



MIDATLANTIC PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING CENTER ***Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia***

Summary of the PHTC

The MidAtlantic Public Health Training Center's mission is to develop the existing public health workforce as a foundation for improving the infrastructure of the public health system and helping to achieve the objectives of Healthy People 2010 in Maryland, Delaware and Washington, D.C. The primary function of the Center is to provide training and continuing education opportunities for the public health workforce in the tri-state MidAtlantic Network. The Center is coordinated through the **Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health**.

One of the primary objectives of this Center is to improve access to quality health care through appropriate preparation, composition, and distribution of a health profession workforce. Specifically, the Center aims to provide training and continuing education programs that will strengthen the competence of the current and future workforce through the following steps:

- Increase knowledge and skill base in the public health workforce in areas relevant to delivery of the 10 essential public health services; and,
- Utilize interdisciplinary team training and education.

The Center seeks new and innovative ways to improve access to a diverse, culturally competent and sensitive health professions workforce by:

- Developing enhanced recruitment strategies to ensure a trained workforce that represents the population that is served;
- Revising curricula to reflect cultural sensitivity; and,
- Identifying and recruiting public health students from racially and culturally diverse groups into field experiences at local and state agencies.

Impact of the PHTC

- The MAPHTC trained over 1,200 people between June 2002 and March 2003.
- The MAPHTC has designed and is in the process of implementing a training needs assessment which will provide greater insight to the training needs of health professionals in MD, DE and DC.
- To address the imminent public health workforce crisis, the MAPHTC hosts a number of opportunities for students, including:
 - The Minority Summer Internship Program, hosted in conjunction with the Johns Hopkins SPH Diversity Office, the Maryland Office of Employment Development and the Youth Works Program, sponsors five minority students from Dunbar High School to participate in a public health based summer internship. In addition to the public health work experience, students also participate in weekly enrichment seminars that highlight the diversity found within the field of public health.
 - PHASE (Public Health Applications for Student Experience) is an organization that enables students to gain insight on how a degree in public health can be applied to careers and experiences in the "real world". PHASE addresses the issue of the shortage of public health workforce in health departments by providing the health department with much needed help from public health graduate students while offering graduate students "real world" public health experience.

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