Rural Experiences for Health Professions Students

REHPS

✓ Healthcare demand is growing twice as fast as the national economy – to 19.8 million jobs by 2020*
✓ South Dakota will need 11,000 more healthcare workers by 2016**
✓ Institute of Medicine Recommendations – Interprofessional education

*Georgetown University Center on Education & the Workforce, AMA Journal, July 2012
** SD Department of Health
REHPS

Institute Of Medicine Recommendations:

✓ Collaborative approach
✓ Community based
✓ Interprofessional – to include simulation
REHPS

✓ What it isn’t - curriculum

✓ What it is – life experience

"I've learned so much during my time here in Parkston and feel like I have such a better grasp on what ‘rural healthcare’ really is. I have such a stronger appreciation for those who work in rural health, as well as for the communities that come together to support it. During my month here I would often ask the community members about the healthcare system in Parkston. There was an overriding theme of pride and commitment to the providers, the healthcare system, and their community. I've always wondered if I would be cut out for ‘small town living’ and after this experience I can see that it would be very easy to find a place in this community, as well as a fulfilling career as a provider in a rural community like Parkston."

Danielle
Nurse Practitioner Student
Summer 2012 - Parkston
“Terry was the only provider in the clinic/hospital today so we were responsible for the clinic, hospital, emergency department, and nursing home. This made for a very busy day...There never seems to be a dull moment...”

Tandis
Physician Assistant Student
Summer 2012 - Philip

“As for the REHPS internship, it was great! The people in Philip were amazing. They showed me every aspect of healthcare and involved me in everything. I did not spend a lot of time in the pharmacy but I learned more about healthcare than I ever could have imagined I would. I did and saw many things that I know I will never get the chance to see or do again, such as gluing a cut shut on someone who came into the emergency room. I also made my mind up that I want to live in a smaller community someday! Overall the experience was absolutely amazing and much more than I ever could have asked for.”

Kim
Pharmacy Student
Summer 2012 - Philip
“The first day right away in the morning there were two ER cases of possible heart attacks. This already tripled the excitement I experienced at the clinic in XXXX. I loved absolutely every minute of Monday. I felt like I was actually applying some of my knowledge I learned my first year of medical school and problem solving with Dr. Owens through a case.”

Miranda
Medical Student
Summer 2012 - Redfield

“I was afraid following an MD as a PharmD may not help me a lot, but it’s taught me a lot about collaborative medicine... My four weeks in Redfield are already over...it went by so quickly! Sad to be done with my internship, but so grateful for all of the experiences I’ve had and the things I’ve learned. If I ever get an opportunity to do anything in a rural community again I’ll definitely jump at the opportunity. I’ll miss you REHPS!!”

Alyssa
Medical Student
Summer 2012 - Redfield
“Sherri took us to Yankton for the ‘Intruder Response and Awareness in the Healthcare Facility course’. This course was quite interesting and it opened my eyes to a lot of things that I was not aware of. For example, most healthcare facilities have a ‘lockdown’ procedure if anything bad were to happen, but almost all facilities do not have a back-up plan if the ‘lockdown’ fails.”

Amber
Pharmacy Student
Summer 2012 - Wagner

“This opportunity taught me an important lesson that I will apply to my future geriatric patients. Patients may not always be as dependent, or independent, as they appear in clinic, and taking the time to view them in their home environment is a simple way to gain more perspective.”

Mikeala
Medical Student
Summer 2012 - Wagner
“It’s been a very good experience for me to get to see the physicians work in the clinic, as it gives me a much better idea as to the process of how a drug and dose is decided upon before it gets sent to the pharmacy as a prescription. This will help me in the future as I work with physicians as part of the healthcare team.”

“What has been possibly the best learning experience for me here has been hearing the conversations between the pharmacist and physician from both sides.”

Trent
Pharmacy Student
Summer 2012 – Wessington Springs

“One of the things that medical students consider when they think about specialties is if they will get bored doing them after 15-20 years. After spending this extended time in the family practice clinic and seeing how many different things that they work with, I am convinced family medicine will not be a ‘boring’ avenue of medicine. There are so many different age groups and demographics with an endless possibility of diagnoses that it seems like one would always have to be on their toes.”

Tony
Medical Student
Summer 2012 – Wessington Springs
“Coming into the REHPS program, I honestly had no clue what to expect...After taking this tour and meeting some of the employees, I knew I was going to have a great time here in Winner...I have never been able to watch a live surgery which made this an AMAZING experience!!...I can hardly believe that this is my last week in Winner. What a wonderful experience this has been. I wish I didn’t have to leave!”

Justin
Pharmacy Student
Summer 2012 – Winner

“Probably my favorite thing about the REHPS program is that I get to experience different aspects of medicine that I would normally not get acquainted with during my regular physician assistant rotations...I cannot believe it is the fourth and final week already! My time in Winner has gone by faster than any of my other previous rotations, and I am so thankful for the opportunity to spend my time here...I could not imagine working with a better group of people, or having a more fulfilling experience anywhere else.”

Tia
Physician Assistant Student
Summer 2012 – Winner
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Questions?

Thank you.