

**South Carolina Public Health Preparedness Student Corps (SCPHPSC)**  
**Quarterly Progress Report to Funder: July 1– Sept. 30, 2022**

Prepared by Shirley Timmons, PhD, RN-BC, CNE, stimmon@clemson.edu, 864.720.2063

This quarterly report reflects outcomes of the 15-month grant funded (#NU90TP922168) project (SCPHPSC) that was designed to increase access to an interdisciplinary and sustainable pipeline of culturally competent students suitable to volunteer for emergency and public health response within local, state, and global communities. It reflects planned and unplanned activities of the project’s implementation by South Carolina’s Clemson University (CU) as lead organization and subrecipients Benedict College (BC), Claflin University (ClfU), Coastal Carolina University (CCU), and Francis Marion University (FMU).

Report data highlight 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 (SC 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, per program site, within headings A through H of this report as well as reported in summary.

The number of new project participants since the previous quarterly report is 140 -- contributing to the current total of 322 that represents 64.5% of the planned number (500) for the program period. Students’ academic majors continue to be diverse, however, most (122) of the total population are enrolled in nursing followed by public health (83) and biology related (58) disciplines. New participants have engaged in educational events consisting of project orientation and kick-off sessions as well as community-based collaborations with secondary schools (e.g., Plantersville Elementary and Academy) and organizations like Conway Medical Center. Their leadership events ranged from engagements in a project completion ceremony as well as meetings of professional organizations (e.g., Public Health Alliance, Health and Human Performance Cares) and direct outreach to underrepresented (e.g., “people living outside”) and college populations (i.e., dissemination of home Covid tests). Each event outcome was deemed significant by project team members.

Additional events implemented, by the lead organization, were also regarded as noteworthy and included project administrative support that ranged from distribution of implementation tools and information to subrecipients (e.g., project abstract and draft marketing brochure, participation completion certificates, subrecipient monthly meeting minutes, and videographer resource for project promotional purposes) and subrecipient monthly meeting minutes, quarterly report-funder, project abstract to SCPHPSC Advisory Board members. CU also initiated diverse project sustainability efforts to include a) manuscript development for publication submission, b) project media collection/storage mechanism, assessment of continuation grant funding opportunities (e.g., HRSA, BCBS Foundation), and c) introduction of project’s health equity modules to CU community health nursing faculty for integration within courses, as applicable.

Project implementation challenges identified, by all sites, related to students’ limited ability to fully onboard at the online SCSERV site -- specifically completion of all required paperwork. However, a promising solution has been conceived through alliance between respective SC PHRC coordinators and designated site team members: The team member will meet with students in a live, centralized setting, to supervise completion of *all* paperwork that will then be forwarded to the individual coordinator.

There was no report of technical assistance needs from SC DHEC. There was one new hire (Dr. S. Saxena) by Coastal Carolina University as replacement for Dr. A. Behjat who is no longer employed at the institution. Other noteworthy information shared reflects continued support for SCPHPSC by subrecipients and their respective organizations and SC DHEC, in generally. Finally, CU convened formal engagements with subrecipients that consisted of three monthly statewide meetings.

**A. Program participants: Number and academic major**

	No. New	No. Total	Academic Major
BC	35	55	pub. hlth. (19), biol.(16), psyc. (8), soc. wk. (7), mass com. (5)

CIFU	29	75	biol. / bio. tech. / bio. info. / environ. sci. (37), bus. admin. / psyc. / poli. sci. / mass com. / marketing (16), chem. / biochem. (7), comp. sci. / math / comp. engin. (6), early child / elementary / African American history (4), studio art. / sports managmt. (3), crim. justice (2)
CU	0	48	nurs. (48)
CCU	23	41	pub. hlth. (28), hlth. com. (11), educ. (1), psyc. (1)
FMU	53	103	nurs. (74), hlthcare adm. (20), biol. (5), psyc. (2), hlthcare inform. (1), undecide. (1)

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

	Type	Name
BC	Leadership	1. Project completion ceremony for 1 <sup>st</sup> cohort / 36
CIFU	1. Leadership 2. Education 3. Education/Leadership	1. 125 Covid test kit dissemination to on-campus students / 125 2. Orientation for 2 <sup>nd</sup> cohort on 9.27.22 / 30 3. 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting of Public Health Alliance on 9.29.22 / 70
CU	n/a	
CCU	1. Education 2. Education 3. Education 4. Education	1. 7.19.22: Plantersville Summer Academy Symposium with families / 30 2. 8.6.22: Annual back to school rally-Plantersville Elem. with families / 50 3. 8.17.22: Outreach for "People Living Outside" / 25 4. 9.21.22: Health and Human Performance Cares, Wellness Wednesdays on Prince Lawn tabling event / 30
FMU	1. Education	1. Project kick-off meeting / 45

### C. Major activities/accomplishments completed and No.

	Activities/Accomplishments	No.
BC	1. Convened completion ceremony for 1 <sup>st</sup> cohort 2. Recruited 35 students for 2 <sup>nd</sup> cohort	2
CIFU	1. Recruited 30 students for 2 <sup>nd</sup> cohort 2. Convened interest meeting for Public Health Alliance on 8.25.22--at least 50 attendees 3. Developed plan to recruit, from a general education class, on improving community health for next cohort 4. Developing plan for Stop the Bleed to be held during Fall semester 5. Integrated SCPHPSC activity calendar with Public Health Alliance calendar 6. Announced to the community the mission and goals of the SCPHPSC 7. Engaged other student organizations on campus through Student Development and Srvs. Division	7
CU	1. Shared 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter "funder" report with SCPHPSC Advisory Board 2. Convened meeting with SC MRC Director toward 1 <sup>st</sup> project relevant manuscript development 3. Designed/disseminated SCPHPSC participant Completion Certificates (125) to subrecipients 4. Created/disseminated project abstract for use by subrecipients, as applicable (i.e., proposal submission, scholarly presentations) 5. Shared SCPHPSC Monthly Meeting minutes (8.26.22) with project Advisory Board 6. Coordinated establishment of storage repository for project pictures/media to be collected from subrecipients and CU 7. Recruited/interviewed three CU Project Coordinator applicants 8. Assessed continuation funding potential with BCBS Foundation (Program Officer, BB) 9. Assessed continuation funding potential re: HRSA-23-039 (program officer, JC) 10. Identified/engaged videographer (Cliff Williams-Argyle Multimedia) to support project marketing campaign needs 11. Engaged videographer (Cliff Williams) to provide video service (i.e., "snap shots") at Coastal Carolina University's 10.22.22 POD exercise 12. Completed draft#1 of SCPHPSC marketing brochure 13. Prepared/submitted project presentation (poster) abstract to 2023 Preparedness Summit 14. Shared SCPHPSC Monthly Meeting minutes (9.22.22) with project Advisory Board 15. Collaborated with SCDHEC personnel (KF) to foster ongoing academic-community collaboration	17

	16. Shared information about benefits of project to a potential Medical University of SC collaborator 17. Introduced community health nursing faculty to SCPHPSC health equity modules for consideration for integration within courses	
CCU	1. (7.19.22) Plantersville Summer Academy Closing Symposium with Families (Georgetown County)--Conducted tabling event (i.e., distributed informational materials about hurricane/weather emergency preparedness) including presentation and demonstrations of hurricane preparation kits to 30 community members--led by A. Touchberry/M.K. Powell 2. (8.6.22) Annual Back to School Rally at Plantersville Elementary School (Georgetown County) Conducted tabling event (as #1 above) including demonstrations to 50 community members—led by A. Touchberry, L. Shultz, E. Devaux 3. (8.17.22) Outreach Activity to “people living outside” in Myrtle Beach, SC (Horry County). A team of 4, including SCPHPSC student participant (A. Touchberry) and community individuals presented information (material/oral) about hurricane and weather emergency preparedness/provided demonstrations of hurricane preparation kits to 25 community members 4. (9.21.22) Conway Medical Center College of Health and Human Performance Wellness Wednesday Event Wellness Wednesdays on Prince Lawn with #HHPCares (Hashtag Health and Human Performance Cares) at CCU. Conducted tabling event (as #1 above) including demonstrations of hurricane preparation kits to 30 community members – led by A. Touchberry, L. Shultz, E. Devaux, A. Irsenia	4
FMU	1. Recruiting additional 53 students to be enrolled in cohort #2 2. Facilitating successful kick-off event with 45 students that included Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health presentation 3. Seven of 53 newly enrolled students have completed > 50% of required activities to date--9.26.22 4. Scheduled two different DHEC Reserve Corps workshops for 1 <sup>st</sup> week in Oct. with J. Latour 5. Gathered all required paperwork from students participating in workshops	5

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

	Challenge	Resolution
BC	n/a	
CIFU	1. Getting forms signed for SCSERV and DHEC 2. Stipend dispersal process	1. Lowcountry PHRC coordinator to come to campus on 9.27.22 to meet with 2 <sup>nd</sup> cohort and bring physical copies of missing student forms to the Program Coordinator to get signed by the students. 2. Continue communication with Fiscal Department to improve this process
CU	1. Less than optimal SCSERV onboarding for out-of-state students 2. Less than optimal SCSERV “all” documents completion onboarding by students 3. No. 1 ranked program coordinator applicant declined position due to salary level	1. Team member/Upstate PHRC coordinator collaboration to devise more efficient “work-around” strategy 2. Team member/Upstate coordinator collaborated to devise more efficient strategy: Team member to directly engage with all students to complete all paperwork and forward all to coordinator 3. No. 2 ranked applicant accepted offer
CCU	1. Did not have as much interaction with participants during summer	1. Worked with available students who completed training. Now has 2 <sup>nd</sup> cohort—will ensure upcoming activities including POD exercise.
FMU	1. Difficulty with obtaining completed paperwork for PHRC	1. Now requires PHRC (and stipend) paperwork to be completed during kick-off meeting resulting in gathered 45/53 newly enrolled students’ paperwork

#### E. Technical needs requested from SCDHEC

BC	None at the moment
CIFU	n/a
CU	None

CCU	n/a
FMU	None thus far—SC DHEC has been tremendous help!

#### F. Description of new hires (Title/Role)

BC	n/a
ClFU	n/a
CU	n/a
CCU	Dr. Sangeeta Saxena / Assistant Professor and Co-Investigator / ssaxena@coastal.edu
FMU	n/a

#### G. “Other” noteworthy project related information

BC	We are excited to be a part of the team
ClFU	We have full support from the university for the project
CU	Documented at least six public media announcements (e.g., newspapers) published by CU and two other subrecipients
CCU	Dr. A. Behjat has left the institution—no longer on project in future
FMU	n/a

#### H. CU formal engagement with subrecipients

Engagement	Date
1. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting#3	7.27.22
2. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting#4	8.26.22
3. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting#5	9.22.22