

Empire State Public Health Training Center

SUNY Albany, SUNY Buffalo



Overview

- The Empire State PHTC (ESPHTC) supports the public health workforce and strengthens the public health infrastructure in New York State (NYS), particularly in medically underserved areas.
- We train employees in 58 NYS local health departments, NYS Department of Health (NYS DOH), plus employees in the many non-profit community-based organizations that provide public health services throughout NYS.

Key Activities

- Activities of ESPHTC respond to the need for a well trained workforce, without which the gains in the health status of our communities will be lost and the cost to the health care system will escalate at an even greater rate.
- The ESPHTC's efforts to train health care workers, especially in rural and other medically underserved areas, is key in trying to meet the challenges of assuring safe water, food, and air quality and responding to emerging infections, natural disasters, and acts of terrorism, to name a few.

Public Health in Action



Impact on Public Health Workforce

- The ESPHTC meets the needs of the current and future PH workforce of NYS through its competency-based training programs and by increasing student experience in public health agencies through its many field placements.
- To meet the needs of medically underserved communities the ESPHTC collaborates with a number of organizations including the NYS Rural Area Health Education Center and the NYS Rural Minority Health Project to target training programs specific to addressing the health disparities in rural areas including those of minority populations.
- Faculty and students in the Preventive Medicine Residency Programs at both schools are working with Native American Nations of NYS (specifically the Tonawanda Nation) to provide a valuable framework on which the ESPHTC can develop culturally sensitive public health interventions for those populations.
- As an initial basis for assessment, the ESPHTC examined competency assessment data from several previous needs assessments. We are currently conducting a PH workforce training

assessment with the local health departments across NYS as well as with all Public and Community Health Workers in the rural areas of NYS.

- We currently offer three online courses and are developing several others. We also offer approximately 12 online courses through our partnership with the NYNJ PHTC reaching 3,700 workers. We will be coordinating the maintenance of those courses on behalf of the three partners after the end of this grant year. We have also offered 2 face-to-face trainings and a webcast reaching approximately 1,600 workers.

Key Partners

- NYSDOH Office of Public Health Practice
- NYS Office of Minority Health
- NYSDOH Office of Rural Health
- NYSDOH Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers Program
- NYNJ PHTC
- Center for Health Workforce Studies
- Center for Elimination of Health Disparities
- Rural Minority Health Project
- NYS Nurses Association
- NYS Association of County Health Officials
- Western NY Public Health Association
- Hudson Mohawk AHEC
- NYS Association for Rural Health
- NYS Rural Area Health Education Center

Leadership

Principal Investigator: Cheryl Reeves, MS, MLS

Co-Principal Investigator: Don Rowe, PhD

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HRSA Public Health Training Centers



The Health Resources and Services Administration funded Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) are partnerships between accredited schools of public health, related academic institutions, and public health agencies and organizations. The PHTC Network improves the Nation's public health system by strengthening the technical, scientific, managerial, and leadership competence of current and future public health professionals. Public Health Training Centers assess the learning needs of the public health workforce, provide accessible training, and work with organizations to meet other strategic planning, education, and resource needs.

<http://www.publichealthtrainingcenters.org>



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