

South Carolina Public Health Preparedness Student Corps (SCPHPSC)
Quarterly (8th) Progress Report to Funder: Jan. 1, – Mar. 31, 2024

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This quarterly report reflects outcomes of the amended (to end June 30, 2024) grant funded (#NU90TP922168) project (SCPHPSC) designed to increase access to an interdisciplinary and sustainable pipeline of culturally competent students for emergency and public health response within local, state, and global communities. It reflects planned and unplanned project activities implemented by South Carolina's Clemson University (CU) as lead organization and subrecipients Benedict College (BC), Claflin University (ClfU), Coastal Carolina University (CCU), Francis Marion University (FMU), and the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC).

As applicable, the report highlights 1) the number of new and total enrolled student participants and their academic majors/programs of study; 2) types of education, clinical, or leadership-centered project related events; 3) major activities/accomplishments completed; 4) challenges or departures from the project's work plan; 5) identification of technical resources needed from the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC); 6) description of "new hires" to original project teams; 7) "other" noteworthy project related information; and 8) description of the lead organization's formal engagements with subrecipients. These data are presented in summary, as well as per subrecipient sites, within headings A through H.

Eighty-four (84) new project participants were added since the previous report. Currently, a total of 870 have been enrolled – surpassing the planned 27-month program period goal of 800: BC (150), ClfU (150), CU (150), CCU (100), FMU (150), and MUSC (100). Participants' academic majors are diverse. Nursing/pre-nursing majors continue to be the largest number (318) of enrollees. This number is followed by public health (139) and biology related (133) disciplines. Other majors range from psychology (27); healthcare administration (78) and medicine (26); to math, computer science, and engineering (18); and social work (17). Students also seek careers related to mass and health communication, chemistry and biochemistry, and language and international health.

In addition to engaging in 27-30 hours of required SCPHPSC activities, students participated in didactic instruction and hands-on experiences designed to increase their knowledge, clinical skills, and leadership competence. Instruction, during this period, also included a focus on health equity as a complement to disaster preparedness. Some students were guided to reflected on at least two academic presentations related to associations among race/ancestry based health disparities (e.g., obesity, cancer, food insecurity) and the social and physical environment – factors frequently overlooked in emergency management. Others benefitted from the national/international experience of attending the 2024 National Association of County and City Health Officials (NAACHO) conference that consisted of educational offerings that spanned a gamut of topics and discussions critical to improving community health. Four of six project sites' team leaders attended the conference accompanied by a total of nine students. Other students engaged in a similar opportunity by attending the local SC Public Health Association conference. Some experienced the process of community outreach (door-to-door) by managing the distribution of hurricane emergency preparedness educational materials within several Lowcountry SC regions in collaboration with community partners that included the Horry County Council on Ageing Meals on Wheels and Horry County libraries. Others were re-introduced to the Great ShakeOut earthquake drill and the opportunity to better mitigate this natural disaster.

Activities to strengthen students' emergency management clinical skills included successful completion of the American College of Surgeons STOP THE BLEED[®] (STB) training. Two project

sites (CU, CCU) engaged 58 students in this life saving skill. This activity has also resulted in a local partnership with the North American Rescue, LLC (NAR) – a SC based organization responsible for the manufacture and distribution of emergency management supplies and STB training kits, nationally. In addition to the NAR Program Director (Anthony Horton) conducting training with CU project participants, he was also introduced (March Statewide Monthly Meeting) to the remaining project teams due to his goal of ongoing emergency response collaboration within SC. Other clinical skill development activities included students, at two project sites, who participated in Point of Dispensing Tabletop exercises in collaboration with the SC Public Health Reserve Corps.

Students' leadership involvement included three experiences: a) Participation in a "Lunch and Learn" meeting (via Zoom) with the SC Public Health Reserve Corps and b) design and presentation of a project related poster at the 2024 NACCHO conference by participants from two project sites (CU, ClfU): *Building a pipeline program to support a public health workforce and Development of a public health preparedness student corps at Claflin University—A historically Black university in South Carolina*, respectively.

Major activities/accomplishments by project teams are ongoing and include the following: **1.** The final cut of the SCPHPSC video was completed to rave reviews and with much gratitude to the six student interviewees it featured. The video is currently available at the project website (sphpsc.org) and available for viewing: https://kultura.clemson.edu/media/t/1_6ivro08i. **2.** Collaboration among SC DHEC and CU team members (PHS faculty) resulted in the planning and coordination of a panel discussion about diverse public health roles within SC DHEC to be presented during at the 2024 Annual SCPHPSC conference to be convened on April 13, 2024. **3.** Collaboration among SC DHEC personnel and team leaders from two project sites (BC and CU) resulted in the development of an article (*Are we ready for the next pandemic?*) published in the Feb. 2024 issue of The Bulletin newsletter of the SC Public Health Association. **4.** A poster abstract presentation was submitted for presentation consideration at the National Black Nurses Association 52nd Annual Institute and Conference to be convened July 23 – 28, 2024: *The South Carolina Public Health Preparedness Student Corps: An Example of one Conceptual Framework for Community Resilience as Described by the National Academies of Sciences*. **5.** A project related and funder (CDC) recognized manuscript, co-authored by former CU project team member Dr. Natasha Malmin, was accepted for publication in the Journal of Public Health Management & Practice: *Comparison of Laws that Impact Volunteer Response in Three Disaster-Prone Southeastern States*. **6.** The MUSC project team convened its second local Advisory Board meeting during this period. This is the only site that organized and hosts a site-specific council.

One ongoing challenge was reported (CCU). Some students continue to lag in project completion. The site seeks to help resolve this issue through added support. This issue has been collectively analyzed and strategies to remedy it recommended by project teams in the past, however, a 100% remedy is still pending.

There were no new technical needs requests of SC DHEC. The status of a previous need regarding the capability to use electronic signatures (e.g., DocuSign) for the SC Public Health Reserve Corps Better Impact onboarding process is still pending action.

There were no new hires during this period. The CU temporary hire (Project Coordinator) who joined during the last reporting period is still an active team member as the permanent Program Coordinator is again on extended family medical leave.

There was no other noteworthy project related information. Sites continue to acknowledge the value of the SCPHPSC to their students, faculty, and community.

The lead organization (CU) continues to engage with subrecipients – informally via telephone and email communication and formally through monthly statewide meetings. These meetings were convened during January, February, and March.

A. Program participants: Number and academic major

	No. New	No. Total	Academic Major
BC	28	135	bio. (42) // pub.hlth. (33) // psych. (24) // soc.wk. (17) // mass.com. (8) // comp. sci. (4) // environ. eng. (5) // finance (2)
ClfU	3	167	bio./biotech./bio.info./envir.sci. (79) math.comp.sci./comp.engin. (18) // chem./biochem. (14) // bus.adm./psych/pol.sci/mass.com/marketing (32) child/elem.edu./Afr.Amer.hist (9) // studio.art/sports.mngmnt. (8) // crim.just. (7)
CU	14	170	nursing (122) // pub.hlth.sci (33) // lang./internat.hlth. (15)
CCU	2	82	pub.hlth. (73) // bio./bio-chem. (2) // com./hlth.com. (2) // bus. man. (1) // educ. (1) // history (1) // psych. (1) // soc. (1)
FMU	37	216	pre-nursing/nursing (122) // hlthcare.adm. (78) // biol. (10) // hlthcare.informatics/soc./undecided (4) // psych. (2)
MUSC	0	100	nursing 74 (69 undergrad. + 5 grad. studies) // medicine (26)
	84	870	

B. Types of project events (education, clinical, leadership)/No. Attendees (SCPHPS related)

	Type	Name
BC	1. Edu./Clin. 2. Leadership 3. Leadership	1. SC Public Health Reserve Corps Point of Dispensing Tabletop exercise/12 2. 2024 NAACHO Conference (Preparedness Summit) attendance/6 (4 students) 3. SC Public Health Association Conference attendance/4
ClfU	1. Education 2. Education 3. Education 4. Education 5. Education 6. Education	1. Great ShakeOut (earthquake drill) Re-watch/7 2. Lunch and Learn meeting (Zoom) with SC Public Health Reserve Corps/12 3. POD Exercise with MRC of SC/7 4. Book signing: Beyond the Kitchen Table that highlights race and food inequity)/14 5. Health equity related speaker series: Relationships among food deserts/swamps, obesity, and obesity related cancer mortality/12 6. Health equity related speaker series: Relationships among the physical and social environment, breast cancer, and Black women/11
CU	1. Edu./Clin.	1. STOP THE BLEED® (STB) skills completion/40
CCU	1. Education 2. Education 3. Education 4. Education	1. STB training/18 2. Door-to-door distribution of education materials—hurricane emergency preparedness (Horry County Council on Aging Meals on Wheels)/87 3. Managed tabling events to provide education and distribute educational materials—hurricane emergency preparedness (International Gullah Geechee and Africa Diaspora Conference & Community Day, Conway, SC/54 4. Managed tabling event to provide education and distribute educational materials—hurricane emergency preparedness (CCU Femme Fest)/28

	5. Education	5. Managed tabling event to provide education and distribute educational materials—hurricane emergency preparedness (Horry County Library, Bucksport Branch)/17
	6. Education	6. Managed tabling event to provide education and distribute educational materials—hurricane emergency preparedness (Horry County Library, Socastee Branch)/11
FMU	n/a	
MUSC	n/a	

C. Major activities/accomplishments completed and No.

	Activities/Accomplishments	No.
BC	Indicated above (Types of Project Events)	3
CifU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitated 2 students (and 2 team members) to attend the 2024 NACCHO Preparedness Summit (Mar. 25-28) 2. Presented poster for website access at the 2024 NACCHO Preparedness Summit 3. Began student stipend requisitions for project completers 4. Initiated planning for a project closing ceremony for project completers 5. Hosted health equity speaker series (to complement emergency/disaster management awareness) that included presentations by Drs. Malcolm Bevel and Samantha Jones of the Cancer Prevention, Control & Population Health Program, Medical College of GA, Augusta University 	5
CU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitated 3 students (and 2 team members) to attend the 2024 NACCHO Preparedness Summit (Mar. 25-28) and presented project poster 2. Monthly STB skills check off sessions with students (40) since Jan. 2024 3. All Public Health Sciences (PHS) students completed in person STB and FEMA training modules 4. Finalized project video and posted at project website (scphpsc.org) 5. Collaborated with L. Davis and BC team leader (H. Counts) toward development of project related article that was published within the SC Public Health Association newsletter 6. Met with SC DHEC's M. Nanney and CU Public Health Sciences project team members to strategize activity to increase project students' awareness of public health careers within SCDHEC 7. PHS team members collaborated with SC DHEC personnel to coordinate panel discussion (diverse public health roles within SC DHEC) to be presented (4.13.24) at the 2024 Annual SCPHPSC conference 8. Submitted poster abstract presentation to NBNA 52nd Annual Institute and Conference (July 23 – 28, 2024) 9. Project related and funder (CDC) recognized manuscript was accepted for publication (3.15.24) in the Journal of Public Health Management & Practice (JPHMP-D-24-00026R2) -- Co-authored by former CU project team member Dr. Natasha Malmin: <i>Comparison of Laws that Impact Volunteer Response in Three Disaster-Prone Southeastern States</i> 10. Initiated second follow-up with CU administrators (School of Nursing Director and Accreditation Coordinator) regarding engagement of CU Development office in marketing project to stakeholders for continued funding potential 11. Collaborated with North American Rescue (NAR), LLC (Chris Hoyne, Program Manager 	11

	and Anthony Horton, Program Director) to plan a “highlight” of CU students’ engagement in STB training at the NAR and American College of Surgeons STB website	
CCU	1. Indicated above (Types of Project Events) 2. Provided hurricane emergency management resources to 193 community members	7
FMU	1. Held (03.07.24) project kick-off event with newly recruited students (37) 2. Registered 13 students to attend Annual SCPHPSC Conference in Charleston 3. Distributed 50 First Aid Fanny Packs to participating students 4. Reports 153 project completers to date...exceeding 150 goal	4
MUSC	1. Thirty-seven (37) students completed training requirements. Faculty have reached out to partner with remaining students to provide support for completion 2. Facilitated 2 students to attend the 2024 NACCHO Preparedness Summit (Mar. 25-28) 3. Convened second local Advisory Board meeting	3

D. Challenges (i.e., departures from project work plan) and resolutions

	Challenge	Resolution
BC	n/a	
CIfU	n/a	
CU	n/a	
CCU	Students are not completing the program due to schedules or change in major.	Site has made one final cohort push with students in Exercise Science and is in process of inviting them to sign up with Better Impact
FMU	none so far	
MUSC	n/a	

E. Technical needs requested from SCDHEC

BC	n/a
CIfU	n/a
CU	n/a
CCU	n/a
FMU	n/a
MUSC	n/a

F. Description of new hires (Title/Role)

BC	n/a
CIfU	n/a
CU	n/a
CCU	n/a
FMU	n/a
MUSC	n/a

G. “Other” noteworthy project related information

BC	1. We are delighted to be a part of such a great program.
CIfU	1. We are looking forward to meeting everyone on April 13 for the SCPHPSC Conference.
CU	1. We've enjoyed working on this project with the undergraduate students and other universities. I think the students have really enjoyed the experience, and all is going well! (per PHS team

	members)
CCU	n/a
FMU	n/a
MUSC	n/a

H. CU formal engagement with subrecipients

Engagement	Date
1. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting #17	01.31.24
2. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting #18	02.28.24
3. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting #19	03.29.24