



Role Model Posters

The Role Model Poster Project features Native Americans in many health and science professions. Each poster includes the name, photograph, and tribal affiliation of the person featured. Additional information for teachers include: education, benefits, motivation, special job skills, and words of wisdom. These posters proved to be a great source of inspiration and motivation to the students and teachers. There are currently seven sets of posters and each set features five tribal members. Set # 8 features: a dental assistant, pharmacy technician, biologist, nurse practitioner, and health scientist.

List of 2016 SEPA Grant Organized Educational Events, Meetings, and Activities

- 1/14/2016 Meeting with UNMC with College of Nursing about collaboration
- 1/26/2016 Meeting with Department of Education about collaboration
- 2/29/2016 SEPA BOARD MEETING
- 2/17/2016 Family Science Night at Walthill School
- 2/18/2016 Family Science Night at Enemy Swim Day School
- 2/29/2016 MOLECULAR BIOLOGY DAY in collaboration with SEPA at Milwaukee School of Engineering faculty Dr. Herman and Dr. Franzen
- 3/15/2016 Santee Science Night at Santee Community School
- 3/24/2016 Science Day at Life Gate Christian School
- 4/07/2016 Family Science Night with OPS Native Indigenous Centered Education (NICE) Program
- 4/11/2016 Science Education Day at Marty Indian School
- 4/11/2016 Family Science Night at Lake Andes School
- 4/15/2016 SEPA BOARD MEETING
- 4/22/2016 Nebraska Science Festival SEPA DNA day at the Zoo
- 4/21-23/2016 SEPA at North Dakota STEM conference
- 5/9-12/2016 SEPA Science Education Meeting in Washington D.C.
- 6/5-8/2016 SEPA HEALTH & SCIENCE FUN CAMP in Omaha
- 6/30/2016 Science Education Day at Minne Lusa Elementary School
- 7/11-15/2016 SEPA Health & Physical Activities at Wagner School
- 8/15-17/2016 SEPA School Program Visits to Lake Andes, Wagner, Marty
- 8/29-2016 SEPA School Program Visit to Tiospa Zina
- 8/31/2016 SEPA School Program Visit to Rosebud
- 9/1/2016 SEPA School Visit to Todd County and St Francis
- 9/9/2016 SEPA BOARD MEETING
- 9/25-27/2016 South Dakota Indian Education Summit
- 9/27/2016 Wagner Pre-school Science Family Night
- 9/28/2016 SEPA School Program Visit with Administration at Santee
- 9/28/2016 Wagner Inservice on Bird Curriculum
- 9/29/2016 SEPA Program Meeting Visit with Ponca Tribe - Pat Eichberger
- 10/5-8/2016 SEPA presentation at NIEA Meeting Reno, NV
- 10/25/2016 Family Science Night at Santee
- 10/26/2016 Family Science Night at Marty
- 11/2/2016 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AMBASSADOR WORKSHOP
- 11/16/2016 Circle of Youth Activities with Ponca Tribe in Norfolk
- 11/17/2017 SEPA School Program Visit about Aquaponics with Santee

SEPA Publication - The Power of Role Models

Information about the Native American Role Model Poster sets is available on the web at:

<https://sites.google.com/a/education.ne.gov/power-of-role-models/>

SEPA Education Calendar

We have published an educational 2016-2017 calendar - January to December, 2016 and January to July 2017 - to keep up with the school year. The calendar is available for distribution to schools and other educational institutions. The calendar features information about our educational materials, role model posters and pictures of different educational activities. It showcases photos from SEPA health & science fun camp, teacher workshops, hands-on-activities and other programs.



Contact us at sepa@unmc.edu if you need a copy for your classrooms or office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Board Meeting:

Date: Friday, January 20, 2017
Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Location: Marina Inn and Conference Center
South Sioux City, Nebraska

2. Summer Science Camp and Workshops

Contact sepa@unmc.edu for participating in those events



SPECIAL ISSUE FEATURING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AMBASSADOR WORKSHOP - NOVEMBER 2, 2016



Visit our website to learn more about our programs:
www.unmc.edu/sepa

Newsletter Committee

Shrawan (Sam) Kumar
Maurice Godfrey
Kim Soper
Liliana Bronner

Happy 2017 and a New Year of SEPA opportunities !!

Much of this issue focuses on an extraordinary event that we held on November 2, 2016 in South Sioux City. The Behavioral Health Ambassador Workshop was a partnership with the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN). We plan on having similar programs in the future. If any of your students are interested in behavioral health careers please let us know so we can provide information and possible mentoring. We want to ensure their success! A hearty thank you to all the facilitators, teachers, but especially the students who spent their day exploring their possible futures.

Our summer science and fun camp will be held on the campus of the University of Nebraska, Kearney and we will have a week long summer program for high school students at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Stay tuned for details!

- Dr. Maurice Godfrey, Professor and SEPA Program Director

21 SCHOOLS PARTICIPATED IN THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AMBASSADOR WORKSHOP

SEPA PROGRAM: We have held annual workshops, science camps, family science nights, and visits to schools for science education in our partner Native American communities. In November, we organized a one-of-a-kind behavioral health workshop for high school and college students which included mental health topics such as: 1. Anxiety, 2. Bullying/Cyberbullying, 4. Cutting/Self Harm, 5. Domestic Violence, 6. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, 6. Healthy Relationships, Hope for the Future: 7th Generation, 8. Neuroscience Research/Concussion, 9. Substance Abuse, 10. Suicide Depression, 11. Talking to Someone in Crisis, 12. Techniques for Reducing Test Anxiety, and 13. Trauma.

Picture (right): Dr. Karoly Mirnics, Director Munroe-Meyer Institute and Dr. Bill Warzak, Professor, Munroe-Meyer Institute discussing Neuroscience research & concussion injuries with the students.





BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AMBASSADOR WORKSHOP

In total 21 schools from Nebraska and South Dakota participated in this program — held at Marina Inn Event Center, South Sioux City, Nebraska on November 2, 2016. As seen in the picture, More than 125 students took part in this exciting program.



Participating schools: Bryan High School, Indian Center (Alliance, Nebr.), Intertribal Urban Native Program (Lincoln, NE), Lincoln High School, Lincoln Southeast High School, Little Priest Tribal College, Marty Indian school, Metro Community College, Nebraska Indian Community College, Niobrara Public Schools, Oglala Lakota College, Santee Community School, Sinte Gleska Uuniversity, Sioux City North High School, South Sioux City High School, Tiospa Zina Tribal School, UmoⁿHoⁿ Nation Public School, University of Nebraska Omaha, University of South Dakota Vermillion, and Winnebago Public School.



The program was a great success. This was a unique workshop designed to give first hand information about various problems related to behavioral health issues and career opportunities for high school and college students. More than 50 facilitators were directly involved in round table discussions with the students.

As seen in the photos, Dr. Howard Liu - Director BHECN, Dr. Karla Abbott - Augustana University, Ms. Reesa Mitchell - UNMC, and Ms. Grace Johnson - Mental Health Provider, Society of Care discussed different aspects of behavioral health issues and opportunities with students.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AMBASSADOR WORKSHOP

The program started with an opening prayer and comments about importance of education in Native American communities by Mr. Frank LaMere, Facilitator, Advocating for Change. The keynote speaker, Ms. Grace Johnson (pictured on bottom left) talked about “Intergenerational Trauma and the Impact on Native American Communities.”

The daylong workshop provided an overview of behavioral health issues and offered helpful tools to cope with such problems. Participating students met face to face with different experts who offered in-person round table discussions and reviewed case studies described by Dr. Anita Warrior, Psychologist at Morningstar Counselling. Students were extremely excited to get the opportunity to discuss the possible diagnosis and treatment options directly with experts.

All the students discussed cases with serious and more moderate mental health needs, as well as substance abuse issues. The case studies discussed in the workshop included: schizophrenia; schizoaffective, bipolar, panic, obsessive compulsive, and psychotic disorders; major depression; anxiety; PTSD; eating disorders; autism; and serious emotional disturbance.

This was a unique platform which providing students from 21 different schools—a wonderful opportunity to learn problems associated with behavioral health, mental illness, and early exposure to think about future career opportunities in the behavioral health field.

