

PNWU RECEIVES \$1.75 MILLION GRANT

News Release from **Pacific NW Univ. of Health Sciences**

Posted on FlashAlert: July 22nd, 2015 10:14 AM

Contact: Ryan Rodruck

Tel: 509-249-7861

Email: rrodruck@pnwu.edu

July 22, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences Receives \$1.75 million grant

YAKIMA, WA - Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences (PNWU) has received a \$1.75 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Primary Care Training and Enhancement (PCTE) program. The purpose of this five-year grant is to develop an interprofessional practice program that covers primary care fields including pediatrics, internal medicine, family medicine, long-term care and rehabilitative care. This project is a collaboration between Heritage University's Physician Assistant (PA) Program and the PNWU College of Osteopathic Medicine. The project will contribute to the development of the Yakima Valley Interprofessional Practice and Education Collaborative (YVIPEC).

The grant will allow faculty members and students to learn and engage in team-based care which begins with fundamental concepts in the classroom, simulation training and standardized patient activities, culminating in clinical training at primary care facilities in the local community.

"This grant represents a significant step forward to developing clinical sites within our community that will be using a team-based approach to medical education," said Dr. Robert Sutton, one of the key organizers of YVIPEC and Senior Advisor to the President at PNWU.

"Health education has traditionally been conducted in discipline specific silos that discourage adequate preparation of future practitioners for team-based care and collaboration. Interprofessional collaborative education, conversely, occurs when health professions students learn about, with, and from one another," Dr. Sutton continued.

Throughout the program students will learn how to engage patients and their families, and assess effectiveness in terms of team-based collaboration, quality of care, patient outcomes and patient satisfaction.

The collaborative project will be administered by Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences (PNWU) College of Osteopathic Medicine and Heritage University Physician Assistant Program. The aim of the project is to create a rural primary care workforce that engages in team-based clinical practice. The collaboration will align the education of the primary care workforce with changes in the clinical practice environment through enhanced training of current and future primary care physician assistants (PA) and doctors of osteopathic medicine (DO), preparing

them for interprofessional primary care teams.

Other local organizations participating in the project are the Yakima Union Gospel Mission, Toppenish Community Hospital, Community Health of Central Washington, Yakima Valley Farmworkers Clinic and Landmark Care Center.

Contact Info:

Contact: Ryan Rodruck

Tel: 509-249-7861 Cell: 509-594-0005

Email: rrodruck@pnwu.edu