

Alaska's Healthcare Workforce Initiatives with ASHNHA's Leadership 10/15/2013



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ASHNHA's CNO/DON Committee

- Identified sub-specialty nurse training as a critical need in 2011. Further determined the focus to be perioperative nursing.
 - Contracted with the NorthWest Perioperative Nursing Consortium(NWPC) (Seattle) to conduct a feasibility study.
 - Utilized the NWPC's curriculum/materials to begin the 1st cohort of nurse interns in February, 2012. The consortium has trained 36 nurses to date



Alaska Perioperative Nursing Consortium (APNC)

- APNC started its 4th cohort on 9/16/13 with 15 nurse interns.
- Participating facilities include:
 - Alaska Native Medical Center
 - Alaska Regional
 - Bartlett Regional Hospital
 - Central Peninsula Hospital
 - Fairbanks Memorial Hospital
 - Peace Health Ketchikan Medical Center



APNC Training

- Providence Medical Center
- South East Area Regional Health Corporation (SEARHC)
- South Peninsula Hospital
- Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC)





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Metrics of the Classes

- Length of program including didactic and practicum is 17 weeks
- The nurse interns are employees of consortium members and compensated by their facility
- ASHNHA has a support grant thru its member, PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center which helps with facilitation/travel expenses



APNC has started a second focus area---Pernatal Nurse Training

- The ASHNHA CNO/DON committee decided to begin a second area of focus for sub-specialty nursing---PeriNatal Services.
 - A workgroup was formed of nurse champions. They have held two organizational meetings. Nurses from ANMC are developing a curriculum using the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetrics and Neonatal Nurse’s (AWHONN) Perinatal Orientationa and Education Program (POEP)



PeriNatal continued...

- Thru group purchase of these modules consortium members have saved more than \$20,000 already.
- The workgroup has set a tentative start date for the training of March 17, 2013



APNC is also supporting training for Geriatric Nursing

- In partnership with the University of Nebraska Nursing Education Dept. APNC is supporting 32 nurses who have enrolled in an on-line gero-prep course that leads to certification in geriatric nursing.
- The program has several modules that can be completed via distance in 3-6 months. Upon completion nurses are eligible to sit for the geriatric certification exam.

Certified Nursing Assistant (C.N.A.)

- In October, 2012 the Alaska Board of Nursing approved changes in the requirements for the eligible sites for the practical training of C.N.A.'s. Under the new rules Hospitals and the Alaska Pioneer Homes are now eligible sites.
- YKHC's application for a program was approved at the July board meeting. Other hospitals have expressed interest.



DHSS Criminal Background Check Program (BCP) changes

- The BCP will be implementing methodology in the 1st quarter of 2014 for an individual to acquire a background check separate from employment.
 - This is expected to greatly improve the timeliness and reduce the duplicative process where an individual changes employment or works for multiple employers
- The BCP will provide a methodology for use of live scan for digital fingerprinting.

PT/PTA Education

- ASHNHA thru its workforce committee has been very involved in helping the University of Alaska at Anchorage (UAA) obtain the necessary funding to hire a director (Leeanne Carrothers) and develop a Physical Therapy Assistant program on the UAA campus.
- UAA is also in discussions with Uni. of Washington for a partnership for a Physical Therapy Program



SHARP II—Health Professional Loan and Incentive Program

- With several stakeholders ASHNHA is involved in the implementation of the legislatures funding for recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals.
- To date, DHSS has



Physician Recruitment Dialogue

- Working both with the Alaska Healthcare Workforce Coalition and ASHNHA members there is dialogue on how to utilize the great work by Brad Clark at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital in expanding the metrics around the web site: www.AlaskaPhysicianJobs.net

