

WRCC Health Careers Advisory Committee

3:45 PM

WRCC Room 173

Meeting Minutes

I. Introductions Becky Steele (WRCC Health Careers), Jeannie Hodsdon (WRCC Health Careers), Laura Van Guilder (BMH)

II. 2022-2023 WRCC Health Careers program updates reported by Jeannie and Becky:

A. Shadow days @BMH 24 WRCC students attended over 4 days and were able to visit multiple specialty areas at BMH. Student reactions were very positive.

B. Evening LNA program: Apr 11, 2023 will begin a new class of LNA students. Currently, there are eight enrolled students and the class will be completed in June. In August a summer intensive LNA program will be offered. It will run for 8 hours per day for 15 days over the course of three weeks.

C. Day LNA Program

13 Students (1 graduated early, 1 went back to sending school to finish up graduation requirements)

Clinical sites: 2 sites were added this year to accommodate the increase in the number of students from 8 last year to 13 this year.

BMH

Thompson House

The Gathering Place

Bradley House

State licensing exam through Prometric in mid June

D. Other Health careers Program updates:

Spring Work Keys Standardized testing for CTE students is being completed this week.

HOSA ( a global student-led organization of future healthcare professionals).  
Becky and Jeannie brought 5 students to the Spring Leadership Conference at  
Castleton on April 4th.

Amanda Richardson from AHEC has currently done 2 of 5 modules with career  
exploration students

VTC will be bringing their birthing simulator to WRCC on May 22, 2023 for STEM  
academy and WRCC health careers students.

All Health Career program students will be touring the Brattleboro site of the VT  
Department of Health. They will engage with the public health nurses and the WIC team.

The LNA and the Nutrition/Human Growth and Development students will be presenting  
on various health related topics at the St Michael's Catholic school health fair on  
May 24, 2023

On May 4th Jeannie and Becky will attend the Spring Technical Education and  
Collaboration (TEC) Spring conference

### III. Updates from committee members

BMH Laura VanGuilder

BMH still has openings for day/night and per diem LNAs

2 LNAs from the most recent evening program class and 1 LNA from the  
2021-2022 day program class have recently been hired.

Based on comments from the most recently hired LNA's, Laura reports that it  
might be better to hold the career outreach fair on a day other than the day that the  
students are taking their state licensing exam.

Laura offered to post flyers for the upcoming LNA classes

Jennifer Scott AHEC via email:

Health Careers Exploration:

- Five learning modules with health careers curricula and hands-on activities (Introduction to Health Careers, Behavioral/Mental Health Careers, Clinical Health Careers, Health Equity and Public Health Careers), plus Healthcare Teams Simulation, are being delivered to students at WRCC between Feb - May.
- Collaborating with BMH to host a future MedQuest or Advanced MedQuest summer program

Medical Student Housing for Rural Clinical Rotations:

- Supported housing for third-year medical student on clinical rotation at Grace Cottage

Public Health Student Project (in partnership with Windham Aging):

- Public health students are leading focus groups with UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences students and UVM/LCOM medical students to learn what is needed to recruit them to the workforce in varied settings in rural Vermont. Additionally, Dr. Carney supports a trip to the Brattleboro region for a round table discussion with the medical students led by Dr. Carolyn Taylor-Olson, MD, with Dr. Robert Tortolani, MD, and Dr. Tim Shaefer, MD, (all long-time primary care physicians in the region and friends of AHEC) plus representatives of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, Grace Cottage Hospital, Bayada, and long-term care facilities. This discussion will help the medical students better understand rural health care needs and, potentially, build some interest in rural rotations for third and fourth year LCOM medical students.

Statewide Community Health Worker (CHW) Workforce Development Initiative:

- VT AHEC's first statewide CHW conference was Thursday 12/1/22 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Montpelier. We had 137 participants attend, 50% of whom were CHWs or doing the work of CHWs.
- The project team has assembled the statewide CHW Alliance, a self-governed multi-stakeholder group of CHWs and allies to address CHW membership/networking and education/training. The alliance is comprised of 30 individuals representing 20 CHW employer organizations.
- Collaboration continues with Southern New Hampshire AHEC's CHW Advance! project to support core training and upskilling for CHWs in Vermont and New Hampshire.

Community Engagement:

- Vermont Tech Nursing SE Region Advisory Board
- Windham NAACP Health Justice Subcommittee, including the Workforce Development & Cultural Sensitivity workgroup
- BDCC Diverse Workforce Development Committee

Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm

