



FLORIDA'S
BEST

Business and Education
Partnerships

Marion County Health Department, University of Florida,
Central Florida Community College
"The New Hampton Center"
Ocala, Florida

Health Occupation and Business Technology Training in the Heart of the Community

Program Overview

In 1997, the University of Florida and the Marion County Health Department convened to discuss the establishment of a job-related preventive health care facility in West Ocala. It would become a premier model training site in Health Occupations and house community programs. The program was funded and opened its doors in January 2004 with the help of 22 community partners who contributed time and finances to assure the success of the facility. It houses training in Dental Assistance, Physical Therapy Assistance, Patient Care Technician, Community Programs, and Business Technology.

Major Activities

- Marion County Health Department – Relocation of Dental Clinic to Hampton Center as a clinical site
- University of Florida – Dental residents to offer dental care to adults and children.
- Ocala Royal Dames, Inc. – Provides funds for educational awareness on breast cancer for African-American women.
- Munroe Regional Medical Center – Funds mobile unit on campus to provide stroke and cardiovascular pre-screenings and nursing training (clinical site).
- Marion County School System – Co-sponsor ABE-GED program for residents.
- City of Ocala – Provide funding through "Weed and Seed" for literacy tutoring.

- Office of Minority Health – OMH heard about the location of Hampton and asked the college to serve as consultant to their statewide grant for technical assistance to agencies in HIV/AIDS prevention.
- Palm Gardens Rehab Center – Clinical site for Patient Care Technician students.

Achievements

The program has accomplished its initial goals: to build a state of the art educational facility and revitalize an economically distressed community. These accomplishments are being measured by program enrollment, improved community health services, and passing rates for licensure and certification of students in programs.

Student Success Story

Our student is an excellent example of how programs at the Hampton Center have touched lives. A divorced mother of four, she is also the caregiver for her 76 year-old mother who suffers from Alzheimer's. Through the Displaced Homemaker Program, she benefited from job counseling, job training, employment assistance, financial management development, and educational services. She was one of 45 recipients of a Jeanette Rankin Foundation Grant, the only recipient in Florida. She attributes her success to programs that were accessible to her at the Hampton Center.

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Florida Hospital, Health Central, Orlando Regional Healthcare,
Osceola Regional Medical Center
Valencia Community College
Partners for a Healthy Community
Orlando, Florida

Health Care Training to Meet the Shortage of Health Care Workers

Program Overview

In 2001, Valencia Community College teamed with Florida Hospital, Health Central, Orlando Regional Healthcare, and Osceola Regional Medical Center in response to several needs in the health care industry.

The partnership was formed to alleviate the critical high-skill, high-wage employee shortages in the nursing, radiography, and cardiovascular fields, as well as to provide in-depth training to students preparing for entry into the health care workforce. Together, the partners developed an internship program that offers workplace experience with no expense to the students and minimal expense to Valencia Community College. Because of this partnership, students work over 20 hours per week at high wages, allowing them to concentrate solely on health care education. The health care partners benefit from preparing future employees with minimal expenses and ensuring highly qualified future team members.

Core Objectives

The internship program was created to help provide the partners with highly prepared health care employees and to address the critical shortage issue in nursing, radiography, and cardiovascular fields.

By partnering, the health care providers gain a well-educated, specifically trained workforce. Another objective was to provide an economical, barrier-free gateway for ethnically diverse high school students to receive on-the-job training and workplace skills pertinent to the realities of the high-skill, high-wage health care field. High school interns who complete the Pathways Into Nursing program are guaranteed acceptance into Valencia's limited access Registered Nursing program.

Achievements

During the past three years, over 65 highly-skilled college interns have been infused into the workforce. This scheduled, supervised internship allows the partners to train future employees with minimal training expenses and resources.

The most innovatively renowned aspect of the high school program is the nationally acclaimed dual-enrollment portion which allows high school students to explore the health care field and gain workplace experience.

Replicating Success

Currently, there is no cost to the students and limited cost to Valencia for the program. With limited cost, this provides the ability to maintain and expand the program. The internship tuition/fee (\$122 to \$188 per student for 1-2 credits) is paid by the employer for each student participating in the nursing and radiography internships. The health care partners reallocated budgets (to pay interns over \$14 per hour to perform work) that were previously used to hire individuals who were not as prepared as Valencia's interns.

Student Success Story

Our student, a recent Valencia nursing intern and registered nursing graduate has achieved great success since her July 2003 graduation. She entered Valencia's program in hopes of entering an exciting, high-skill career. Her experience at Valencia was positive. Our student entered her internship directly before her graduation in 2003. The nursing internship gave her the workplace education and experience that she needed to gain a competitive edge when applying for a nursing position. Now, less than one year later, she is a charge nurse on a progressive care unit for one of Valencia's health care partners.

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Piper Aircraft Corporation
School District of Indian River County
Piper Education Program
Indian River County, Florida

Mentoring and Aircraft Training for At-Risk Students

Program Overview

The Piper Education Program provides a non-traditional alternative program for expelled students or students who fall behind in their high school credits. It is located in the new Piper Aircraft Corporation facility and enables the students to continue academic course work toward graduation while providing "hands-on" work experiences with Piper employees serving as mentors. Ongoing training for employees in how to effectively work with at-risk students is critical to the work experience component. This project represents a commitment by a local CEO to serve students in need with the belief that if one child is helped as a result of his experience at Piper, it will have succeeded.

Core Objectives

Students are exposed to experiences with a multitude of jobs in the aircraft industry and learn the importance of teamwork. The mentoring relationships and the opportunity to discover previously untapped talents provide the cornerstone of success for these students.

Major Activities

At Piper Aircraft, students complete their academic curriculum in the morning by accomplishing the activities utilizing Plato software and classroom instruction. In the afternoon, students begin their training with their assigned mentors in the factory where they earn career and technical credits toward high school graduation. The mentor trains the student to perform required job skills and also serves as a role model for the student. The student develops good work ethics, gains self-confidence, improves his/her attendance and discipline, and makes better decisions, both socially and professionally.

Program Awareness

The Piper Education Program is well-known by the high school administrators and guidance counselors because it offers students who have been expelled or recommended for expulsion a second-chance to continue their education. In April 1995, the Piper Education Program was identified as one of three programs in Florida to receive a corporation category award from the First Annual Governor's Community Investment award program.

Student Success Story

Our student entered the Piper Education Program because he was behind in his credits for graduation. Thanks to his mentor, he started to see things differently and began to like what he was learning. Consequently, he became one of the outstanding students in the program and was hired by Piper Aircraft after graduation. Our student served as a mentor to a student and is also attending classes at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

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