Encouraging Dental School Graduates to Serve in Community Practice Settings

A Five Year Report of the AEGD Primary Care Program at Columbia University SDOS

Georgina P. Zabos DDS, MPH
Sandra Burkett DDS
The Mission

To train primary oral health care practitioners for the 21st century who can care for diverse patient populations in the context of family, culture and community.
A Humble Beginning

1995

POHC training was increased by adding six postdoctoral clinical fellows to the Presbyterian Hospital sponsored AEGD I program.
AEGD I and AEGD-PC 95/96
The AEGD-PC Program

1997

A HRSA supplemental grant enables the AEGD Primary Care “track” to become an independent program.
Accreditation

The Commission on Dental Accreditation grants the status of approval to the AEGD-Primary Care program on January 29, 1999.
Program Objectives

- Train clinically and culturally competent primary oral health practitioners
- To increase the availability of POHC services for underserved and special populations
- Increase the number of graduates who choose to practice in underserved areas and provide care for populations in greatest need
Program Elements

- Evidence-based clinical practice
- QA/QI system
- Outcomes assessment/program redesign
- Distance-learning methods utilizing web based streaming audio-video technology via laptop computers and Video-teleconferencing
Program Design

- Didactic training at SDOS
- Clinical training at Primary Care sites
- Clinical rotations at SDOS, HHCDSS
Primary Care Training Sites

- Intermediate School 143
- Primary School 8
- Council Health Center
- Renaissance Health Care Network
- Morrisania Diagnostic and Treatment Center
- Phoenix House Foundation
- Boriken Neighborhood Health Center
- We Care/HIV Program
Specialty Training Rotations

- Columbia University SDOS
- Harlem Hospital Center Dental Service
Compensation

✦ Stipend: $25,000 per year
✦ Comprehensive benefit package

Schedule

✦ Mon, Tues, Thurs, and Fri: Clinical care
✦ Wed: Didactic training, PC meetings, and electives
✦ Hours: 9AM-5PM
Ideal Candidates Have
- Curiosity to learn
- Commitment to serve

Special Considerations
- The program serves mostly minority patients of low socioeconomic status
- Minority and female candidates are encouraged to apply
Admission Criteria

- Academic Qualification (DDS/DMD degree from an accredited Dental School)
- Professional recommendations
- Commitment to serve
- Intention to pursue general practice
- Community-based / volunteer experience
- Interest to work with HIV/AIDS patients
How Did We Do?
AEGD Primary Care Outcomes Assessment

Five-Year Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># Enrolled</th>
<th># Graduated</th>
<th>Practicing in Underserved Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*95/96</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6 PCT</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*96/97</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6 PCT</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97/98</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12 PC</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98/99</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7 PC</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99/00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10 PC</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** 31

* Refers to the AEGD I and the Primary Care Track combined.

The Primary Care Program became independent in 1997/98.

** Twenty-three (23) of these were surveyed by telephone in 1999-2000, and reported high levels of satisfaction with their work.
What Went Wrong?

As of July 1, 2002, the AEGD Primary Care Program will go back to whence it came – the Presbyterian Hospital AEGD Program.
Combining **Service** and **Education** Makes For an Uneasy **Partnership**

- Community DentCare Network/Community Voices Collaborative in Northern Manhattan
- Community
- Columbia University SDOS
- AEGD Fellows
Program Information

Georgina P. Zabos DDS, MPH
Program Director
Columbia University SDOS
Division of Community Health
630 West 168th Street, P&S Box 20
New York, NY 10032
Phone: 212-304-7170 or 304-7182
Fax: 212-304-7175
E-mail: gpz1@columbia.edu