CHHS October 2014 E-Newsletter

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Delta Dental of Kentucky makes $5,000 gift to WKU mobile unit


WKU’s Institute for Rural Health will use a $5,000 gift from Delta Dental of Kentucky to purchase dental materials for the Mobile Dental Unit.

The preventive services offered by the Mobile Dental Unit staff help provide access to dental care for children and adults in the service area. During the 2013-14 fiscal year, more than 2,700 procedures were completed on the Mobile Dental Unit. Without help from organizations like Delta Dental of Kentucky, this service would not be possible.

“This generous gift will allow us to continue offering services to underserved individuals in our rural areas who truly need these services,” said Daniel Carter, IRH Dental Director.

On Sept. 12, Micaela Skura, Business Project Liaison for Delta Dental of Kentucky, visited WKU and met with Dr. John Bonaguro, Dean of the College of Health and Human Services, and the IRH staff to discuss continued partnerships. Delta Dental of Kentucky has cumulatively awarded WKU more than $100,000.

Contact: Matt Hunt, (270) 745-4138.

*Micaela Skura, (left) Business Project Liaison for Delta Dental of Kentucky, recently met with Dr. John Bonaguro, Dean of the College of Health and Human Services, to discuss continued partnerships. (WKU photo by Clinton Lewis)*
PH Student Gains Valuable Experience Through Internship

Kayleigh Coffey, an honors Health Care Administration (HCA) student completing the Long-Term Care (LTC) certificate, did her internship this summer in a retirement community in the Washington, D.C. metro area. She, along with, Nhung Dinh, another HCA & LTC student, spent eight weeks working in different administrative departments of the Kensington Park Retirement Community. Ms. Coffey wrote up a summary of her time in Washington and the things she learned while there. Please click here to read about her internship at the Kensington Park Retirement Community. If you would like more information about the Long Term Care Certificate Program in the Department of Public Health, please contact Melanie Eaton (Melanie.eaton@wku.edu)
WKU’s Institute for Rural Health receives gift from Good Samaritan Foundation

*Original story available on WKU News. Please visit http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2014/09/04/irh-goodsamaritan-2014/ to be taken directly to the story.

For the second year in a row, WKU’s Institute for Rural Health has received a $50,000 gift from the Good Samaritan Foundation Inc., a ministry of the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

With this year’s gift, new dental and medical equipment will be purchased to enhance the educational experiences available to students in the College of Health and Human Services who complete their clinical rotations with the Mobile Health and Dental Units.

“We will purchase new screening equipment that will make it possible to expand our services to better accommodate the community and better prepare our students for real-world experiences,” IRH Director Matt Hunt said.

In addition to the dental and medical equipment and supplies, the IRH will purchase influenza vaccines to be used in the service area. “Last year, the IRH staff vaccinated 1,500 patients in the area and our goal is to exceed that number this year,” Hunt said.

The IRH strives to provide quality medical and dental care to the southcentral Kentucky area as well as provide meaningful fieldwork experiences to CHHS students. “Through the generous gift from the Good Samaritan Foundation, the IRH will be able to continue to provide critical screenings and services to the community, and CHHS students will receive hands-on training using state-of-the-art equipment,” Hunt said.

Contact: Matt Hunt, (270) 745-4138.

WKU faculty member attends Phi Kappa Phi national convention


Dr. Gina Sobrero Evans, assistant professor and Exercise Physiology Lab Director in WKU’s School of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport, represented the university’s chapter of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi — the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines — at the 43rd Biennial Convention Aug. 7-9 in St. Louis, Mo.
Dr. Evans serves as president of the WKU chapter and attended the convention as the chapter’s voting delegate.

The convention brought together more than 300 attendees including 175 chapter delegates. The two-day event featured a keynote address from West Virginia University President Dr. E. Gordon Gee and a plenary address from generations expert and XYZ University founder Sarah Sladek.

Other highlights included a panel of three provosts discussing issues impacting higher education, presentations by Phi Kappa Phi award winners, regional meetings, chapter development trainings, and elections for the 2014-2016 board of directors and regional vice presidents.

About Phi Kappa Phi: Founded in 1897 at the University of Maine, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. The Society has chapters on more than 300 select colleges and universities in North America and the Philippines. The Society inducts annually approximately 32,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify. Since its founding, more than 1.25 million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. The Society has awarded approximately $15 million since the inception of its awards program in 1932. Today, more than $1 million is awarded each biennium to qualifying students and members through graduate fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, member and chapter awards and grants for local and national literacy initiatives. For more information, visit www.PhiKappaPhi.org.

Contact: Gina Sobrero Evans, (270) 745-4238.

Dr. Gina Sobrero Evans
Institute for Rural Health receives Allen County grant

*Original story available on WKU News. Please visit http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2014/09/10/irh-allengrant-2014/ to be taken directly to the story.

For the 10th year in a row, the Institute for Rural Health at WKU has received an $8,000 grant through a partnership with the Allen County Health Department to continue dental services in Allen County.

With these funds, the IRH will purchase various dental supplies to be used in the Dental Sealant Program at Allen County Primary Center and James Bazzell Middle School. Since 2004, the IRH Mobile Dental Unit staff has provided dental exams and services to more than 2,500 children in Allen County.

“In addition to providing enhanced services to the children in Allen County, these funds make it possible to purchase up-to-date equipment for dental hygiene students to use during their clinical rotation on the Mobile Dental Unit,” said Bonny Petty, Supervising Dental Hygienist.

“When the dental hygiene students join us during the Allen County service events, they gain real-world, hands-on experience in a rural community,” Daniel Carter, IRH Dental Director, said. “It also gives them the opportunity to treat children in an atypical setting.”

Contact: Matt Hunt, (270) 745-4138.