect the golden age community
- Groups of women who need access to women's health information available through the Internet
- Faculty, librarians and graduate students from private universities located in the metropolitan area of San Juan

University of Texas at El Paso – El Paso, TX

Development and Testing of Communication Card for Emergency and Disaster Preparedness for Monolingual, Spanish-speaking Individuals with Limited Literacy

The goal of the project is to increase the effectiveness of emergency and disaster preparedness education for monolingual Spanish-speaking individuals with limited literacy (SIL). The objectives are to: develop a linguistically and culturally tailored CommuniCard for SIL that will be used to transmit the Homeland Security Ready America three-point plan of action for individual community member emergency and disaster preparedness. The Ready America three-point plan of action is: 1) Get a Kit, 2) Make an Emergency Family Plan, and 3) Stay Informed (Homeland Security Ready America, 2006); develop a video simulation scenario and accompanying evaluation tool that will measure the quantity and accuracy of expected respondent behaviors as an outcome of the CommuniCard for emergency and disaster preparedness; and test the effectiveness of the CommuniCard through the use of a simulation scenario-based evaluation tool among 150 SIL who meet inclusion criteria.