

Contact person: Becky Dawson, 660.665.6404, bdawson@nemoahec.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Brush (right) receiving an AmeriCorps Education Award from Becky Dawson, Health Education Coordinator for the NEMO Area Health Education Center.

Brush Receives Education Award

As part of a 3-year grant to A T Still University (ATSU), Stefanie Brush, RN, successfully completed the requirements for an AHEC Professional Corps/AmeriCorps Education Award. Brush provided over 1684 professional service hours for the Scotland County Memorial Hospital (SCMH) and over 41 community service hours by volunteering at the following events sponsored by SCMH: Health Education Fair, Health Screening, Prenatal Classes, a Flu Clinic and Sports Physicals at local high schools. Stefanie also assisted the Scotland County Health Department by administering immunizations, general wellness exams and assisting with a drive-through flu clinic. Brush plans to use her education award to pay student loans. She is employed as a Registered Nurse at the Scotland County Memorial Hospital, Memphis.

The AHEC Professional Corps (APC) program was developed by ATSU within the family of the AmeriCorps programs. The APC allowed newly hired, full-time licensed/certified health care personnel to work with AHEC Professional Corps-affiliated employers in settings that serve rural and underserved populations. APC members responded to currently unmet health care needs in chronically underserved areas through both their professional service and community projects.

The ATSU grant program has been successfully completed. Over the course of the program in Northeast Missouri, 36 APC members provided over 98,562 hours of professional and community service. Partner agencies in NEMO contributed \$10,000 and through AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service, a total of \$220,232 has been awarded in Education Awards in Northeast Missouri. Janet Head, Ed.D., Program Specialist, ATSU KCOM AHEC Program Office, stated, "APC provided a major contribution to the encouragement of local health professionals to go to and stay in areas of high need for health care."

In return for training and service, APC members received (in addition to the regular salary and benefits provided by the APC-affiliated health care agency) a \$4,725 education award per year of service. This award may be used to pay education costs at qualified higher education institutions or to repay qualified student loans. Members also gained a sense of pride and fulfillment for their service by volunteering and giving back to local communities. Brush commented, "I am grateful to the APC for this opportunity and especially enjoyed participating in public health and awareness projects."

For information on AHEC programs, visit www.nemoahec.org or call 660.665.6404.

"This material is based upon work supported by the Corporation for National and Community Service under AmeriCorps Grant No. 04NDHMO002. Opinions or points of view expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of, or a position that is endorsed by, the Corporation for National and Community Service or the AmeriCorps Program."



Davis Receives Education Award

As part of a three-year grant to A.T. Still University (ATSU), Alice Davis, RN, FNP, successfully completed the requirements for an AHEC Professional Corps/AmeriCorps Education Award. Davis provided 1,677 professional service hours for Truman State University's Student Health Center and over 48 community service hours by volunteering at the Missouri AHEC Science & Health (MASH) Camp, TSU Blood Drive, TSU student visit day, Relay for Life, Down's Walk, and presenting "The Great Hospital Adventure" Puppet Show at the Brashear Elementary School. Davis is a Nurse Practitioner at Truman State University's Student Health Center.

In return for training and service, APC members received a \$4,725 education award per year of service, in addition to the regular salary and benefits. The AmeriCorps Education Award is intended to pay education costs at qualified higher education institutions or to repay qualified student loans. Davis plans to use her award to further her education in Mental Health.

The AHEC Professional Corps (APC) program was developed by ATSU within the family of the AmeriCorps programs. The APC allowed newly hired, full-time licensed/certified

health care personnel to work with AHEC Professional Corps-affiliated employers in settings serving rural and underserved populations. APC members responded to currently unmet health care needs in chronically underserved areas through both their professional service and community projects.

ATSU's grant program was successfully completed. Over the course of the program in Northeast Missouri, 36 APC members provided over 100,387 hours of professional and community service. Partner agencies contributed \$10,000 and through AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service, a total of \$220,232 was awarded to northeast Missouri workers. "APC provided a major contribution to the encouragement of local health professionals to go to and stay in areas of high need for health care," said Janet Head, Ed.D., co-director, ATSU-KCOM AHEC program.

APC members gain a sense of pride and fulfillment that can only come from giving back to local communities. Davis commented, "I appreciated the opportunity to volunteer within the community I live while being able to consider advancing my educational opportunities."

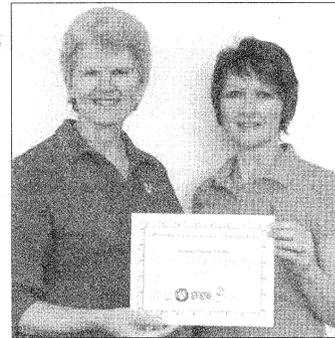
Hill Receives Education Award

As part of a three-year grant to A.T. Still University (ATSU), Kimberly Daniel Hill, RN, successfully completed the requirements for an AHEC Professional Corps/AmeriCorps Education Award. Hill provided over 1,673 professional service hours for the Adair County Health Department (ACHD) and 40 community service hours by volunteering at the Dialysis Clinic, Inc. in Kirksville, Mo. and serving as a consultant to elderly patients. Hill is a nurse at the Adair County Health Department located in Kirksville.

In return for training and service, APC members received a \$4,725 education award per year of service, in addition to the regular salary and benefits. The AmeriCorps Education Award is intended to pay education costs at qualified higher education institutions or to repay qualified student loans. Hill plans to use her award toward her student loan.

The AHEC Professional Corps (APC) program was developed by ATSU within the family of the AmeriCorps programs. The APC allowed newly hired, full-time licensed/certified health care personnel to work with AHEC Professional Corps-affiliated employers in settings serving rural and underserved populations. APC members responded to currently unmet health care needs in chronically underserved areas through both their professional service and community projects.

The ATSU grant program was successfully completed. Over the course of the program in Northeast Mis-



souri, 36 APC members provided over 100,387 hours of professional and community service. Partner agencies contributed \$10,000 and through AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service, a total of \$220,232 was awarded to northeast Missouri workers. "APC provided a major contribution to the encouragement of local health professionals to go to and stay in areas of high need for health care," said Janet Head, Ed.D., co-director, ATSU-KCOM AHEC program.

APC members gain a sense of pride and fulfillment that can only come from giving back to local communities. Hill comments, "It was a fantastic experience."