TRAINING
A
PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE

Strengthening the Health Care Safety Net Workforce through Interagency Cooperation, Planning and Policy

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New Mexico’s Challenges

• 32 of 33 counties — health professional shortage areas
• 29 of 33 counties — primary mental health care shortage areas
• Physicians/100,000 population: 194 (NM) vs. 226 (US)
• 49th nationally in dentists per capita
• NM population: 23% Medicaid & 21% uninsured
• 5th largest state in area
• 45th in population density
New Mexico’s Challenges (cont.)

- NM: 1 medical school, 1 pharmacy school, 2 physician assistant schools, no dental school
- 70% of practicing physicians over age 45
- Hispanics in NM: 42% of population but only 10.7% of physicians
- Native Americans in NM: 10% of population but only 0.7% of physicians
- Students in NM: 18% of 8th graders proficient in math & science compared with 31% and 27%, respectively in US (2007)

Residency & Graduate Professional Training Programs

- Family practice residency 1+2 program — first year of residency at (University of New Mexico) UNM, second and third in concentrated program sites
- Fellowship for rural residency
- Dental residency program at UNM for out-of-state dental school graduates
- Health Service Corps Act (Chapter 24, Article 1D NMSA 1978) — stipend during clinical training in exchange for obligated service
- Medical school primary care training sequence exposes medical students to clinical experience in rural areas
Recruitment, Retention, Placement & Incentive Programs

• Rural Primary Health Care Act (Chapter 24, Article 1A NMSA 1978) — supports recruitment clearinghouse for recruitment & retention of primary care providers mostly in underserved areas

• Health Education Loan for Service Program — loans for which repayment can be written off in exchange for service in designated underserved areas

• Health Professional Loan Repayment Program — financial assistance to help repay education loans for health professionals in designated underserved areas

Recruitment, Retention, Placement & Incentive Programs

• Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) — provides in-state tuition for NM residents attending dental school in participating universities in other states

• Rural health care practitioner tax credit program (Section 7-2-18.22 NMSA 1978) — non-refundable personal income tax credit for eligible practitioners in rural underserved areas

• Locum Tenens program — relief to physicians in rural areas by upper-level, primary care residents
Dream Makers

• Stimulate interest in:
  • Health careers
  • Math and science

• Work on study skills, language and writing

• Hands-on activities including:
  • Dissection
  • Pharmaceutical compounding
  • Blood pressure
  • Casting

• After-school program in 4 Albuquerque middle schools; 1 in Ramah, Navajo; and 2 in Las Vegas, NM

• Planned rural expansion in 2009-2010 in Southern New Mexico through a partnership with Engaging Latino Communities for Education (ENLACE) and Las Cruces Public Schools
Health Careers Academy (HCA)

- 6-week non-residential summer program
- Current 9th, 10th, and 11th graders
- Exposure to health professions
- Summer research project and poster presentation on health issues in New Mexico
- Preparation for pre-med or allied health curriculum and academic competitiveness
- Project DIVERSITY Partners:
  - Con Alma Health Foundation
  - New Mexico Community Foundation
  - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
  - Northern Alliance

Undergraduate Health Sciences Enrichment Program (UHSEP)

- 6-week residential summer program
- Incoming college freshmen
- Academic enrichment & college prep
- Exposure to health professions
- University orientation
- Volunteer experience in community clinics
- UNM Health Sciences Center (HSC) student mentors
NM Clinical Education Program

- Pre-professional program for college juniors, seniors or graduates
- 6-week summer program in rural, New Mexico health clinics
- Hands-on clinical & community experience in underserved areas of New Mexico
- Acculturate students to rural health care needs and issues
- 2-day training at UNM HSC in CPR, first aid, patient in-take procedures, cultural competency, ethics

MCAT + / PCAT + / DAT +

- Designed for students preparing to take entrance exams for the UNM School of Medicine (SOM), UNM College of Pharmacy or dental school
- Six-week summer program
- Kaplan® test preparation
- Pre-admissions workshops to improve application, personal statement and interviewing skills
- Introduction to problem-based learning
Graduate Programs

• Students selected by the UNM College of Pharmacy Admissions Committee to improve their academic qualifications and facilitate their entry to the College of Pharmacy

• Assist educationally disadvantaged students with a pre-first year program at UNM SOM

Combined BA/MD Degree Program

• Rural background

• Underrepresented minorities

• Training in rural or underserved areas

• Graduation from primary care training programs

• Partnership between College of Arts & Sciences and School of Medicine

• Integrated health care seminars throughout undergrad curriculum focused on NM health care issues
Combined BA/MD Degree Program

• Admit diverse class of 28 NM high school seniors
• Expands SOM first-year students from 75 to 100 in fall of 2010
• 3 classes enrolled – 4th class just admitted

Admissions
• Demonstrated commitment to serving NM
• Desire to work in NM’s medically underserved communities
• Math ACT sub-score of 22 or Math SAT sub-score of 510
• Honors & awards
• Leadership skills
• Personal statement
• Letters of recommendation
• Interviews
• Admissions Committee: 17 SOM faculty, 5 community members, 3 Arts & Sciences faculty advisors and 3 ex-officio members
BA/MD Program
06-09 Cohort at Matriculation

• 114 students
• 53 male & 61 female
• 32 non-Hispanic white, 51 Hispanic, 12 Native American, 12 Asian/Pacific Islander, 5 African American, 2 not given
• 113 NM residents, 1 Navajo Nation resident
• 76 rural & 38 urban
• 2 students to begin SOM in fall 2009 – 1 year early
• Applicants have grown from 141 in first year of program to 201 for this year’s class

Thank you!

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