

# Eastern WV Rural Health Education Consortium

*A consortium of the WV Rural Health Education Partnerships ([www.wvrhep.org](http://www.wvrhep.org))*

Volume 13

Issue 4

October, November, & December 2008

## ***Consortium Partners with WVGEC***

The consortium will be partnering with the WV Geriatric Education Center (WVGEC) to address geriatric needs in the consortium service area. The goals of the WVGEC are to:

- Build geriatric education capital to strengthen the infrastructure for geriatrics education in West Virginia.
- Build a stable and competent workforce for the provision of geriatric health care and increase the geriatrics competence of health professions faculty and students.
- Promote evidence-based interventions to improve care of older adults.

A state-wide training on health literacy and the Advanced Geriatric Educators Skills (AGES) certification will be provided by the WVGEC. The consortium will survey field faculty for their training needs and provide a geriatric training in 2009. Health science students on rotation with the consortium will also participate in geriatric rotations, geriatric interdisciplinary sessions and geriatric service learning projects.

The WVGEC is based at the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center at the WVU - Charleston Division. It is under the direction of Dr. Mark Newbrough and the program coordinator is Nancy Daugherty. The consortium has been educating providers on geriatric issues since the original Mountain State Geriatrics Education Center.

The state also has a West Virginia Geriatrics Society to improve geriatrics care through interdisciplinary teamwork, education, advocacy and public policy. To learn more about this organization and its purposes, visit their website at [www.wvgeriatrics.org](http://www.wvgeriatrics.org).

## ***Consortium Receives Save Face Tobacco Grant***

The consortium received a Save Face - Stop Spit Tobacco Mini Grant from the WVU School of Dentistry from funding from the WV Division of Tobacco Prevention. The consortium grant will address smokeless tobacco issues in Hardy and Pendleton Counties by educating the community about the dangers of spit tobacco use. Educational displays will be set up at various health fairs in the target counties. A poster contest will also be conducted at the local schools and the winning poster will be displayed on a billboard.

As part of this grant, the consortium set up a smokeless tobacco display at the Pendleton County Health Fair on November 8<sup>th</sup> in Franklin. Sarah Kuhn, WVU medical student, also provided attendees with a demonstration on the affects of smokeless tobacco use and distributed material. The most popular material that was distributed was the "Quit the Spit" kits which contain a free "CAN•DO" cessation program and "Bacc-off" tobacco-free alternative product. These kits are provided by the Save Face campaign, WV Department of Health and Human Resources, and Division of WV Tobacco Prevention. For more information on these products, please call 1-877-966-8784 or visit the webiste at [www.ynotquit.com](http://www.ynotquit.com).

## ***New Staff Member Joins Consortium***

Robin VanFleet has been hired as the new community service assistant for the Martinsburg office. She has lived in Berkeley County for 30 years and lives there with her husband and pets. She enjoys her grandchildren, animals, reading, cooking and helping others. Robin can be reached at 267-7366.

## ***Lila Frye Joins Board of Directors***

Lila Frye has joined the consortium Board of Directors as a community representative for Grant County. Ms. Frye was born in Hardy County and attended public schools there. She graduated with the first class from the WVU School of Nursing with a bachelor's degree. She worked at Ohio Valley General Hospital (now Ohio Valley Medical Center) prior to moving to Petersburg in 1966.

After her three children were well into their school years, she began working at the Grant County Nursing Home in Petersburg when it opened in 1983. She became certified in Geriatric Nursing in 1992. Having worked in a number of positions, she became the Director of Nursing in 1999. She retired from the facility in January 2007.

She is a member of the Petersburg Presbyterian Church where she enjoys singing in the choir. She is also a member of the Grant Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and a volunteer in the gift shop. Her hobbies include traveling, reading, cross-stitch and crocheting, cooking playing bridge, and working outside in the yard.

## ***GMH is WVSOM Statewide Campus Site***

Grant Memorial Hospital is a state-wide campus site for the WV School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM). WVSOM instituted the state-wide campus program to place their medical students in a specific geographic service area for most of their third year clinical rotations.

The program began last year with three students, Mark Geary, Andrea Whitfield, and Patrick Gross, completing their rotations at the hospital. This year, six students, Cari Armstrong, Leslie Buchanan, Amanda DiBenedetto Borrer, Tony George, Kristin Mills, and Thomas Richardson, are at the hospital for their required rotations. These rotations include internal medicine, pediatrics, geriatrics, surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, and emergency medicine. Their psychiatry rotation is completed at Shenandoah Valley Medical System in Martinsburg.

## ***RHEP Students Participate in Health Fairs***

RHEP health science students participated in school health fairs during the past quarter. Kimberly "Brooke" Campbell, Alderson-Broaddus College physician assistant student, and Fina Baca-Asher, Shenandoah University physician assistant student, discussed heart health at the Charles Town Junior High School on November 18th in Jefferson County. Brooke and Fina demonstrated how the heart works with CARDIAC dice and taught participants to take their pulse.

Amanda DiBenedetto Borrer and Cari Armstrong, WV School of Osteopathic Medicine students, Sarah Hardy, WVU School of Medicine student, and David Layman and Lindsey Koliscak, WVU School of Pharmacy students, assisted with the Health Expo on November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Moorefield High School in Hardy County. Amanda assisted local EMTs with a blood pressure screening. Cari provided a skin cancer demonstration with the American Cancer Society's skin analyzer. Sarah demonstrated the affects of smokeless tobacco with Mr. Gross Mouth. David and Lindsey did a prescription drug abuse display and educated students on the dangers of medication abuse.

## ***Upcoming Events***

- 2/9 WVRHEP Advisory Panel & Committee Meetings by AT Conference
- 2/17 Consortium Board of Directors Meeting, Romney
- 3/2 WVRHEP Legislative Day & Dinner, Charleston

## ***Newsletter Publication***

To submit an article, contact Malinda Turner at 257-5812 or mturner@marshall.edu. We reserve the right to edit all articles.