

South Carolina Public Health Preparedness Student Corps (SCPHPSC)
Quarterly (6th) Progress Report to Funder: July 1 – September 30, 2023

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

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 implementation 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 South Carolina (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, per program site, within headings A through H as well as in summary.

One hundred eighty-five (185) new project participants were added since the previous quarterly report. A total of 673 students have currently been enrolled – reflecting 85% of the planned 27-month program period goal of 800: BC (150), ClafU (150), CU (150), CCU (100), FMU (150), and MUSC (100).

Participants' academic majors continue to be diverse with nursing/pre-nursing (264) being the majority. This number is followed by public health (158) and biology related disciplines (120). Other participants are enrolled in programs that range from psychology and social work/sociology, computer science and marketing, to engineering.

Engaging students in educational, clinical, and leadership activities resulted in a) successful completion of all project requirements, by previous student cohorts, and b) formal orientations convened to facilitate new enrollees' socialization to emergency preparedness and health equity aims within public health. Some students gained knowledge about active shooter management through a full-scale exercise that included several Lowcountry, SC regions and awareness of the varied community services involved in this type of event (i.e., police, fire, counselors, administrators/leaders). They learned how to barricade, minimize risk, and ensure team safety. This student group also gained clinical and leadership experience by participating in a Prepare-A-Thon within which information about hurricane and tornado preparedness was disseminated as community outreach and emergency, first aid, and medication kits were created. Other students gained clinical skill through engagement in the STOP THE Bleed[®] (STB) campaign--becoming certified in this ongoing, national, and vital American Colleges of Surgeons initiative.

There were at least 11 major subrecipient accomplishments reported. **1.** A formal (and sustainable) partnership with Prisma Health (private nonprofit SC health company) was developed to provide STB training to student participants. **2.** Creative student recruitment strategies that ranged from targeting incoming first-year students (Environmental Science Summer Bridge Program) and marketing the project, through social media and campus wide dissemination of informational flyers, were implemented. **3.** Two student poster presentation abstracts, to scholarly forums (i.e., 2024 Preparedness Summit, 2024 SC Public Health Association Annual Conference), were submitted. **4.** One subrecipient's work plan was enhanced to foster sustainability of project outcomes – especially for students with diverse majors who (unlike nursing/public health majors) are not typically engaged in formal community/public health networks. A "Student Ambassador Program" was conceived whereas select former project completers (i.e., ambassadors), who are also members of the campus Public Health Student Alliance, will serve as SCPHPSC mentors to ongoing participants with the goal to

support their ongoing engagement in project related community/public health outreach. **5.** One subrecipient has assessed a strategy to develop a site specific SCPHPSC Advisory Board composed of campus student organizations representatives. **6.** Another has added two Public Health Sciences (PHS) team members to recruit/engage students within that department, as project participants, to complement the current nursing, only, target group. **7.** Version #1 of the SCPHPSC Website (www.scphpsc.com) was completed with the plan to embellish it, as indicated. **8.** A 2024 SCPHPSC Annual Conference Task Force was formulated to include team members representing 3 of 5 subrecipients and one regional SC Public Health Reserve Corps (SC PHRC) member. **9.** Strategic coordination involving multiple university partners is ongoing, at one institution, toward relationship building to support a broader range of students. **10.** One subrecipient initiated assessment of a potential local training opportunity for students to engage as health volunteers with a LowVelo bike fundraiser emergency response team. **11.** The most recently confirmed subrecipient has been successful in realizing its work plan including confirmation of participant selection criteria and has surpassed its enrollment goal while including several waitlisted students within its accelerated-BSN program.

Three challenges (and resolutions) to project implementation are noted. One subrecipient will lose two team members due to pressing employment demands at their university. The team leader seeks to address this change by realigning project responsibilities among current members until team member replacements are made. A second challenge is that the number of students interested in emergency preparedness, at one site, is greater than available SCPHPSC opportunity slots. No resolution to this issue has been identified, however, solutions will continue to be pondered. One pending challenge to the lead organization (i.e., CU), is an upcoming 6-week leave of absence by the project Administrative Coordinator, however, the solution to hire a temporary replacement has been initiated.

There is no new technical needs request of SC DHEC. The outcome of a previous recommendation to incorporate electronic signature functionality (e.g., DocuSign) within Better Impact to enhance the SC PHRC onboarding process is pending update.

There were no SCPHPSC new hires during this period. This outcome is consistent with the previous report.

A. Program participants: Number and academic major

	No. New	No. Total	Academic Major
BC	32	109	bio (35) // pub.hlth. (28) // psych. (20) // soc.wk. (14) // mass.com. (6) // comp. sci. (4) // environ. Eng. (1)
ClfU	50	148	bio/biotech/bio.info/envir.sci (69) // chem/biochem. (12) // comp.sci/math.comp.eng. (15) // bus.adm./psych/pol.sci/mass.com/marketing/sociology (32) // earlychild/elem.edu. /Afr.Amer hist./mid.child.edu (8) // studio.art/sports.mngmnt. (7) // crim.just. (5)
CU	15	115	nursing (115)
CCU	22	80	bio./bio-chem. (2) // bus. man. (1) // educ. (1) // com./hlth.com. (2) // history (1), // psych. (1), // soc. (1), // pub.hlth. (71)
FMU	58	163	pre-nursing/nursing (91) // hlthcare.adm.(pub. hlth.) (59) // psych. (1) biol.(pre-med.) (8) // hlthcare.adm.(pub. hlth.) & hlth. informs. (1) // soc. (1) // hlth.sciences (1) // undecided (1)
MUSC	8	58	nursing (58)
	185	673	

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

	Type	Name
BC	1. Leadership 2. Educational	1. Cohort 3 Completion / 23 2. Cohort 4 Orientation / 32
CIFU	1. Educational	1. Cohort 4 Orientation / 38
CU	1. Clinical	1. Conducted four STOP THE BLEED® Skills checkoffs / 4
CCU	1. Leadership./Clin. 2. Leadership	1. Active Shooter Full Scale Exercise (07.19.23) – 3 / 23 outreach community 2. Prepare-A-Thon (09.27.23) -- 1 /175 outreach community
FMU	n/a	
MUSC	n/a	

C. Major activities/accomplishments completed and No.

	Activities/Accomplishments	No.
BC	1. 3 rd Cohort completed 2. 4 th Cohort oriented to SCPHPSC and progress begun 3. Established partnership with Prisma Health to provide STOP THE BLEED® training to project participants	3
CIFU	1. Recruited incoming first-year students from Env. Sci. Summer Bridge Prog. participants 2. Created project flyers--disseminated through Marketing and Communications and Social Media--posted throughout campus 3. Disseminated project application for Cohort 4 4. Recruited a total of 50 students for Cohort 4 5. Submitted student poster abstract: 2024 Preparedness Summit, Cleveland, OH 6. Prepared student poster abstract: 2024 SC Public Health Association Annual Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC 7. Submitted proposal (SCPHPSC Student Ambassador Program) to CU Project Director/SC DHEC liaison & Principal Investigator to promote sustainability in collaboration with Public Health Student Alliance (PHSA) 8. Attended meeting with PHSA E-Board (Pres, Vice Pres 1, Vice Pres 2, Treasurer, etc.) re: scheduling of SCPHPSC campus events in preparation for general meeting 9. Discussed plans for developing a SCPHPSC Advisory Board consisting of student campus organizations representatives.	9
CU	1. Engaged two CU Public Health Sciences (PHS) team members to engage/manage 35 PHS students (of 50 total) within project 2. Completed Version#1 of SCPHPSC Website (www.scphpsc.com) 3. SCPHPSC 2024 Annual Conference planning task force was formed	3
CCU	1. Completed Active Shooter full scale exercise 2. Completed Prepare-A-thon (e.g., hurricane/tornado preparedness) community outreach	2
FMU	1. Recruited 58 additional students to participate in yr.#3 Public Health cohort and kick-off meetings scheduled for Oct. 3 and 4 to provide overview of grant, discuss social determinants of health and field of emergency preparedness	1
MUSC	1. Coordinated with multiple university departments (i.e., College of Medicine program leader, graduate nursing faculty, assistant dean) to develop relationships and partner with new student groups 2. Conducted initial planning for potential local training opportunity (e.g., student participation, at LowVelo bike fundraiser, as health volunteers with emergency response team)	4

	<p>3. Eight accelerated-BSN students (previously on waitlist) were enrolled into 2nd cohort. Recruitment generated 52 new applications/selection process is ongoing.</p> <p>4. Major activities accomplished, per scope of work, include identifying selection criteria for 2nd cohort and engaging in recruitment efforts.</p>	
--	---	--

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

	Challenge	Resolution
BC	No major challenges at this time	
CfU	n/a	
CU	1. Pending 6-week leave of absence by project Administrative Coordinator	1. Hire of temporary employee has been initiated.
CCU	1. Team members (M. Powell, L. Luce) will exit project (October) re: other employment responsibilities.	1. Team member (S. Saxena) and leader (F. McGough) will assume responsibilities and seek to identify new team member.
FMU	n/a	
MUSC	<p>1. Limited number of SCPHPSC slots for students interested in emergency preparedness</p> <p>2. No departures from work plan</p>	1. n/a

E. Technical needs requested from SCDHEC

BC	None needed at this time
CfU	n/a
CU	n/a
CCU	n/a
FMU	n/a
MUSC	None needed at this time

F. Description of new hires (Title/Role)

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

G. "Other" noteworthy project related information

BC	BC is delighted to continue to be a part of the project.
CfU	We are looking forward to Cohort 4...and having previous cohorts help us know what we need to focus on for the current cohort.
CU	<p>1. 5th Quarterly Funder Report submitted/accepted by SC DHEC: 7.5.23</p> <p>2. 5th Quarterly Funder Report disseminated to all project team and Advisory Board members: 7.5.23</p> <p>3. CU team member met (virtual) with MUSC team leader (K. Jordan) to successfully troubleshoot access to free_Coursera course login problem experienced by some students: 7.7.23</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Recruited/replaced exited (to new university) student representative to SCPHPSC Advisory Board: 7.17.23 5. Meeting with CU Undergraduate Coordinator re: plan to institutionalize STB within CU SON community health courses: 7.19.23 6. Met with MUSC team leader (K. Jordan) re: plan/decision to submit external funding Letter of Intent (as project sustainability activity) in response to a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Department of Commerce-Climate Resilience Regional Challenge program announcement: 7.27.23 7. Initiated contract with videographer Mark Berry to create 2-3 minute SCPHPSC Video -- consisting of student participants' (6) recorded interviews: 7.31.23 8. Began coordination of student interviewee schedule for planned video development 9. Submitted abstract (poster presentation), in collaboration with student participant, for 2024 NAACHO Preparedness Summit and SCPHA Annual Conference: 8.30.23 10. Created/disseminated <i>Intro to MRC and SC PHRC</i> PowerPoint slides to subrecipients -- one for use within nursing and one for non-nursing courses, as applicable (re: project sustainability): 9.1.23
CCU	nothing additional
FMU	n/a
MUSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We continue to appreciate the positivity and support from the state level SCPHPSC team! 2. College of Nursing faculty member has asked if they could engage in some of the training experiences to increase own knowledge, drawing attention to emergency preparedness as an area of both faculty and student interest.

H. CU formal engagement with subrecipients

Engagement	Date
1. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting #13	7.25.23
2. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting #14	8.25.23
3. Statewide Monthly Subrecipients Meeting #15	9.27.23