

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaska Specialty Nursing Consortium****Federal Tax ID: 999999****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

Alaska State Hospital & Nursing Home Association - Alaska Specialty Nursing Training

State Funding Requested: \$85,000**House District: Statewide (1-40)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Develop training materials suitable for Alaska's rural health care delivery setting, to test those materials and to offset the cost of rural nurses participating in the lengthy training.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$185,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$100,000)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$85,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:**Alaska Hospital & Health Care Industry \$100,000 Match***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Alaska Perioperative Nursing Consortium has developed a centralized approach for the training program. Students will come to Anchorage for intensive classroom instruction. Students and instructors will utilize Providence Alaska Medical Center, Alaska Regional Hospital, and Alaska Native Medical Center as training sites for a total of 22 days during the 17 week course.

Outcomes Anticipated

- . Adapt the NorthWest Perioperative Consortium curriculum to fit Alaska's unique circumstance.
- . Identify and develop perioperative nurse instructors for the didactic and lab portion of the curriculum utilizing the modules from NWPC.
- . Select a preceptor instructor/trainer and develop strategies to identify/train OR nurse preceptors to mentor students during practicums.
- . Provide perioperative training to 24-30 nurses using two cohorts of 12-16 nurses during the first year. In subsequent cohorts it is the intention of the consortium to extend the training to additional Alaskan communities similar to the approach that NWPC has used successfully in Washington State.
- . Once the perioperative need is satisfied (anticipated to be 4-5 cohorts of students), the consortium model developed will be adapted to another identified sub-specialty nursing area (Critical Care, Intensive Care, Emergency Care, Obstetrics, etc).

Project Timeline:

Students and instructors will utilize Providence Alaska Medical Center, Alaska Regional Hospital, and Alaska Native Medical Center as training sites for a total of 22 days during the 17 week course.

Expenditures will occur prior and during these timelines.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Alaska Specialty Nursing Consortium

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

Alaska Specialty Nursing Training-Design and Implementation

Background

The Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association (ASHNHA) and its members have launched an initiative to deliver advanced training and professional development for specialty nurses. A workgroup of interested Alaskan facilities came together informally to develop strategies to address specialty nursing shortages. Perioperative nursing was identified as the most pressing need given the amount of travelers, age of nurses in the sub-specialty and vacancies currently within organizations.

ASHNHA members realize that efforts to invest in training for locally-based specialty nurses could increase the capacity of the Alaska nursing workforce and reduce the level of non-resident workers.

The Alaska Perioperative Nursing Consortium (APNC) has been formed by six Alaska hospitals to address the shortage of qualified perioperative nurses in Alaska. The consortium is developing a training program based on an emerging best practice model the NorthWest Perioperative Consortium.

This request is to enhance the consortium by using one time monies to develop training materials suitable for Alaska's rural health care delivery setting, to test those materials and to offset the cost of rural nurses participating in the lengthy training. The emphasis will be initially on improving perioperative (OR) nurse training, but also will include critical care, emergency care and other forms of specialty nursing.

Need

- Perioperative nursing is a specialty area that requires both extensive knowledge and skills acquired through a comprehensive didactic and clinical program.
- There is a shortage of local perioperative RNs (the average age of 49 years will compound the problem in the future) and a 21% increase in agency or traveling perioperative nurses.
- Consortium members rely on temporary staff (travelers) to fill critical positions in the operating and recovery rooms. This is both expensive, sometimes costing millions of dollars a year and unsatisfactory to a stable nursing workforce. The training, monitoring and turn over in these positions increases the risk of medical errors and adverse outcomes for patients.
- Previously a number of facilities were trying to develop ways to train perioperative nurses. It is costly and duplicative for multiple facilities to develop, setup, and run a program. There is a

lack of trained preceptors within operating rooms and difficulty retaining faculty in academic programs. The consortium approach allows hospitals to pool their resources and share the responsibility for implementing a program.

Current Consortium Members

Alaska Native Medical Center
Alaska Providence Medical Center
Alaska Regional Hospital
Bartlett Regional Hospital
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital
PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center

Potential Consortium Members with project expansion

All rural hospitals such as Petersburg, Sitka, Yukon Kuskowim to name a few.

Overview of Current Approach

The consortium members participated in a feasibility study with the leadership of the North West Perioperative Consortium (NWPC). The conclusion was that Alaska could adapt their model of training for our more rural setting.

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Outcomes Anticipated

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Challenges:

Design of a high quality training program is essential given the critical role these professionals perform

ASHNHA

ALASKA STATE HOSPITAL &
NURSING HOME ASSOCIATION

ALASKA SPECIALTY NURSING CONSORTIUM

National materials and approaches must be adapted so that students from all over the state can participate . Intensive one week courses must be designed and are conducted in Anchorage—so students must pay for lodging and transportation for over 25 days during the course.

Rural hospitals have limited staff and tight bottom lines. Still they must bear the cost of paying the employee in training and lodging/travel expenses . This is expected to be approximately \$25,000.

Legislative Request for Funding:

We request \$85,000 to pay for curriculum design, equipment, pilot testing , and student expenses for nurses attending from rural hospitals.

This will be matched by industry contributions of over \$100,000

For more information:

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