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CHHS E-Newsletter

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May/June 2013 CHHS E-Newsletter

CHHS Students Receive National Awards

Three CHHS students were honored in April at the 2013 President's Volunteer Service Award reception.

Gold:

Viral Upadhyay, Master of Public Health

Bronze:

Jillian Weston, Nursing

Group gold: Bike4Alz

Sam Wells, Kinesiology, Recreation & Sport

Twenty-six individuals and five groups were honored with this national award from the President of the United States. The WKU ALIVE Center is a certifying organization for the award which is coordinated by the National Conference on Volunteering and Service. Recipients of the award received a gold, silver, or bronze pin for their service during the previous year. The highest award is the Call to Service Award for 4,000 hours over multiple years. The reception took place on Thursday, April 25th at 7:00pm at the Kentucky Library.

For a full list of recipients, please visit

http://www.wku.edu/alive/volunteerism/presidents_volunteer_service_award.php

IRH Offers Employee Health Screening Services to Local Businesses

The **Institute for Rural Health (IRH)** has started collaborating with local business/industry to offer employee health screening services. Since the creation of the IRH, faculty and students within the School of Nursing have been involved in the outreach offered through the IRH. The School of Nursing utilizes the IRH's Mobile Health and Wellness Unit as a community clinical site for BSN Prelicensure students enrolled in NURS 449-Community Health Nursing. Recently, IRH staff and BSN Prelicensure students from the School of Nursing provided blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose and bone density screenings for the employees at Delta Faucet of Morgantown over a period of six days.

Mobile Health Unit Services at Delta Faucet	
Blood Pressure Screenings	103
Cholesterol Screenings	102
Glucose Screenings	102
Bone Density Screenings	102
Total Procedures	409
Total Patient Encounters	104

A BSN Prelicensure student stated the following about their clinical rotation on the MHU: "It's great that the MHU can provide these services in different communities and settings. They are able to provide some health care to people who may not have any other access."

An event such as the one at Delta Faucet provides a great opportunity for the BSN Prelicensure students and the employees of the respective business/industry. Teresa Montgomery, HR Manager of Delta Faucet, shared a heartfelt message of a personal experience she and her family had with nurses and the special role nurses have played in her life. She challenged all the nursing students at the event to be the best nurses they can be and to always show compassion for their patients. Montgomery also added that the company was very pleased with the results of the Health Fair and the professionalism of the IRH and the BSN Prelicensure students.

The IRH and the School of Nursing look forward to providing services at Delta Faucet in the future.

CD Faculty Member Reaches out to Refugees

Kimberly Green, a faculty member in the Department of Communication Disorders, was featured in the BG Daily News recently. Mrs. Green, along with her husband, Mr. Kimball Green, lead the international ministry program each Sunday at the Greenwood Park Church of Christ. To read the article that ran in the Bowling Green Daily News, please click [here](#).



Photo by Nathan Morgan/Daily News **Kimberly Green**, a member of Greenwood Park Church of Christ, teaches a class on baptism as part of the church's international outreach ministry in Bowling Green.

Social Work Faculty Member Receives 2013 Outstanding Volunteer Award from United Way

The first 2013 Outstanding Volunteer award for quarter one was awarded to **Jan Peeler**, an Instructor in the **Social Work** Department at WKU. She has served on the Warren County Allocations Steering Committee since 2002. During her volunteer time, Jan has served on each of the five teams that work in Warren County. Her insight into community needs and service delivery, as well as her social work expertise, have had a tremendous impact on the process.



Jan Peeler (Center)

Nursing Students Participate in Hispanic Community Health Fair

Hannah B. Johnson, BSN Prelicensure Nursing Student

On April 6, 2013, a health fair was held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church for the Hispanic Community of Bowling Green. In partnership with the **Institute for Rural Health, WKU School of Nursing, WKU Dietetics Students**, the Barren River District Health Department, **South Central Kentucky Area Health Education Center (AHEC), WKU Public Health Association**, and many community members, students collaborated with faculty to create an event that addressed the main health and safety concerns of the Hispanic community. The event provided various educational materials as well as screening services; including blood pressure screening, lipid panel screening, consults with local physicians, dental screenings, teeth cleaning, hearing testing and HIV oral testing.

The event was a marked success. There were at least 40 participants who received lipid screening and over 20 children who received teeth cleaning (many other adults and children receiving free screening). After receiving screening services, participants visited various health promotion booths and community tables. They also received a free healthy lunch (homemade chips and salsa, vegetable and fruit trays, chicken soup and more) prepared by WKU dietetics students.

This busy day was well received by the community. Participants completed evaluations with suggestions for future fairs. Without the assistance of the many departments, schools and organizations within the College of Health and Human Services, the fair would not have been as effective and the Hispanic participants would not have received the many health promotion and screening services that day. Much gratitude is extended to the CHHS!

Public Health Professor Quoted in NY Times

Dr. Kathleen Abrahamson, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Health, was mentioned in an article that ran in the New York Times. The article discussed a study regarding the need and benefits of dementia units in nursing homes. Dr. Abrahamson, the lead author on the study, believes that residents that stay in these units have an improved quality of life. "There are some very positive things happening on specialized care units," said Dr. Abrahamson. To read the entire article, please click [here](#).



Dr. Kathleen Abrahamson

South Central AHEC at WKU awards Edmonson Co. 5th/6th Center grant

The Edmonson County 5/6 Family Resource Center was given a grant by the **South Central Kentucky Area Health Education Center (AHEC)** to purchase educational science software for the Edmonson County 5th/6th center. This opportunity is provided to rural areas that traditionally have shortages of many health professionals. One of AHEC's goals is to promote math and science to rural students and encourage students to choose a career in health. This is being addressed by implementing the Science and Math for Rural Teachers and Students (SMARTS) program. This strategy seeks to help students become more proficient in these subjects and entertain the idea of choosing a health career as their profession.

The award winning software purchased is called Digital Frog. Students have interactive activities including virtual dissection of a frog and get to compare the frog's anatomy to that of a human. They also learn about the skeletal system, muscles, cells and our environment. Digital field trips are taken to rain forests, wetlands and deserts. The program promotes life-long meaningful learning for young minds. Lynette Saling, with the 5/6 Family Resource Center says this software would not be available without the grant money. Teachers are excited, as well as the students, to interact with Digital Frog. Mrs. LaNetta Skaggs, 5th grade math and science teacher states, "We would like to thank South Central Kentucky AHEC and the 5/6 Family Resource Center for providing our school with this program. The Digital Frog is a valuable resource to supplement our science program." The program has been in use since September till present and can be used in the future because the program is now licensed to the 5th/6th center.

RN to BSN Student has Article Published in Online Nursing Journal

Dr. Cathy Abell, Coordinator of the RN to BSN Program, is pleased to announce that **Natasha Winchester**, a student in the program, recently had an article published in *The Kentucky Nurse*. Natasha's article was titled "Transformational Leadership." Natasha is a Registered Nurse at the Medical Center in Bowling Green. Please click [here](#) to see the PDF copy of *The Kentucky Nurse*.



Natasha Winchester