Summary Report of Accomplishments and Projects Sponsored by USF Health Service Corps: July 1, 2008 – June 1, 2009
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Through the USF Health Service Corps, USF Health students contribute to the community in a wide variety of health-related community service projects. These projects are listed at http://health.usf.edu/ahec/hsevents.htm and include:

(I) Health Fairs

The USF Health Service Corps collaborates with community agencies to provide screening and health education services to low income medically-underserved residents of the Tampa Bay area, many of whom do not receive regular preventive health care services (due to the barriers of lack of transportation, lack of insurance coverage, lack of income, and fear of being reported as a undocumented citizen). The USF Health Service Corps also provides health fair participants with a listing of low cost and free clinics in Hillsborough and surrounding counties, where they can receive follow up health care services.

Between 7/1/08-6/1/09, USF Health students participated in 26 different USF Health Service Corps - sponsored health fairs and screening events. Over 4100 community members received FREE screenings (blood pressure (BP), blood sugar (BS), blood cholesterol (BC), body mass index (BMI), physical therapy assessments (PT) and vision screenings) and FREE flu shots at these events. A cumulative number of 281 COM and CON students and 8 DPT students contributed to these health fairs and screening events.

In addition, over 1735 adults and children benefited from non-clinical services at these health fairs and screening events (including health education displays for adults and children; health education and fitness activities for children; and bicycle helmet fitting for children). The cumulative number of non-clinical volunteers (including COPH, COM grad students and undergrad pre-health professional students) who participated in these non-clinical activities was 81 students.

The cumulative number of all USF student volunteers was 370 students.

Notes:
(1) Many students participated in more than one health fair event throughout the year, so the numbers listed above do not reflect total numbers of student volunteers, but the sum of the number of students who participated in the 26 different screening events. Assuming 4 hours of service per volunteer per event, this can be interpreted as a total number of 370 x 4 = 1480 student volunteer hours at health fairs throughout the year.
(2) COM and CON student volunteers who participate in health fairs sponsored by the USF Health Service Corps have received training in BMI, vital signs, flu shots and blood sugar/cholesterol screening through their respective educational programs. Likewise, Physical Therapy student volunteers have received training in physical therapy assessments/procedures through their DPT program. Appropriate clinical supervision is provided for USF Health students for all health fairs.

(II) Non-Clinical Special Events

TOTALS: 146 USF Health students participated in 12 special events (e.g. picnics, parties, arts and crafts activities, and musical entertainment) for senior citizens, children with special health care needs and cancer patients. Together, these events benefited over 550 people.

Notes: Again, many students actually participated in more than one non clinical event throughout the year. Assuming 4 hours per volunteer per event, this can be interpreted as a total of 584 student volunteer hours. Examples of these non-
clinical special events included: Dinners and musical entertainment at the ACS Benjamin Mendick Hope Lodge; Love a Senior Day at Weinberg Village; Halloween party at John Knox Village; parties for children at Children’s Cancer Center and Shriners Hospital for Children; and safety and fitness fairs for children residing at at San Jose Mission in Dover.

(III) On-Going Health-Related Service Projects

Throughout the year, USF Health and pre-health professional students participate in a number of service projects on a regular basis, including: serving as interpreters at the Catholic Mobile Medical Services Monday evening clinics; serving as mentors and tutors in the Brain Expansions Scholastics Training (BEST) program in East Tampa; volunteering at the Judeo Christian clinic; and serving as counselors at camps for people with Special Health Care Needs (e.g. Boggy Creek Camp, Florida Diabetes Camp and Faces of Courage Holiday camp in December for pediatric cancer survivors). The USF Department of Pediatrics Reach Out and Read Program continues to be a successful service learning opportunity for pre-health professional undergraduate students, as students can read to children and then shadow a resident at USF Health pediatrics clinics. Number of student volunteers: Summer of 2008: 34 students; Fall 2008: 59 students; and Spring 2009: 61 students.

(IV) Teaching Events

USF Health students continue to enthusiastically share helpful information and real-life experiences about their career choices and USF health academic programs with youth in local schools. Some of the more popular outreach teaching events include:

Wiregrass Ranch High School ‘School to Work’ Program: Students gave presentations at WRHS in October, November, January and March.

Great American Teach In Week (Nov 17-20): 11 schools and ~ 35 classes were served by 31 student volunteers from COM, CON, COPH and 4 pre-health professional undergraduate students.

Mini Teach in, to kick off national Public Health Week (NPHW) in early April: Students from the COPH and COM participated in a mini teach-in at 4 local elementary, middle and high schools.

In sum, 47 student volunteers taught over 1000 students in a total of 12 schools and 45 classes.

(V) Collection Drives

USF Health students, as well as faculty and staff, participated in eight different collection/gift drives of toys, clothing, school supplies, food and cell phones which benefited low income residents in Tampa, Hillsborough County, as well as foreign countries.

June: Clothing and Shoes and Toys collection drive for families served by the La Victoria Mission which is located in the Dominican Republic and funded by the Nativity Catholic Church in Brandon. 35 bag/boxes collected

July: Annual Tools for Schools Collection Drive: 275 bags of new school supplies collected, and $100 donation provided by USF Foundation. The items were distributed to families attending the University Area Back to School Health Fair on August 16, where children received free immunization and physicals. USF medical students also volunteered at this health fair.

September Clothing Drive to Benefit Farm Workers in Hillsborough and Pasco Counties: 25 bags

October Cell Phone Drive to benefit The Spring of Tampa Bay - cell phones are reprogrammed and given to women at the Spring, so they can call 911 for help. 100 cell phones donated.

November Canned/Box Food Collection Drive: 30 boxes of food collected and distributed to Tampa Jewish Family Service Food Bank and San José Mission in Dover.

February and March book collection drives for young and old:
For children: 5 boxes of books were collected for the USF Reach Out and Read Programs at USF Health South and Health Park pediatrics clinics.

For students in India: 5 boxes of health science text books were collected for students who are attending Symbiosis University College of Nursing in India, where Dr. Kay Perrin, COPH, completed her Fulbright Scholarship.

Collection of Hygiene Items: March – April. 4 boxes of hygiene items were collected and students in the International Health Service Collaborative (IHSC) and Project World Health delivered these donations to families on their respective service trips to Panama and the Dominican Republic.

(VI) Fundraising Projects

Over 100 students participated in fundraising and special events to benefit American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, Susan G. Komen Foundation, American Heart Association and Freedom Playground Foundation and Paint your Heart Out Tampa. Total amount of funds raised by USF Health students: over $6000.

(VII) Blood Drives and Bone Marrow Registration Drive

Florida Blood Services: 44 individuals donated blood in two drives (September and April)

January USF Bone Marrow Registration Drive: 10 COM students served as volunteers and 97 people were typed and signed up for the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) Registry.

(VIII) USF Health Service Corps in the News

This year, the USF Health Service Corps was featured in the following media reports:

(1) University Beat feature about the Tools for Schools collection drive: http://www.wusf.usf.edu/radio/program/university_beat/episode/2008-09/tools_for_schools

(2) Story in the National AHEC Organization’s online Electronic Newsletter: http://www.nationalahec.org/news/E-NewsletterAutumn2008.htm#BEST_PRACTICES4

(3) Story in USF Magazine Summer 2009 and also on USF Health website: http://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/health/now/?p=6055