



Parent Partners in Health Education Update

Issue # 1 Update January 2008

Parent Partners in Health Education (PPHE) is a curriculum to train medical residents about working with families and children with developmental disabilities. Funding for PPHE projects is provided by the NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. The NYS Council on Graduate Medical Education provides technical assistance to grantees and is conducting the overall program evaluation of the grants. This news sheet is provided to inform you about this important project and to invite your inquiries about how you can adopt the curriculum. Updates will be issued periodically by the NYS Council on Graduate Medical Education.

Exciting programs to enhance resident training to support families and children with developmental disabilities are happening at 12 New York teaching hospitals, where 16 pediatric and family medicine residency programs are implementing PPHE.

Why were 12 teaching hospitals interested in implementing PPHE? Mostly, because they felt that PPHE would improve the quality of resident training to work with families and children with developmental disabilities. The PPHE curriculum fits nicely with the ACGME and AOA standards while enhancing existing training.

The goals of the PPHE curriculum are:

1. Improve medical residents' awareness of the day-to-day issues faced by families caring for children with disabilities;
2. Improve residents' knowledge of non-medical supports and potential sources of referrals within the community;
3. Increase collaboration and communication between residents, non-medical human service professionals and families of children with disabilities;
4. Enhance residents' skills for developmental disabilities as part of an overall Patient-Centered approach to the care of children with disabilities and their families; and

5. Enhance satisfaction with primary care services for children with developmental disabilities and their families.

The PPHE Curriculum offers didactic and experiential learning to complement elements in existing resident program curricula. Each project uses the *Parent Partners in Health Education* curriculum, which consists of the following components:

- Parent Interviews designed to help the resident gain an understanding of the experiences of raising a child with a disability from the perspective of the family.
- Four Didactic Lectures that contain specific, detailed content including an orientation session, Assessment of Developmental Disabilities in Primary Care – Denver II, Legal Aspects and Accessing Services for Children with Disabilities, and Doctor-Patient-Family Communication.
- Community Agency Interviews that allow the medical residents to learn directly about available community resources and including at least one interview with an agency providing services to the paired family.
- Clinical Experiences that provide direct experience with children with developmental disabilities and giving the resident the opportunity to develop essential skills and highlight the integration of clinical, family and community aspects of care.

- Community Medicine Case Presentations through which residents share medical, social, and educational details about their assigned family and child with other residents and faculty.
- Small Group Discussions that provide a forum where residents can share in informal peer-to-peer exchanges.
- Personal Reflection Logs that allow residents to record notes, feelings, and experiences about their contacts with children, parents, and providers.

Although using the same curriculum, residency programs are applying the curriculum differently. **Some of the different models** are:

- One-year programs offered in the year that pediatric residents have their behavioral and developmental rotation.
- Multi-year programs for either PGY-2s and PGY3s or for all three residency years.
- Concentrated programs conducted during 3-4 week sessions.

96% of residents have found PPHE to be a good experience and would recommend it to their colleagues. After a home visit, one resident wrote:

“I am in awe as to the resilience and persistence of this family in surviving whatever is thrown their way.”

The residents were asked what they learned from PPHE that will have the greatest implications for their future clinical work with individuals with developmental disabilities. Typical responses include:

- Learning about resources in the community and how to access services;
- The role of the primary care provider in helping with care coordination;
- Awareness that children with disabilities and their families need help;
- Benefits of early intervention;
- Better understanding of laws relating to children with disabilities;
- Being exposed to patients in their homes;
- Importance of advocacy;
- Experiencing first hand the difficulties that parents go through when they have a child with a disability or how having a child with a disability affects the whole family;
- To be more sensitive and a better listener; and
- To see the parent’s point of view when dealing with a problem.

Following is a list of PPHE grantees. You are invited to contact them for their personal perspectives.

For more information about PPHE, email gme@health.state.ny.us.

This *Parent Partners in Health Education Update* is provided by the NYS Council on Graduate Medical Education, Corning Tower #1190, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12237, with funding from the NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. Telephone 518-473-3513 FAX 518-486-7854

Parent Partners in Health Education Grants

PPHE Phase I Residency Programs 2005-2008

St. Barnabas Hospital

*Paola Carugno, MD, PPHE Project
Director*
718-960-6574
paola_carugno@stbarnabas.ny.org

Candace Erickson, MD
718-220-2020, ext. 8143
ercks78@aol.com

Department of Pediatrics
St. Barnabas Hospital
4422 Third Avenue
Bronx, NY 10457

St. Elizabeth Medical Center

*Nicole Cocomazzi, Administrative
Coordinator*
315-734-3546
ncocomazzi@stemc.org

St. Elizabeth Hospital
Department of Family Medicine
120 Hobart Street
Utica, NY 13501
315-734-3569

Stony Brook University Hospital

*Susan Guralnick, MD, PPHE Project
Director*
Department of Pediatrics
Residency Director
Stony Brook University Hospital
HSCT 11, Room 020
Stony Brook, NY 11794-8111
631-444-2020
susan.guralnick@stonybrook.edu

Winthrop-University Hospital

*Bill Bryson-Brockman, PhD, PPHE
Project Director*
Chief, Behavioral Pediatrics
Winthrop-University Hospital
222 Station Plaza, Suite 611
Mineola, NY 11501
516-663-4432
wbrockm@winthrop.org

PPHE Phase II Residency Programs 2006-2009

Maimonides

*Lisa Altshuler, PhD, PPHE Project
Director*
Co-Director, Developmental and Behavioral
Pediatrics
Maimonides Medical Center
977-48th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219
718-283-6160
laltshuler@maimonidesmed.org

New York Medical College

Karen Edwards, MD, PPHE Project Director
Associate Dean, Primary Care
Department of Pediatrics
New York Medical College
Munger Pavilion, Suite 600
Valhalla, NY 10595
914-493-8175
kedwards@wihd.org

New York Presbyterian Hospital

Heidi Beutler, MD, PPHE Project Director
Assistant Attending, Pediatric Service
Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of
New York Presbyterian
3959 Broadway
New York, NY 10032
212-304-6922
heb1@columbia.edu

SUNY-Upstate

*Nienke P. Dosa, MD, MPH, PPHE Project
Director*
Center for Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics and the
Department of Family Medicine
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
SUNY-Upstate Medical University
750 East Adams Street
Syracuse, NY 13210
315-464-5800
dosan@upstate.edu

PPHE Phase III Residency Programs

2007-2010

Elmhurst Hospital Center

Melvin Gertner, MD, PPHE Project Director
Director of Pediatric Services
Elmhurst Hospital Center
79-01 Broadway
Elmhurst, NY 11373
718-334-3380
gertnerm@nychhc.org

Institute for Urban Family Health

Beth Israel Residency in Urban Family Practice

Andreas Cohrssen, MD, Project Director
Residency Program Director
16 East 16 Street
New York, NY 10003
212-206-5255
acohrssen@institute2000.org

South Nassau Communities Hospital

Samuel Sandowski, MD, Project Director
Director, Family Medicine Residency Program
196 Merrick Road
Oceanside, NY 11572
516-255-8415
ssandowski@snych.org

**DDPC Grant for Technical Assistance and
Program Evaluation**

NYS Council on Graduate Medical Education

Tom Burke, PPHE Project Director
Executive Director
tfb01@health.state.ny.us

Gloria Winn, Project Coordinator
Public Health Specialist
gew02@health.state.ny.us

Prabhakar Rajupet (Raj)
Associate Accountant
pxr03@health.state.ny.us

NYS Council on Graduate Medical Education
Corning Tower #1190, Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12237
518-473-3513
518-486-7854 fax

Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

Robin Worobey, Program Planner
rworobey@ddpc.state.ny.us

Kerry Wiley, Research Specialist
kwiley@ddpc.state.ny.us

Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
155 Washington Avenue, 2nd Floor
Albany, NY 12210
518-486-7505
518-402-3505 fax