

Hispanic Health Initiatives News

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MUSC College of Nursing

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Upcoming Events

10/4/08 (Saturday)-
Circulo HispanoAmericano's
30th Anniversary Bash

(See page 3)

10/8/08 (Wednesday)-
Unnatural Causes; Episode 3:
Becoming American
(vanruymm@musc.edu)

10/16/08 (Thursday)-9:30
HHI Advisory Board
(lawn@musc.edu)

Advisory Board Members

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Eileen Chepenik
Maria Cordova, D.M.D.
Isabel Detzler
Vanessa Diaz, M.D.
Jim Hadstate
Latasha High
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Carlos Salinas, D.M.D.
Josephine Stacey

TEENS TAKE ON HEALTH TOPICS

During this summer, the Hispanic Health Initiatives of the College of Nursing (CON) provided a ten-week summer program to seven young women from St. John's High School on Johns Island. The seven teen scholars engaged in workshops related to goal setting, resume building and adolescent health.

They participated in health literacy training, provided by MUSC Hands on Health, where they learned to identify and navigate credible health websites to conduct research on health topics. The scholars chose health topics they felt were most pertinent to their peers and community: teenage pregnancy, teen dating violence and sexually transmitted infections.

Using the skills learned over the summer, the scholars conducted research on these three topics and developed both a PowerPoint Presentation and brochure for their peers. They presented their work at a community reception on August 13th, 2008 to an audience of family, friends, teachers and community members. This pro-



gram also served as the pilot for an adolescent health needs assessment to be implemented in the fall of 2008 on Johns Island.

Designed to provide leadership development and exposure to health careers for minority high school students, this program was led by **Tiffany H. Williams, CPNP** and assisted by **Melissa Cox, MPH**, both of the CON. New Morning

JeRai Green and Princess Acosta use their newly learned CPR skills to revive Sim Man at the CON.

Foundation, through Communities in Schools, provided funding and support. The John's Island Regional Library served as a critical community partner, providing space for weekly (Continued on page 2)

Teonia Cohen verifies the credibility of a website for her PowerPoint on STIs that was shown at the community gathering on August 13th.



...TEENS CONTINUED

meetings and events.

On August 6th, 2008 the scholars participated in an experiential day at MUSC, which included one-on-one shadowing of health professionals, meetings with recruiters from various MUSC colleges, a tour of the Cell Biology Labs, as well as a visit to the CON Simulation Lab. The scholars put their CPR skills to the test and successfully revived the simulation mannequin from cardiac arrest.

As stated by one "Meeting a variety of professionals really made me think about the different careers I can pursue."

The success of this first-year program was due in large part to the motivated, creative and engaged students, as well as through support from community partners. Although this was the first year for this particular program, it served as a pilot program for an expanded version that will be implemented during the 2008-2009 school year.



ON THE DOORSTEP OF HEALTH PROMOTION.

(left to right) Melissa Cox, Jamie Andrews, Tiffany Williams, Cierra Wrighton, Faith Wright, Desyona Davis, Anayelli Pascual, JeRai Green, Princess Acosta and Teonia Cohen



Health Fair on Johns Island

A heart-felt "thank you" goes to our College of Nursing student volunteers; **Ashley Elaine, Reames Rinehart, J'Vonne Hunter, Tiffany Hunter, Gwendolyn Egolf, Ashley Ragan, Heather Williams, Ashley Plonk, and Kellar Lambert** for their participation and contribution in assisting with health screenings at **Franklin C. Fetter Community Health Center, Inc.** on Johns Island. The event, which was held on Saturday, September 13th, was a great success and very much appreciated by the residents of Johns Island.

Taking on Year Three

Midland Park Ministry, Trident Literacy Association (TLA) and the Hispanic Health Initiatives (HHI) are excited about their third year supporting **ABRAZOS: Mom's Morning Out** in North Charleston.

This early childhood development program, started and coordinated for two years by **Dianna Inman, CPNP**, currently focuses on school readiness for Spanish-speaking 3 year-olds. While the children learn their letters, numbers and colors, their mothers are involved in ESL classes through TLA and health promotion classes through MUSC's HHI. In the past three years, Dianna, **Gigi Smith, MS, RN, PNP, Blair Tiller, CNM**, and other faculty have encouraged their nursing students to teach health



Determined to enter the tunnel, Axel is caught off guard by a camera.



Kairy Russo, teacher and most recent addition to the program, reads a book about colors.

promotion classes that range from immunizations to discipline.

This year the presentation line-up has had Bianca Sancic from the North Charleston Fire Department to talk about Fire Safety in the home, **Maria Cordova D.M.D.** to educate the mom's on Dental Health and **Anne Lawn** gave the first presentation of the year on Family Literacy. More topics to come range from heart-healthy eating and breast cancer awareness, this year promises to be another educational and motivational program year.

Evelyn and her friends take a break from playing on the slide.



From Our Partners...

Florence Crittenton now has a bi-lingual clinical staff member, **Cindy Perez-Martinez**, who is a Music Therapist and a native of Puerto Rico. She is working with our Family Development Program, a community-based service which follows young mothers and children for up to 2 years to enhance their self-sufficiency, parenting skills, and school readiness. Cindy will also do translation for individuals seeking services at Florence Crittenton. She can be reached at 722-7526, or at cindyflocritsc@gmail.com.

Circulo HispanoAmericano is pleased to cordially invite you to join us at the celebration of the Circulo HispanoAmericano 30th Year Anniversary!

DATE: Saturday , October 4th, 2008
TIME: 7:00 PM
WHERE: Harbor Club, 35 Prioleu St.
 Public Parking Prioleau with Atlantic Wharf
PRICE: \$ 50 members with paid dues for 2008
 \$ 60 No members

Cash Bar, Gala Dinner, and Dance with DJ Luigi
 In addition, we will award a Circulo HispanoAmericano Fellowship to a student from the College of Charleston and we will raffle an HDTV. If you wish to buy tickets for the raffle, please call Mrs./Sra. Paula Tejada (Tesorera) at 843-871-0790. If you would like to become a member or renew your membership, please call Mrs. Tejada.

Day of Caring

On September the 11th, also known as the **Day of Caring**, ten College of Nursing volunteers literally took matters into their hands and worked all day, taking only a very brief lunch to reorganize student files and kitchen supplies at **Trident Literacy Association** in North Charleston. From associate deans to staff and student, everyone helped.



The event was hard work, the outcome was amazing and overall it proved to be a great community experience.

(left) The volunteers get ready to organize the kitchen *(see right)*.



(Left to right) Melissa Cox, Deborah Williamson, Devon Lacari, Kathy Simon, Carol Whelan, Maria Toler, Sally Stroud, Carlos Lopez and Jason Flamm.

Hands-on First Aid for Migrant Workers



On August 5th, HHI Scholars Cohort 4 presented on First Aid Awareness at Rural Mission on Johns Island. The team: **Ryan Law**, **Maria Olimpio**, **Amanda Baxley**, **Lauren Rushing**, **Johanna Wiel** and **Keller Lambert** each were prepared to speak on a different first aid topic. The highlights were the role-playing. Each scholar designed a small card as a quick reference. These cards were then compiled into a flipchart that was distributed not only to the participants, but to the migrant worker population on Johns Island. About 30 Latinos were present for the talk as well as **Deborah Williamson DHA, MSN, RN**, **Blair Tiller, CNM**, and **Anne Lawn**, interpreter for the event.

FIRST AID IN ACTION.

(Above) Maria Olimpio demonstrates what to do for cuts and abrasions, while Lauren Rushing *(right)* gives her volunteers scenarios on major and minor burns that they role-play to perfection.



National Panel Discussion...

Over the summer, **Anne Lawn** was invited to participate in a panel discussion on uninsured Hispanics in the United States. This particular segment aired nationally from New York City on June 17th and was part of the program, "Dialogo de Costa a Costa," (Dialoguing from Coast to Coast), a network of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) patients who receive care. "Dialogo de Costa a Costa" is part of the Hispanic Information & Television Network (HITN), a non-profit public broadcast network. This segment had guest speakers from across the nation and tried to find possible solutions or recommendations for panel participants to share their knowledge on the U. S. health care system. Additionally, this was an opportunity for panel participants to share their knowledge on the U. S. health care system to emphasize not only the free and low-cost clinics available to the general public in the Tri-County area, but also to promote preventative care as a means to reduce emergency room utilization.



This segment focused on the increase of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) patients who resort to the emergency room for their primary care. This segment was hosted by Hispanic Information & Television Network (HITN), a non-profit public broadcast network for Latinos across the nation. This program featured speakers from across the nation who explained the problem and offered recommendations. Additionally, this was an opportunity for panel participants to share their knowledge on the U. S. health care system to emphasize not only the free and low-cost clinics available to the general public in the Tri-County area, but also to promote preventative care as a means to reduce emergency room utilization.

Arrivals...

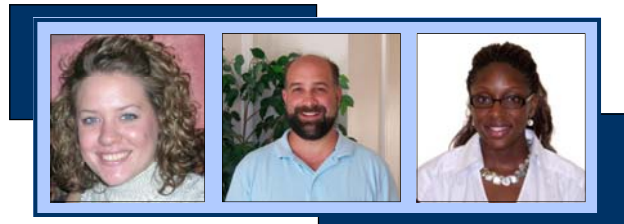
The College of Nursing (CON) welcomes **Melissa Cox, MPH** (pictured left) as its newest staff member. After interning for three months with the Office of Practice last summer, Melissa returns as a full-time member of the CON. Melissa earned a BA in sociology from Boston College and recently completed a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Michigan. Her areas of interest are community program development and community based participatory research. Melissa will serve as a program coordinator for the newly established Center for Community Health Partnerships as well as several grant initiatives through the Office of Practice, including the Teen Health Leadership Project (see front page) and an early intervention program to reduce community violence based in North Charleston.

Even though **Mike Schooff, FNP** (pictured center) started working for Franklin C. Fetter Family Health Center, Inc. approximately six years ago, he is the most recent addition to the Johns Island site. Mike earned his Bachelor of Nursing from Ohio State only to continue his studies at MUSC where he acquired his MSN and his FNP. Joining the Johns Island site full-time this summer, he currently provides healthcare primarily for patients ranging from school-

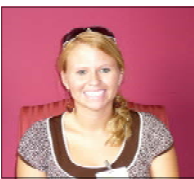
aged children to the elderly.

In August of this year, **Stephanie Slan** (pictured right) joined the Franklin C. Fetter Family Health Center, Inc. family. Stephanie is the new Migrant and Seasonal Outreach Worker for Charleston and Colleton Counties. A recent graduate of The Citadel, she holds a Bachelors degree in Spanish with a minor in Biology. While at The Citadel, Stephanie was a member of the cheerleading squad and very active in the Corps of Cadets in a number of capacities. Stephanie enjoys traveling, which she did this summer in an intensive Spanish immersion program in Puebla, Mexico.

We welcome all three great additions to the community.



Departures...



Over the summer the HHI faculty and staff had the privilege to get to know **Jamie Andrews**, an intern from University of Georgia. She was an integral part of the CON's Office of Practice and the Teen Health Leadership Project. During her internship she made a life altering decision and applied to the School of Nursing at Augusta State and began her studies shortly after the internship ended.

Awards...

Congratulations to **Nilsy Rapalo**, a member of the HHI Advisory Board, who was awarded the Employee of the Year award for Charleston/Dorchester Department of Mental Health.

Next Issue...

The spring edition of the HHI newsletter will contain the results from the Video Interpreting study by the MUSC Hospital Authority and the National Libraries of Medicine.