

CDC Performance Report for the White House
Executive Orders on Minority Initiatives

Fiscal Year 2006

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Check the Appropriate Initiative

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (TCUs) X

Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans (EEHA)

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)

Increasing Economic Opportunity and Business Participation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI)

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease
Registry (CDC/ATSDR)
FY 2006 Annual Performance Report
White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
Executive Order 13256**

Executive Summary

Introduction

This report presents the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (CDC*) FY 2006 Annual Performance Report for the White House Initiatives on HBCUs (Executive Order 13256). CDC recognizes that educational status is an important predictor of morbidity and mortality and is committed to strengthening the capacity of HBCUs to provide excellence in education. As the sentinel for the health of people in the United States and throughout the world, CDC strives to protect people's health and safety, provide reliable health information, and improve health through strong partnerships. The strong, and in many cases long standing partnerships with HBCUs presented in this report, demonstrates and highlights CDC's efforts to increase the capacity of HBCUs to participate in HHS programs; and/or provide opportunities for HBCU faculty and students to gain experience working in public health and human services agencies through fellowships, internships, and other experiential programs during FY 2006.

Goals and Measurable Objectives CDC Sought to Achieve

HBCUs are significant partners for CDC in addressing the health and quality of life of Americans. Four core goals guided CDC's centers, institute and offices (CIOs) in support of the White House Initiative on HBCUs:

1. Increase access to and the participation of minority-serving institutions of higher education and/or other minority organizations in HHS programs such as biomedical research and services;
2. Strengthen the capacity of minority serving institutions of higher education and/or minority organizations that address racial/ethnic minority populations to provide high quality education and other services;
3. Increase access to and the participation of racial and ethnic minority populations in HHS programs such as biomedical research and services (education-related activities and HHS workforce); and/or
4. Promote data collection of racial and ethnic minority populations, e.g., through minority-serving institutions of higher education and minority organizations.

* Note: References to CDC refer also to ATSDR throughout this plan.

Measurable objectives CDC sought to achieve include the following:

- Increase direct funding for minority-serving institutions of higher education that support health disparity prevention.
- Maintaining funding for minority-serving institutions of higher learning to improve the coordination, communication, and application of health research.

- Increase the number of minority-serving institutions of higher education that receive funding and/or support to address health disparities among specific racial and ethnic minority populations.
- Increasing the number of minority students graduating from accredited undergraduate environmental health academic programs.
- Improvement of state and local environmental health infrastructure by strengthening and diversifying accredited undergraduate environmental health academic programs.
- Increasing the awareness and understanding of physicians to the principles of environmental toxicology and exposure as it relates to the health of disproportionately affected populations.
- Increase the number of HBCU students participating in CDC minority student training programs.

Total Funding for Awards to HBCUs

During FY 2006, CDC awarded \$10 million to institutions qualifying under the HBCU Initiative. This amount was awarded to 13 HBCUs, several third-party organizations representing HBCUs - the Association of Minority Health Professions Schools (AMHPS) and the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation (UNCFSP), and major agency programs, e.g., the Directors of Health Promotion and Education (DHPE), the Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs (AEHAP), and Kennedy Krieger Institute (KKI), where minority serving institutions, including HBCUs, are the primary focus. Awards were also made to support programs in the research and development, program evaluation, direct institutional subsidies; training; and fellowships, internships, traineeships, recruitment, IPA categories. The total funding represents 2.6 percent of the \$380 million in CDC awards to all institutions of higher education, and 64 percent more than was awarded to HBCUs in FY 2005. This significant increase may be attributed to several new initiatives that focused on injury prevention and control, cancer prevention, HBCU researchers supported to lead campus-wide health programs and policies to promote prevention of HIV/AIDS and other health risks, and major agency programs that targeted minority serving institutions (MSIs).

The impact of CDC's HBCU partnerships has significant implications for education, communication, risk assessment, interactions with health care providers and possible future interventions. The HBCU partnerships supported capacity building assistance, disseminating scientifically sound and medically accurate information as well as providing state-of-the-art professional development and technical assistance services. The impact is also acknowledged by improved linkages among the academic, research and community service components of the HBCUs. As well, prior to 2003, a new environmental health academic program had not been accredited in the United States in over 20 years and only three of the existing accredited programs were at MSIs. Since 2003, nine new academic programs have received accreditation including five new programs at MSIs. Five additional MSIs are currently seeking accreditation. Minority enrollment at accredited environmental health programs has increased 31 percent since 2003. The UNCF funded CHAMPS Consortium has two lead HBCUs representing student enrollment of 25,000 with plans to diffuse their program to the 290,000+ total enrolled students at all HBCUs. Through the Southeastern U.S. Educational Center for Prevention of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), the program has worked with more than 150 clinics and College Deans throughout the southeast educating many minority students and professionals on the

appropriate diagnosis and treatment of FAS. Finally, impact of HBCU partnerships on the diversity of the public health workforce is demonstrated by minority student training program evaluations which indicate that more than 170 students who participated in Project IMHOTEP and the James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Diseases programs are public health practitioners.

CDC's programs supporting HBCUs are administered by the following CIOs:

- National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD)
- National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP)
- National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)
- National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)
- National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID)
- National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Significant Activities, Programs and Projects

Highlights of the significant activities, programs and projects that contributed to achieving the core goals are presented below for each goal by CIO. Details of other significant programs are described in the Table B-1.

Goal 1: Increase access to and participation of minority serving institutions of higher education and/or other minority organizations in HHS programs such as biomedical research and services. CDC allocated \$6.1 million towards accomplishing this goal.

ATSDR in collaboration with the AMHPS has established and supports the Environmental Health and Toxicology Research Program (EHTRP). The program provides research that addresses data gaps ATSDR identified for hazardous substances found at Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) waste sites and other sources in the environment. Research facilitated by the MHPF also sustains a high scientific quality and contributes critical information about the types of effects people may be at risk for and the levels of exposures to contaminants that can cause these effects. Five HBCU are funded to conduct this research: Meharry Medical College, Florida A&M University, Hampton University, Tuskegee University and Xavier University. This activity was cross-cutting and was also supported by ATSDR to accomplish goal two (strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to address racial/ethnic minority populations) and goal four (promote data collection of racial and ethnic minority populations).

NCCDPHP funded Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) to conduct a study on the Ethno-cultural and Regional Variations in Prostate Cancer Knowledge, Attitudes & Screening Behaviors of African-American and African Caribbean (Jamaican) Men in the United States. The study is exploring awareness, knowledge, attitudes and beliefs, behaviors and risk perceptions related to prostate cancer and screening issues among African-American and African-Caribbean

men. African-American and African-Caribbean men, especially Jamaican and Trinidadian men of African descent, have the highest known prostate cancer incidence and mortality rates in the world. While African-American and African-Caribbean men share skin color and genetic heritage, this similarity should not be equated with similarity in attitudes and behaviors. The results of this study are expected to have implications for education, communication, risk assessment, interactions with health care providers, and possible future interventions.

NCIPC awarded two new cooperative agreements to Meharry Medical College, each for a period of five years. The first project provides funding for the implementation and evaluation of one or more multi-component community based intervention to increase seat belt use among adolescent drivers and their passengers. This research could potentially increase seat belt use among adolescents nationwide. The second award provides funding to establish an Urban Partnership Academic Center for Excellence to actively foster an environment conducive to beneficial collaborations among health scientists, social scientists and a targeted high-risk community in Tennessee, with the common goal of reducing youth interpersonal violence injury and death.

NCHHSTP funded a project with Jackson State University, “Strengthening Interventions for HIV Prevention,” which is designed to replicate, adapt, and diffuse culturally appropriate and science-based behavioral interventions targeted to racial/ethnic populations at high risk for HIV infection. The project will also increase the delivery of HIV counseling, testing and referral, partner counseling and referral, and HIV prevention interventions in non-traditional settings for people living with AIDS, their discordant partners and others at very high risk of HIV infection.

NCHHSTP funded a project with the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff which is implemented in collaboration with the Jefferson Comprehensive Care system. This project is a Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Prevention Projects For Community-Based Organizations and includes targeted outreach and Health Education/Risk Reduction (HE/RR) for high-risk individuals; targeted outreach and Counseling, Testing, and Referral (CTR) services for high-risk individuals; and implementation of one or more of the following interventions: prevention for individuals living with HIV and their sex or injecting drug-using partners who are HIV negative or unaware of their HIV status; prevention for individuals at very high risk for HIV infection; and Partner Counseling and Referral Services (PCRS).

Goal 2: Strengthen the capacity of minority serving institutions of higher education and/or organizations that address racial/ethnic minority populations to provide high quality education and other services. CDC allocated \$.5 million to this goal.

NCCDPHP funded UNCFSP to establish a coalition of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) called The Campus Health Advocates Mobilizing Prevention Strategies (CHAMPS) Network Consortium. The objectives of the Consortium are to develop, implement, and sustain campus-wide programs and policies to promote prevention of HIV/AIDS and other health risks, as well as to disseminate models, strategies, and products created by CHAMPS to broader HBCUs and stakeholders. Four lead HBCU CHAMPS Network Consortium campuses were identified and funded: Alabama Agricultural & Mechanical University, Spelman College, Howard University, and Norfolk State University.

Goal 3: Increase access to and the participation of racial and ethnic minority populations in HHS programs such as biomedical research and services (education-related activities and HHS workforce). CDC allocated \$2.9 million to this goal.

NCEH funded a cooperative agreement with AEHAP to support internships at HBCUs and other MSIs in support of a program that prepares minorities for employment in the environmental health workforce. Currently, internships are funded through AEHAP at North Carolina Central University and at Benedict College. Internship projects at Benedict College involve students in the Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health (PACE-EH) that often introduces students to health disparity issues in disadvantaged communities. AEHAP is committed to increasing the number of environmental health academic programs accredited by the National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (NEHSPAC) in geographic areas with large minority populations and increasing the diversity of the environmental health student body and faculty at accredited environmental health programs.

ATSDR supported an Environmental Medicine Rotation program for residents. The program is open to all medical student residents; however, priority is given to minority residents. Requirements of the program include a final 45-60 minute presentation and summary report (a thorough literature review with references) on a relevant public health problem researched during the rotation and recommendations for public health action as necessary.

NIOSH continued to support opportunities to increase the number of minority persons practicing in the occupational safety and health field and the number of minority students pursuing advanced degrees and performing research in the occupational field. The Institute supported North Carolina A&T State University's Bachelor of Science degree program in Occupational Safety and Health for two years and already boasts of seven trainee completions and entrance into the occupational safety and health workforce. NIOSH continues to be a significant partner in supporting occupational safety and health focus for minority student training programs.

NCID (NCPDCID) continued to address urgent infectious disease concerns in racial and ethnic populations, and held its position as a key player in the focus on how infectious diseases are understood and confronted among racial and ethnic minority communities. NCID also sponsored the James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program where 15 students from HBCU medical, dental, veterinary, and pharmacy, and public health graduate programs participated in the eight week program that provided them with a professional development experience.

NCCDPHP funded a cooperative agreement with the DHPE to support a total of 50 student interns in 2006. Forty-one of the 50 were HCBU students. The internship program offers students a unique experience to receive firsthand experience in health promotion and health education. It has been designed to provide students with practical experiences in public health related to the core competencies of health education and to introduce the students to the essentials of public health.

CDC funded KKI who collaborates with Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine to support the Research Initiative for Student

Enhancement (RISE) internship program. The RISE program is designed to provide research experience, education and training for HBCU undergraduate, graduate and medical students who are interested in pursuing research in the field of public health. Twelve students from Howard University, Morgan State University, Coppin State University, and Jackson State University participated in the program in FY 2006.

CDC supported the Public Health Sciences Institute (PHSI) at Morehouse College to implement programs designed to increase the knowledge and skills of undergraduate students in the areas of epidemiology, biostatistics, and occupational safety and health; and prepare the students for graduate level study in public health professions. PHSI implements programs such as Project IMHOTEP, an 11-week summer internship, PHSI Research academic year internships for Atlanta University Center students, Graduate Fellows, Associates and Post-Doctoral Fellowships, and an annual public health awareness conference that focuses on heightening faculty and student awareness of public health issues. PHSI also offers an undergraduate minor in public health, and conducts outreach/recruitment and other career development activities. In FY 2006, 32 students participated in Project IMHOTEP; six were PHSI Research Interns, and three served as graduate fellows, associates or as post-doctoral fellows. Several hundred attended the Public Health Awareness Conference.

CDC funded AMHPS to support training programs designed to expose and prepare graduate, undergraduate, high school and middle school students for careers in biomedical sciences. AMHPS supports the Ferguson Fellowship program for graduate students, the Public Health Summer Fellows (PHSF) program for undergraduate students, and Starlab and the Annual Symposium on Career Opportunities in Biomedical Sciences for high school and undergraduate college students. In FY 2006, 15 students participated as Ferguson Fellows; 10 experienced the PHSF program, 29 participated in Starlab, and approximately 700 students from across the country attended the Biomedical Symposium.

Goal 4: Promote data collection of racial and ethnic minority populations, e.g., through minority serving institutions of higher education and minority organizations. CDC allocated \$0.5 million to this goal.

NCBDDD funded Meharry Medical College and Morehouse School of Medicine to develop the Southeastern U.S. Educational Center for Prevention of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. The purpose of the Educational Center is to enhance dissemination of the FAS curriculum among medical and allied health students and professionals in southeastern states: Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. The specific objectives to meet this goal are to (1) develop, conduct and analyze population-based data of students and practitioners' knowledge, attitudes and beliefs about fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS); (2) develop, implement, and evaluate educational curricula for students and practitioners based on evidence-based diagnostic guidelines; (3) disseminate curricula to appropriate audiences; and (4) seek to incorporate diagnostic guidelines into training curricula for students and professionals.