



## **MN AHEC Interprofessional Practice and Education Projects**

Interprofessional Practice and Education (IPE) projects have been developed in 14 Minnesota communities with support from the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center and funds from the Minnesota Medical Education Research Costs (MERC) fund. The overarching goals of these projects are to strengthen interprofessional practice and to build and sustain long-term interprofessional education partnerships. Overall, the projects seek to put interprofessional education into practice to the benefit of future health professionals, as well as to demonstrate the positive impact of interprofessional care on community health outcomes.

The challenges and opportunities of creating expert interprofessional teams are shared by all of the developing projects. These projects are moving forward and are creating unique, sustainable learning environments for health professions students. The projects work in partnership with the Minnesota Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program Office and its regional centers, and the AHEC Faculty Leadership Council to address challenges, bridge resources, and increase collaboration across the state.

### **IPE Site Selection**

#### **Guidelines:**

The intent of the Interprofessional Practice and Education Development Program is to stimulate long-term partnerships in interprofessional education through the support and development of rural interprofessional practices in community-based healthcare settings. The program focuses on developing an educational experience that puts into practice the theories of interprofessional education for future health professionals and demonstrates the positive impact of interprofessional care on community health outcomes.

Grants of up to \$100,000 were made available for a one-time, multi-year initiative to support the development of a community-initiated interprofessional practice team in a rural community as well as integration of interprofessional health professions student training.

A goal of this program is to document outcomes and effectiveness of the educational program to contributing to the health of the population served. The Academic Health Center (AHC) Office of Education funds the evaluation of program development.

#### **Qualifications and Criteria:**

Minimum qualifications for recipients of grants for rural interprofessional practice and education development grants include:

- Location in a rural community
- Capacity for two or more disciplines at a single site
- Location in an established AHEC region and has served as an RPAP training site
- Identification of an interprofessional team of community-based providers with an interest in developing an interprofessional practice
- Facilities possess the necessary discipline specific instrumentation and equipment to provide comprehensive evaluations and primary care services
- Demonstrated commitment to the education of future health professionals
- Demonstration of 1:1 matching funds support
- Identification of a community-based initiative to serve as a focal point for the interprofessional team practice, as well as dialogue, development and student training (ex. diabetes, quality improvement)

Selection criteria for recipients of grants for rural interprofessional training sites include:

- Demonstrated interprofessional innovation in patient care and community health;
- Administrative and professional commitment to training students of multiple disciplines;
- Provider team commitment to actively participate in program components to support development of interprofessional practice and integration of health professions student training; and
- Administrative consent from Deans in pharmacy, nursing, and medicine that training site meets academic criteria for discipline-specific training requirements

## MN AHEC Interprofessional Education Project Locations

MN AHEC Region	IPE Site City	IPE Project Focus	IPE Site Medical Center or Clinic	Year Funded
<b>Central MN AHEC</b>				
	Brainerd	Childhood Obesity	St. Joseph's Medical Center	2006
	Crosby	Preventative Care for Medicare Patients	Central Lakes Clinic & Cuyuna Regional Medical Center	2008
	Fergus Falls	Geriatric Falls Prevention	Lake Region Healthcare Corporation	2004
	St. Cloud	Alzheimers - Memory Clinic	Mid-MN Family Practice Residency Clinic	2006
	Staples	Palliative Care	Lakewood Health System	2008
<b>Northeast MN AHEC</b>				
	Hibbing	Diabetes Education	Fairview University Medical Center - Mesabi	2005
	Princeton	Medication Management	Fairview Northland Medical Center	2006
	Moose Lake	Geriatric Rehospitalization Prevention	Mercy Hospital & Health Care Center	2004
	Mountain Iron	Obesity Management & Preventative Health Care	Mountain Iron University Medical Center-Mesabi	2006
<b>Northwest MN AHEC</b>				
	Bemidji	Management of Homecare Patients	Iverson Corner Drug	2008
	Park Rapids	Obesity Management & Preventative Health Care	Dakota Clinic	2008
<b>Southern MN AHEC</b>				
	Montevideo	Prenatal Care	Chippewa County – Montevideo Hospital	2004
	New Ulm	Childhood Obesity	New Ulm Medical Center	2006
<b>Urban MN AHEC</b>				
	Minneapolis	Interprofessional Practice	Broadway Family Medicine	2008

### Faculty Partners

The Minnesota AHEC Faculty Leadership Council was created in March of 2006 to serve as a liaison to the Academic Health Center's health professions schools and to provide strategic oversight for program development and student experiential learning in greater Minnesota. The council is made up of faculty leaders representing the AHC including the schools of dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health. The members were appointed by the deans of their respective schools. The vision statement for this council is to develop and support innovative and sustainable interprofessional health education serving the needs of rural and underserved Minnesotans.

The MN AHEC Faculty Leadership Council also serve as faculty partners to the IPE sites. Each IPE project is assigned at least one Faculty Partner. The faculty partner is available to be a mentor to the IPE team members, as well as a link between the IPE site and the University of Minnesota. The faculty partners are experts in interprofessional education and sites can seek them out to provide guidance and support for developing a sustainable project.

Faculty Partner	AHC School	IPE Partner Sites
James Begun, PhD	School of Public Health	Minneapolis, Moose Lake, New Ulm
Rodney Carter, PharmD	College of Pharmacy - Twin Cities Campus	Brainerd, Crosby, Fergus Falls, Princeton
Ray Christensen, MD	Medical School - Duluth campus	Hibbing, Park Rapids, Staples
Kathie KrichBaum, PhD	School of Nursing	St. Cloud
Gwen Halaas, MD, MBA	Office of Education, Center for IPE	Brainerd, Minneapolis, Moose Lake, St. Cloud
Paul Schulz, DDS, MPH	School of Dentistry	Bemidji, Montevideo, New Ulm
Timothy Stratton, PhD	College of Pharmacy - Duluth campus	Bemidji, Hibbing, Mountain Iron

## IPE Project Summaries

### **Bemidji**

Iverson Corner Drug is establishing an IPE project to address an interprofessional approach to management of homecare patients. Health professions students meet weekly with at least one licensed health professional facilitating discussion of care recommendations for each participating homecare patient's case. In addition, a pharmacist will provide a medication therapy management review upon admission to home care.

### **Brainerd**

The Brainerd IPE team, based at St. Joseph's Medical Center, is targeting childhood obesity at an area grade school. The interprofessional health care team is seeking to engage the school nurse and teachers in this program and has implemented a healthy snack program for 2nd graders in the 2008-09 school year. The team is also developing a Walking School Bus program for students.

### **Crosby**

Central Lakes Clinic/Cuyuna Regional Medical Center in Crosby has a focus on preventative health care for Medicare patients. The team works to increase the likelihood that Medicare patients receive preventive care by providing an Initial Preventive Physical Exam in a shared visit format, with an interprofessional team of providers.

### **Fergus Falls**

The primary goal of this group is to increase public and health professional awareness of the impact of falls in the elderly, and to assess those at risk for falling. Based at Lake Region Healthcare Corporation, the team's work is centered on identifying patients at risk for falls through poly-pharmacy medication management, educating on lessening the risk of falls, considering efforts necessary for home and environmental improvements, and measuring outcomes of interventions.

### **Hibbing**

The Hibbing Diabetes Education IPE team consists of three nurses (two of whom are Certified Diabetes Educators or CDE), two dietitians (one is CDE), a pharmacist, health professions students, and a primary care provider from Range Regional Health Services and Fairview Mesaba Clinics. The team works to provide diabetes education and health screening to the area's growing geriatric population.

### **Minneapolis**

The Broadway Clinic in North Minneapolis will address the complex set of issues the clinic's patients present as an interprofessional team. Health professions students in the team will collaborate with family physicians, a psychiatrist, a pharmacist, a nurse practitioner, a social worker, a marriage and family therapist, and a psychologist.

### **Montevideo**

This IPE project, based at Chippewa County-Montevideo Hospital, is designed to provide comprehensive community prenatal education. The goals for this program include reduced pre-term labor incidence, improved birth outcomes, health promotion education, and increased access for at risk populations. Team members include a physician, nurses, a pharmacist, a dietitian, and a physical therapist.

### **Moose Lake**

The focus of Moose Lake's project is reducing hospitalizations and re-hospitalizations among the elderly. This IPE team, based at Mercy Hospital and Health Care Center, uses poly-pharmacy and in-home assessments to identify patients at risk. Group members include hospital, home care, and assisted living employees, as well as members from the community.

### **Mountain Iron**

The Fairview Mesaba Clinic hosts an IPE team that delivers preventive health and wellness education and obesity management in their community. Their goal is to create environments that encourage and support behaviors surrounding physical activity and healthy eating with the aim of reducing obesity. The team includes members from medicine, exercise physiology, dietetics, and nursing.

### **New Ulm**

New Ulm Medical Center's IPE team focuses on decreasing the incidence of childhood obesity. The team includes two physicians, two registered nurses, five medical center staff from various departments, a pediatric dietitian, and two community members. Events and efforts implemented by the group include programs focusing on family and youth fitness.



## **IPE Project Summaries, continued**

### **Park Rapids**

The Park Rapids IPE team, based at the Center for Weight Management at St. Joseph's Area Health Services and Dakota Clinic Park Rapids, consists of physicians, dietitians, nurses, exercise specialists, social workers, psychologists, pharmacists and others who work with patients individually and in groups to improve their overall health. This team facilitates weight management for patients from both Minnesota and North Dakota.

### **Princeton**

Fairview Northland Medical Center provides interprofessional medication reconciliation and medication therapy management for their patients. This project focuses on enhancing the medication reconciliation process by collaborating with local nursing homes and specialists that see patients in the geographic area.

### **Saint Cloud**

The Mid-Minnesota Family Medicine Center in St. Cloud has identified their Memory Disorders Clinic (MDC) as the focus of their IPE project. The MDC provides a comprehensive geriatric assessment of patients using an interprofessional care model including a medical social worker, nurse practitioner, medical director, administrator and an occupational therapist.

### **Staples-Motley**

The Lakewood Health System host an IPE team that is developing an interprofessional focus on palliative care for those not yet in Hospice care. A team consisting of RNs, CNAs, social workers, chaplains, pharmacists and physicians will ensure the team is working to be successful in addressing palliative care and enabling individuals to stay independent for longer.

