PPOVA Updates
March 2010

IN THIS ISSUE:

How Are We Doing?

Current Opportunities

Upcoming Events

Recruitment and Retention Collaborative Team Updates

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Office of Minority Health and Public Health Policy
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Thank you for subscribing to "PPOVA Updates," a service that provides updates about opportunities posted on Virginia's FREE healthcare recruitment website, Primary Practice Opportunities of Virginia.

We Want Your Thoughts

We'd love to know how helpful this newsletter is for you. Please take a few moments and complete our survey.

Thanks in advance!

Current Opportunities

For a list of current opportunities in Virginia, please visit our page on 3RNet. We currently have 109 **opportunities** listed in Virginia.

Upcoming Events

March 16-18
Virginia Rural Health Summit
Danville, VA

March 18
Plowing New Ground - Refreshed Leadership Development for Revitalized Economies webinar (Webinar)

March 19
How to Communicate Effectively When Working with Interpreters
Richmond, VA

March 24-25
Dialogue for Action on Colorectal Cancer
Baltimore, MD

View more events on our calendar

Recruitment and Retention Collaborative Team Updates

Coming Soon: Part-Time Service Option

This month, clinicians working part-time (20 to 39 hours each week, at least 45 weeks each year) at NHSC-approved facilities will be eligible to apply to the National Health Service Corps demonstration program for the Part-time Loan Repayment.
The criteria for the Part-Time Demonstration Program will be comparable to the current NHSC Loan Repayment Program. Below are some specifics about the program:

- Four year service commitment for $50,000
- Potential for additional years of support - 2 year service contract
- Application Period open for 30 days
- 400 awards Anticipated
- Same eligible disciplines as full-time Loan Repayment Program (see Application Information Bulletin: Eligibility)

Learn more >

Virginia Rural Health Data Portal

The Virginia Rural Health Data Council has unveiled the Virginia Rural Health Data Portal. The Rural Health Data Portal is a web-based tool that has been developed to provide a quick source of information on topics of special interest to policy makers, rural health providers, researchers, grant writers, and others interested in telling their story on health issues facing rural populations in Virginia.

There are two components of the portal. One side of the portal creates charts and graphs for a variety of information including population, poverty, health workforce, and more. Data can also be downloaded for use by individuals for their own projects.

The mapping side of the portal allows users to create high quality maps. With just a few clicks, grant writers can graphically demonstrate the areas with the most need, policy makers can determine where funds should be spent, and researchers can compare different areas of Virginia.

"When the dream of a data portal was contemplated by the Data Council, we believed it would be several years before it would become a reality in the form we envisioned," said Ken Cook, Director of Technical Assistance for the Virginia Rural Health Resource Center and Chair of the Rural Health Data Council. "Thanks to all of the partners who participated in the project, it was completed in less than a year, and we have a great building block for the future."

The portal is a collaborative effort of the Data Council, the Virginia Department of Health, the Virginia Rural Health Association and the Virginia Rural Health Resource Center and is a product of the Virginia State Rural Health Plan. The data presented in the portal is related to the issues and strategies defined in the Virginia State Rural Health Plan. It is anticipated that as additional issues are studied, new data sets will be added.

The data portal can be accessed through the Virginia Rural Health Resource Center website at www.vrhrc.org. The Virginia State Rural Health Plan can be viewed at www.va-srhp.org.

Reflections: VCOM OB/GYN and Primary Care Themed Mission Trip to Honduras

View more pictures

Leaving Blacksburg buried under a foot of snow and overcoming the challenges of travel delays created by a winter storm, the mission team disembarked the plane in Honduras in sunny, 80 degree weather eager to embrace the challenges of the week. Team members included two third-year VCOM students completing their one month underserved care rotation in Honduras, two second-year students, eleven first-year students, three VCOM spouses serving as volunteers, one

non-VCOM volunteer, one staff member, Dr. Jan Willcox, and Dr. David Harden.

We were met in Honduras by local VCOM faculty physician Dr. Xiomara Erazo, who joined the mission team for the week. Our home base was the Baxter Institute, and as always, the team enjoyed the remarkable hospitality of Baxter Institute staff, the delicious traditional food, and beautiful a cappella singing of Baxter students. Baxter President Howard Norton and his wife Jane extended a very warm welcome to the mission team and assisted with housing logistics.

Continue reading >

Virginia 2010 Small Rural Hospital Conference

The Virginia 2010 Small Rural Hospital Conference will be held April 13 and 14 in conjunction with the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association Spring Conference in Williamsburg, VA. For information contact Beth O'Connor at boconnor@vcom.vt.edu or 540-231-7023.

How to Communicate Effectively When Working wtih Interpreters - Free Workshop!

Friday March 19, 2010
8:30am-11:00am
When you and your client/patient don't speak the same language, providing quality care is almost impossible without the help of someone to interpret. Many organizations today turn to a variety of people to bridge the language gap, from untrained bilingual staff to professional medical interpreters. However, there's a knack to working with even the best interpreter. This workshop is designed to assist participants to work more effectively with interpreters when dealing with clients from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
Learn More >

Applying to the NHSC Loan Repayment Program Just Got Easier!

The new LRP application can be found at: https://lrpbcrs.hrsa.gov.

Links to the new Application Information Bulletin (AIB) and Forms can be found at: http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment.

Funding Available for Health Care Jobs in Needy Communities

$200 Million in Recovery Act funds are expected to support 3,300 clinicians in health centers, rural health clinics, and other health care facilities that care for the uninsured and underserved people. In exchange for two years service with the National Health Services Corp, clinicians will receive loan repayments of up to $50,000.

- National Health Service Corps
- Number of jobs by State
- Locate Vacancies
- Apply for the program

Please contact Kai Turner at the Virginia Department of Health if you have questions (804) 864-7423.

Important Information on the National Health Service Corp (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program

New Money available now!!

The Health Resources and Services Administration is now accepting new applications to support loan repayment for

bonafide educational debt for primary care medical, dental and certain behavioral/mental health clinicians who want to work at National Health Service Corps (NHSC) sites. In exchange for the loan repayment assistance, clinicians serve for two years with the Corps. The new funds, totaling almost $200 million, are expected to support about 3,300 clinicians that will serve in health centers, rural health clinics and other health outpatient/ambulatory care sites that care for uninsured and underserved people.

HRSA is encouraging fully trained primary health care clinicians who are dedicated to working with the underserved and have qualifying educational loans to apply for this opportunity. In addition to an initial award of up to $50,000 for loan repayment, each clinician receives a competitive salary and a chance to have a significant impact on a community. Primary health care clinicians interested in applying for the NHSC loan repayment program should visit: http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/apply.htm.

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Protecting You and Your Environment
Office of Minority Health
& Public Health Policy
Advancing Health Equity For All Virginians