



OSHDP

Office of Statewide Health
Planning and Development

Deploying Primary Care Practitioners to California's Underserved Communities

Report to the Assembly Committee on Rules as of June 30, 2014



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The Health Professions Education Foundation (HPEF) Report to the Assembly Committee on Rules regarding deploying primary care practitioners to underserved communities in California is submitted pursuant to an Interagency Agreement (IA#13:12197) between the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) and the Assembly Committee on Rules (Committee), which requires HPEF to report to the Committee in writing by November 2014 the following:

1. The percentage increase of applications received.
2. The location of all educational and practice settings of program participants.
3. Information on the recruitment and selection of program participants.
4. The amount expended for programs.
5. Information on participation of Californians from underserved communities in programs.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	4
Background.....	4
Objectives	5
Methodology	5
Outcomes	5
Recruitment Efforts.....	5
HPEF Program Criteria.....	6
Awardees	7
Geographic Distribution	8
Monitoring Activities	14
Conclusion	14
Contact Information.....	15

Executive Summary

The Health Professions Education Foundation (HPEF), housed within the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), submits this report to the California Assembly Committee on Rules (Committee) documenting the deployment of primary care practitioners to underserved communities. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-2014, HPEF and the Committee entered into a \$2 million interagency agreement to deploy more health professionals to California's underserved communities. HPEF, via its existing programs, is committed to providing scholarships and loan repayments to health professionals and students who will provide direct patient services in medically underserved areas of California. During FY 2013-2014, HPEF received applications from over 1,100 students and practitioners in allied healthcare, health professions, and licensed mental health professions and training programs. These applicants requested approximately \$89.7 million to pay their educational debt or to help defray the cost of their training and education. With the Committee's funding, HPEF awarded scholarships and loan repayments to 148 of these students and practitioners. Due to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in California, there are a large number of newly insured Californians seeking access to health care in areas of California that already experience a shortage of primary care providers. HPEF, a non-profit public benefit corporation is dedicated to deploying a primary care workforce to California's medically underserved areas (MUAs). As a result of the increased health care demand, HPEF expects continued increases in requests for its scholarship and loan repayment programs.

Background

Established in 1987 and housed within OSHPD, HPEF is a non-profit foundation statutorily created to provide financial assistance to health professionals who agree to practice in California's underserved communities. Since its creation, HPEF has increased access to care in the state's underserved areas via awards totaling more than \$92 million, to 8,776 allied health, nursing, physician, and mental health students, trainees and professionals who provide health care service in 57 of California's 58 counties.

HPEF administers six scholarship and seven loan repayment programs. These programs target health professionals across the healthcare delivery continuum as needed in MUAs. In exchange for a scholarship or loan repayment, awardees provide direct patient care in MUAs, Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA), Primary Care Shortage Areas, County, State, correctional, or veteran's healthcare facilities for one to three years. HPEF increases access to health care by awarding its scholarships and loan repayments to culturally and linguistically responsive healthcare providers who can meet the needs of California's diverse communities.

In FY 2013-14, the Committee partnered with HPEF to increase access to care in California's MUAs. Via an interagency agreement, the Committee provided \$2 million to HPEF to deploy at least 134 primary care practitioners to underserved communities. HPEF would make these awards through five of its existing scholarship and loan repayment programs: 1) Allied Health Scholarship Program (AHSP), 2) Health Professions Education Scholarship Program (HPSP), 3) Allied Healthcare Loan Repayment Program (AHLRP), 4) Health Professions Education Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP), and 5) Licensed Mental Health Services Provider Education

Program (LMHSPEP). These programs provide students and health professionals between \$4,000 and \$20,000 towards their educational costs or debt in exchange for one to two years' of service in medically underserved areas.

Objectives

This report details HPEF's completion of five objectives related to the Committee's \$2 million investment. This includes documenting an increase in applicants, the deployment of at least 134 practitioners providing direct patient care in underserved communities, recruitment of the most qualified students and professionals, expending 100% of funds, and evaluation of the increase of health providers from underserved communities.

Methodology

This report used various sources of information to document its findings. This includes information from the Responsive Electronic Application for California's Healthcare (CalREACH), the OSHPD fiscal office, and surveys collected from current and previous program participants. CalREACH is OSHPD's application and monitoring system used to electronically receive and process applications, track demand for the programs, as well as the status of awardees. This includes collecting information such as applications received and awarded, funds requested and awarded, and other demographic information on applicants and awardees including debt owed, specialties and regions served. OSHPD's fiscal office was responsible for the financial monitoring and reporting of the funds collected and disbursed.

Outcomes

Recruitment Efforts

The application deadline for the FY 2013-2014 cycle was October 25, 2013. During the annual application cycle, HPEF prepared outreach materials; conducted outreach and provided technical assistance for the annual cycle. HPEF participated in 12 outreach events throughout the state to recruit qualified applicants. HPEF's outreach efforts yielded a total of 4,694 applications received. HPEF did not attend any outreach events in the Los Angeles region due to a large number of existing partnerships and applications received annually from the region. Table 1 details HPEF's participation in outreach events in each region of California.

Table 1: Summary of HPEF Outreach Efforts

North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th Annual Psychotic Disorders Conference: Advanced Strategies for the Management of Psychosis • Ultrasound Update • California State Rural Health Association 7th Annual Conference • 11th National UC Davis Pre-Health Conference • California State University Sacramento Career Fair
South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health 16th Annual Women's HealthCare Conference • California State University, San Marcos Career Expo • California Academy of Physician Assistants (CAPA) 37th Annual Conference

Central Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity Hire Events • Cultural Competence and Mental Health Northern Region Summit • California State University Fresno Job Fair
Los Angeles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
Bay Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening Student Success Conference

HPEF utilized a variety of communication techniques to reach the stakeholder groups, including, but not limited to: general public, professional associations, educational institutions, health education and training entities, and licensing boards. HPEF targeted increasing applicants from the Central Valley through a radio ad campaign. HPEF also increased its social media marketing efforts and included infographics on its Facebook and Twitter accounts and videos of HPEF’s awardees on OSHPD’s newly launched YouTube channel. As a result of HPEF’s improved social media marketing strategy, we now have over 1,000 followers on Facebook and over 200 on Twitter.

For the 2013-2014 application cycle, HPEF also launched CalREACH, which provides applicants the ability to apply online and submit supporting documentation electronically. This new system, by moving from a paper-based application to an electronic application, also streamlined HPEF’s application processing. HPEF’s targeted outreach efforts and implementation of the CalREACH online system resulted in an approximately 75% increase in the number of applications received for HPEF’s programs. In FY 2013-2014, HPEF, for all 13 of its scholarship and loan repayment programs, received 4,694 applications versus 2,679 applications received in FY 2012-2013. This exceeds the 5% application increase grant objective by 70%.

HPEF Program Criteria

Table 2 outlines program criteria for the two scholarship and three loan repayment programs identified to provide awards utilizing Committee funds. Program criteria, includes professions supported, maximum award amounts, and length of service obligation.

Table 2: Summary of HPEF Scholarship and Loan Repayment Programs

Program Name Professions Supported	Maximum Award Amount	Service Obligation
Scholarship Programs		
Allied Healthcare Scholarship Program (AHSP) Community Health Worker • Clinical Laboratory Science • Diagnostic Medical Sonography • Medical Assistant • Medical Imaging • Medical Laboratory Technology • Nuclear Medicine Technology • Occupational Therapy • Pharmacy • Pharmacy Technician Physical Therapy • Physical Therapy Assistant Radiation Therapy Technology • Radiologic Technology • Respiratory Care • Social Work • Speech Therapy • Surgical Technician • Ultrasound Technician • Other Allied Healthcare	up to \$4,000/year	One year

Program Name Professions Supported	Maximum Award Amount	Service Obligation
Health Professions Education Scholarship Programs (HPSP) Dentist • Dental Hygienists • Nurse Practitioners • Certified Nurse Midwives • Physician Assistant • Clinical Nurse Specialists	up to \$10,000/year	Two Years
Allied Healthcare Loan Repayment Program (AHLRP) Community Health Worker • Clinical Laboratory Science • Diagnostic Medical Sonography • Medical Assistant • Medical Imaging • Medical Laboratory Technology • Nuclear Medicine Technology • Occupational Therapy • Pharmacy • Pharmacy Technician Physical Therapy • Physical Therapy Assistant Radiation Therapy Technology • Radiologic Technology • Respiratory Care • Social Work • Speech Therapy • Surgical Technician • Ultrasound Technician • Other Allied Healthcare	up to \$4,000/year	One year
Loan Repayment Programs		
Health Profession Education Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP) Dentist • Dental Hygienists • Nurse Practitioners • Certified Nurse Midwives • Physician Assistant • Clinical Nurse Specialists	up to \$20,000/year	Two years
Licensed Mental Health Services Provider Education Program (LMHSPEP) Registered or Licensed Psychologists • Postdoctoral Psychological Assistants • Postdoctoral Psychological Trainees • Registered or Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists • Registered or Licensed Clinical Social Workers	up to \$15,000/year	Two years

Awardees

After the close of the FY 2013-2014 application cycle, HPEF began the process of selecting applicants for award. This included reviewing and approving applications for eligibility using the CalREACH system and determining awards with assistance from advisory committees.

Advisory committee members include representatives from professional organizations, academic institutions, licensing boards and community-based organizations. Advisory committee members scored applications using established guidelines and selection criteria including, but not limited to: community background, career goals, community service, financial need, and cultural competency.

Of the 4,694 applications received, 1,166 were for the five programs identified above. HPEF applied Committee funds to award 148 of those applicants for the allied healthcare, health

professions, and licensed mental health programs. Table 3 details the scholarship and loan repayment awards by program and total amount funded.

Table 3: Summary of FY 2013-2014 Awardess by Program

Program	Amount Awarded	Total Number of Awards
AHSP	\$40,000.00	10
HPSP	\$20,000.00	2
AHLRP	\$20,000.00	5
HPLRP	\$294,394.00	17
LMH	\$1,625,606.00	114
Total	\$2,000,000.00	148

HPEF expended 100% of Committee funds to award 12 students (scholarships) and 136 practitioners (loan repayments). This resulted in the deployment of 39 more health providers to California's underserved communities than the 134 required by the Interagency Agreement.

Geographic Distribution

Through a rigorous application process and recommendations from Advisory Committees, HPEF selects the most qualified applicants who commit to serving in California's medically underserved areas. HPEF also ensures geographic distribution of award recipients and funding. The 148 individuals supported with Committee funds are distributed throughout the five regions of California: Northern, Bay Area, Central Valley, Los Angeles, and Southern.

Table 4 lists the geographic location of scholarship awardees by county, their educational settings, and their award amounts. The 12 scholarship recipients were awarded a total of \$60,000 from the \$2,000,000 Committee investment. HPEF does collect the educational debt burden of scholarship awardees since tuition fees are paid directly by HPEF.

Table 4: FY 2013-2014 Scholarship Awardees

Educational Setting	County	Region	Amount Awarded	Number of Awardees
Ohlone Community College District	Contra Costa	Bay Area	\$ 4,000.00	1
Fresno City College	Fresno	Central	\$ 4,000.00	1
Sacramento City College	Sacramento	North	\$ 8,000.00	2
California State University, Sacramento	Sacramento	North	\$ 4,000.00	1
California State University, San Bernardino	San Bernardino	South	\$ 4,000.00	1
Loma Linda University	San Bernardino	South	\$ 20,000.00	2
Kaiser Permanente School of Allied Health Sciences	San Francisco	Bay Area	\$ 4,000.00	1

Educational Setting	County	Region	Amount Awarded	Number of Awardees
Kaiser School of Allied Health Sciences	Solano	Bay Area	\$ 4,000.00	1
Gurnick Academy of Medical Art	Solano	Bay Area	\$ 4,000.00	1
Kaplan College	Stanislaus	Central	\$ 4,000.00	1
Total			\$ 60,000.00	12

Table 5 lists the geographic location of loan repayment awardees by county, their practice settings, and their award amounts. The 136 loan repayment recipients had a combined educational debt burden of \$9,953,607 and were awarded a total of \$1,940,000 from the \$2,000,000 Committee investment.

Table 5: FY 2013-2014 Loan Repayment Awardees

Practice Setting	County	Region	Amount Awarded	Number of Awardees
Veterans Health Administration	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 20,000.00	1
A Better Way, Inc.	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Abode Services	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 14,606.00	1
Alameda County Behavioral Healthcare Services	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 22,612.00	2
Alameda County Public Health-Health Care for the Homeless	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Alameda Health System	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 45,000.00	3
East Bay Community Recovery Project	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Family Service Agency of San Francisco	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Fred Finch Youth Center	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 30,000.00	3
La Clinica de La Raza	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 26,030.00	3
Seneca Family of Agencies	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 13,755.00	2
WestCoast Children's Clinic	Alameda	Bay Area	\$ 30,000.00	2
Feather River Hospital	Butte	North	\$ 14,790.00	1
Adventist Health	Butte	North	\$ 15,000.00	1

Table 5: FY 2013-2014 Loan Repayment Awardees Cont'd

Practice Setting	County	Region	Amount Awarded	Number of Awardees
Butte County Behavioral Health	Butte	North	\$ 13,755.00	1
Feather River Hospital	Butte	North	\$ 4,000.00	1
Contra Costa County Behavioral Health Services	Contra Costa	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Contra Costa County Health Services	Contra Costa	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Contra Costa Regional Medical Center	Contra Costa	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Veteran's Administration Central California Health Care System	Fresno	Central	\$ 16,033.00	1
Department of Veteran's Affairs	Fresno	Central	\$ 8,543.00	1
Community Regional Medical Center	Fresno	Central	\$ 20,000.00	1
Coalinga State Hospital	Fresno	Central	\$ 30,000.00	2
Humboldt County	Humboldt	North	\$ 8,340.00	1
North Kern State Prison	Kern	Central	\$ 20,000.00	1
Eisner Pediatric & Family Medical Center	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 20,000.00	1
Los Angeles County Department of Health Services-University of Southern California Medical Center	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 50,721.00	3
Los Angeles County Sheriff	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 20,000.00	1
AV Mental Health	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Bienvenidos Children Center	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 29,350.00	2
Child and Family Guidance Center	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 45,000.00	3
Children's Institute Inc.	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
City of South Gate Police Department	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Community Family Guidance Center	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 30,000.00	2
County of Los Angeles, Dept. of Mental Health	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 19,000.00	2

Table 5: FY 2013-2014 Loan Repayment Awardees Cont'd

Practice Setting	County	Region	Amount Awarded	Number of Awardees
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 152,488.00	9
Department of Veteran Affairs	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 35,000.00	2
Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Foothill Family Service	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Glendale Adventist Medical Center	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 12,833.00	1
Hathaway-Sycamores	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Hillsides	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Los Angeles Unified School District	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 23,820.00	2
Long Beach Child and Adolescent Program	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Hollywood Mental Health – Full Service Partnerships	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Maryvale	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Northeast Valley Health Corporation	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 30,000.00	2
Pacific Clinics	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 45,000.00	3
Planned Parenthood Los Angeles	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 20,000.00	1
PIH Health Hospital	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Saint John's Health Center - Child & Family Development Center	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, Inc.	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 14,010.00	1
Social Model Recovery Systems, Inc.	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Special Services for Groups/Occupational Therapy Training Program	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1

Table 5: FY 2013-2014 Loan Repayment Awardees Cont'd

Practice Setting	County	Region	Amount Awarded	Number of Awardees
Tri-County Mental Health	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$ 15,000.00	1
Turning Point Community Programs	Merced	Central	\$ 15,000.00	1
Department of State Hospitals	Napa	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Newport Mesa Unified School District	Orange	South	\$ 11,597.00	1
County of Orange Adult Mental Health Services	Orange	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
UC Irvine Medical Center	Orange	South	\$ 20,000.00	1
Ironwood State Prison	Riverside	South	\$ 20,000.00	1
Palm Springs Unified School District	Riverside	South	\$ 27,600.00	2
Riverside San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc.	Riverside	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
Department of State Hospitals	San Bernardino	South	\$ 43,755.00	3
Dept. of Behavioral Health	San Bernardino	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
Foothill Psychological	San Bernardino	South	\$ 12,834.00	1
Hi Desert Medical Center Behavioral Health	San Bernardino	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
Hi Desert Memorial Hospital	San Bernardino	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health	San Bernardino	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
San Bernardino County Public Health Department	San Bernardino	South	\$ 13,755.00	1
San Bernardino County Superintendent of School	San Bernardino	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
California Institute for Women/California Rehabilitation Center	San Bernardino	South	\$ 12,833.00	1
Rady Children's Hospital	San Diego	South	\$ 7,500.00	1
Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility	San Diego	South	\$ 20,000.00	1

Table 5: FY 2013-2014 Loan Repayment Awardees Cont'd

Practice Setting	County	Region	Amount Awarded	Number of Awardees
Marine Corps Community Services Miramar	San Diego	South	\$ 10,750.00	1
Neighborhood Healthcare	San Diego	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
Veteran's Healthcare Administration	San Diego	South	\$ 5,870.00	1
Veteran's Affairs Medical Center	San Diego	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health	San Francisco	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
University of California San Francisco	San Francisco	Bay Area	\$ 12,500.00	1
University of California San Francisco / San Francisco General Hospital	San Francisco	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
San Francisco Department of Public Health	San Francisco	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
San Joaquin Office of Education	San Joaquin	Central	\$ 15,000.00	1
California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation	San Luis Obispo	Central	\$ 34,000.00	3
California Men's Colony	San Luis Obispo	Central	\$ 15,000.00	1
Edgewood Center for Children and Families	San Mateo	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Casa Pacifica	Santa Barbara	South	\$ 15,000.00	1
Rebekah Children's Services	Santa Clara	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Santa Clara County Valley Medical	Santa Clara	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System	Santa Clara	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Health Services Agency	Santa Cruz	Central	\$ 15,000.00	1
Siskiyou County Behavioral Health	Siskiyou	North	\$ 15,000.00	1
Hope Counseling Services	Sonoma	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1
Progress Foundation	Sonoma	Bay Area	\$ 15,000.00	1

Practice Setting	County	Region	Amount Awarded	Number of Awardees
Stanislaus County Office of Education	Stanislaus	Central	\$ 15,000.00	1
Ventura County Behavioral Health	Ventura	South	\$ 33,320.00	3
Fremont-Rideout Health Group	Yuba	North	\$ 4,000.00	1
Total			\$ 1,940,000.00	136

Monitoring Activities

After awards are determined, staff begins monitoring activities: drafting contracts; requesting and verifying certifications of enrollment; processing payments; and mailing and emailing progress reports confirming contractual obligations are being met. As of June 30, 2014, HPEF has 148 active Committee-funded participants who are being monitored for compliance with contractual agreements. Each award recipient is contractually obligated to work full-time providing direct patient care for a minimum of one to two years in a MUA.

For scholarship recipients, HPEF requests a signed statement from the award recipient's educational program every six months to verify their eligibility for payments and continued program participation until graduation. After graduation and securing employment in a qualified facility, scholarship recipients are monitored every three months until completion of service obligation. For loan repayment recipients, HPEF requests a signed statement from the award recipient's employer every three months to verify employment in a qualified facility. Payments to scholarship and loan repayment recipients are contingent upon returning signed statements during the monitoring process.

Conclusion

Given HPEF's increasing program demand and the implementation of the ACA in California, HPEF continues to receive a greater pool of eligible applicants than can be awarded, due to funding availability. In FY 2013-2014, the Committee's investment helped to close the gap. Through the \$2 million interagency agreement, HPEF was able to award an additional 148 students and professionals in allied health, mental health and other health professions. These individuals will increase access to care for Californians by providing direct patient care in California's underserved communities.

Contact Information

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