

## **HRSA Primary Care Workforce Grants**

**North Carolina, October 2010**

### **Primary Care Residency Expansion**

UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Pediatrics/UNC Hospitals—a grant of \$3.7 million will fund an increase of four residents per year with a focus on training general pediatricians for communities in North Carolina. The program will be done in collaboration with Moses Cone Health System and the UNC pediatrics faculty which are based there. The first four residents will be taken in 2011.

New Hanover Regional Medical Center/South East AHEC— a grant of \$1.8 million will fund an expansion of the family medicine residency in Wilmington from the current four residents per year to six. The expanded residency program will develop a partnership with the New Hanover Community Health Center, an FQHC, to serve as a second site for training residents.

### **Personal and Home Care Aide Training**

NC was one of only six states to receive one of these grants, with the DHHS Office of Long Term Services and Supports being the grant recipient, and the Foundation for Advanced Health Programs as a subcontractor. With this grant of \$578,745, two pilot projects will be developed to train between 190-230 personal and home care aides, with 60-80 trained via allied health programs in community colleges or high schools, and another 120-150 participating in training through home care agencies and adult homes.

### **State Health Workforce Development**

The North Carolina Commission on Workforce Development was the recipient of a one year, \$144,595 grant. The grant was submitted by the Commission on behalf of UNC's Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. The Sheps Center will be working with a panel of experts to identify strategies the State can employ to increase the per capita primary care workforce by 10% to 25% in the next ten years. The information gathered through this needs assessment will be used to identify "high priority" skill gaps; assess supply bottlenecks and barriers to increasing the primary care workforce; and articulate potential interventions that could be implemented to address these workforce issues. Project findings will be disseminated through a Primary Health Care Workforce Implementation Plan for North Carolina. At the completion of the one-year planning grant the state will be able to compete for a much larger implementation grant.

### **Expansion of Physician Assistant Training**

Duke University Medical Center's Physician Assistant Program --received a five-year grant of \$1,320,000 to expand its entering class size from the current level of 72 per class to 80 per class. A total of 34 PA students will receive financial aid as part of this grant.

Methodist University Physician Assistant Program—received a five-year grant of \$1,888,000 to both increase class size and to provide support to students to strengthen the likelihood they will enter primary care practice. The program will increase the size of the entering class from 34 to 40, with a possibility of going to 46 in later years. The funds will also be used for financial support to students and allow the program to develop some additional rural clinical training sites.

### **Advanced Nursing Education Expansion**

Duke University School of Nursing received a grant of \$1,276,000 to fund a five-year project entitled “Advancing the Number of Primary Care Clinicians through Nurse Practitioner Education”. Program objectives are to increase the number of Adult Nurse Practitioner-Primary Care (ANP) and Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) students who enroll full time and graduate from the MSN program within two years and to accelerate the graduation rate of part-time MSN students in the ANP and FNP tracks. Through the grant’s tuition support financial barriers will be removed, allowing more students to graduate and complete national certification and licensure sooner.

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