Connecticut Recognized for Efforts to Transform Educator Preparation

Connecticut is one of seven states selected to participate in the Network for Transforming Educator Preparation, a two-year pilot program supported by the Council of Chief State School Officers. Recognized as a state poised to advance substantive policy changes and to take meaningful action, Connecticut will receive a $100,000 grant and technical assistance to support the transformation of educator preparation programs in an effort to ensure teachers and administrators are “learner-ready” on day one of their careers.


Connecticut’s System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED)

The primary goal of the educator evaluation and support system is to strengthen individual and collective practices so as to increase student learning and development.

Connecticut’s System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED) is a model evaluation and support system that is aligned to the Connecticut Guidelines for Educator Evaluation (Core Requirements), which were adopted by the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) and inform implementation of model teacher and administrator evaluation and support systems that were piloted in districts throughout the state during the 2012-13 school year.

Student and Educator Support Specialists (SESS)

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) recognizes the challenges faced by districts in evaluating educators (such as school nurses) who teach in non-tested grades and subjects. The CSDE has developed a series of documents to guide the evaluation of Student and Educator Support Specialists (SESS). These documents are designed to work as a supplement to the System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED) state model, and inform other district developed models, to assist administrators in conducting evaluations for individuals from a variety of disciplines. Student and Educator Support Specialists are those individuals who by the nature of their job description do not have traditional classrooms, but serve a “caseload” of students, staff and/or families. In addition, they often are not directly responsible for content instruction nor do state standardized assessments directly measure their impact on students. Guidance documents, to include sample Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), have been created for school nurses as well other educators.

SESS guidance documents are located on the CSDE’s Web site at http://www.connecticutseed.org/?page_id=1966. The CSDE looks forward to ongoing work with school nurses to examine observation frameworks and tools for consideration and adaptation to the SEED state model as we engage in a continuous improvement process. The primary goal of the educator evaluation and support system is to strengthen individual and collective practices so as to increase student learning and development.
Smarter Lunchrooms Makeover Pilot

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is pleased to announce the Smarter Lunchrooms Makeover Pilot (SLMP), an exciting opportunity for Connecticut public schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). The SLMP will provide a state model for identifying effective strategies to positively influence students’ daily food choices and increase selection of reimbursable meals. Selected applicants will receive a $5,000 stipend and personalized technical assistance and training on using successful Smarter Lunchrooms strategies in the school cafeteria. The pilot period is January 2014 through June 2015.

Please note that there is a fast turnaround for the SLMP application. The deadline is Tuesday, December 3, 2013. The SLMP overview and application form are available on the CSDE's Connecticut Team Nutrition Web page at http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2678&q=333840.

The SLMP is part of a Team Nutrition grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to the CSDE for the period of September 30, 2013, through September 30, 2015. This grant is implemented in collaboration with the State Education Resource Center (SERC), the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity at Yale University (Rudd Center) and the Cornell Center for Behavioral Economics in Child Nutrition Programs (BEN Center).

Professional Development Opportunities

New School Nurse Orientation

This program will provide an overview of state laws and regulations regarding school health. The program will also address standards of practice for school nurses, competencies and supervisory issues. Finally, the program will present an overview of the school nurse's role in student achievement, special education and Section 504.

Date: Monday, November 18 and Thursday, December 5, 2013
Location: Courtyard by Marriott Cromwell, 4 Sebethe Drive, Cromwell, CT 06416
Facilitator: Stephanie Knutson MSN, RN, School Health Consultant, Connecticut State Department of Education
CEUs: 1.2 (attendance at both sessions is mandatory)
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Fee: $100 per person

As a result of attending these sessions participants will:
- understand state laws and regulations regarding school health;
- learn state mandates for immunizations, health assessments and screenings;
- learn about the school nurse's role in academic achievement;
- learn about documentation in school health services; and
- become knowledgeable about special education and Section 504 issues related to school health.

Registration: https://schoolnurseorientation.eventbrite.com
Register by: November 11, 2013
Contact: Pat Krin at patkrin@snet.net

No refunds or reimbursements!
Join us on Sunday, November 17th, 2013 for *Good Looks, Good Health: Diabetes is a Family Affair*

Presented in collaboration with the American Diabetes Association, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and regional sponsors, the Connecticut Nurses Foundation is proud to present this half-day event and health fair aimed at educating children, families and healthcare professionals on the full spectrum of healthy lifestyles, weight management, and diabetes prevention and management.

Our keynote speaker is leading Registered Dietician and Nutritionist, Zonya Foco ([www.zonya.com](http://www.zonya.com)), a master of inspiration, motivation and humor. She is the host of PBS’s “Zonya Health Bites” and has been published in *Shape, Fitness and Prevention* magazines. Her work is regularly recognized by the American Diabetes and American Heart Associations.

*Good Looks, Good Health: Diabetes is a Family Affair* will feature our *Family Health Fair*, offering education sessions, health screenings, patient education resources. Certified diabetes educators from Stamford Hospital, Greenwich Hospital, Norwalk Hospital, and Yale-New Haven Hospital will be on the ground to meet with patients and families. Hospital representatives, CDEs and endocrinologists will be present to assist healthcare providers in best educator and managing diabetes and obesity in their patient populations. Representatives from Eli Lilly, Novo Nordisk, and Bristol-Myers Squabb will be exhibiting throughout the Fair, offering both patient and provider-focused information on insulin, non-insulin hypoglycemic agents as well as patient resources.

*Good Looks, Good Health* will also offer our *Simple Skills Sessions*. Opportunities to learn and practice menu planning, food label reading, medication review and management, Zumba dance classes, and cooking demonstrations from CDE and local chef, Gavin Pritchard will be featured. Families will be able to transform their new education into the skills and knowledge needed to build healthy kids and healthy families.

*The event is FREE and open to the public. Good Looks, Good Health: Diabetes is a Family Affair* promises to be a fun and rewarding day for patients, families, providers and sponsors alike. We look forward to seeing you there!

Learn more at [www.ctnursesfoundation.org](http://www.ctnursesfoundation.org)

See event Schedule on Page 4...
SAVE THE DATE!
Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013
12:00 - 4:30pm

Event Schedule

12:00pm Welcome announcements
Registration tables open

1:00pm Family Health Fair closes

1:15pm Regional sponsor presentation
Connecticut Nurses’ Foundation statement of gratitude and acknowledgement for sponsors

1:30pm - 2:30pm Zonya Foco ‘Fit Families for Life’

2:30pm Family Health Fair resumes

2:30pm - 3:00p Question and Answer period with Zonya Foco in main room
‘Zonya’ materials available for sale

3:00pm Zonya Foco available for book signings and photographs

3:00pm - 4:00pm Simple Skills Sessions
- Cooking demonstrations
- Zumba instruction
- Fitness class

4:00pm Closing statements

Good looks, Good Health
Diabetes is a Family Affair

S C H O O L  N U R S E  C O N S U L T A N T

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Nondiscrimination Statement

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