Advancing Progress in Nursing Grant – Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
  • Moving Forward All-Grantee Meeting, Washington
  • Approval for 2 more years of funding
  • Nursing education summit in Helena in June

TAACCT Grant Proposal
  • Assisting with a $20 million proposal to fund healthcare training and education programs for community colleges
  • Funding for AHECs for workforce planning and career coaches
  • Nursing curriculum redesign
  • Core curriculum in clinical and administrative
  • Tribal colleges involvement
  • Huge collaboration among OCHE, UM, MSU, DLI, MHA and many others

Graduate Medical Education Council
  • Summit planned for October 16-17 in Bozeman

Montana Healthcare Foundation Presentation
  • With DPHHS on health issues in Montana

MHA Winter Meeting
  • Presentation on CHSD by Natalie Claiborne
  • Overview of Frontier Community Health Integration Program Demonstration by ORHP

ACHI/HRET Fellows Meeting
  • ACHI Advisory Committee Meeting, HRET Senior Fellows Meeting, and Annual Conference, Orlando
  • Poster session with Angela Bangs on CHSD and Implementation Plans

FCHIP Demonstration
  • Frontier Community Health Integration Demonstration through CMS
  • Assisted CAHs in drafting proposals

Population Health Summit
  • Participated in an Office of Rural Health Policy group to discuss the role of CAHs in addressing population health. A guide has been published
Staff Changes
- Angela Bangs has returned to school, and will be working on a very part time basis on special projects
- Sarah Devitt, Jordan Brown, and Michael Boerner are working with us through the summer on several grant funded projects
- Erin Bills will begin law school at UM in August

Here is a summary of Erin’s work this past year

The Montana AHEC Program Office provides evaluation services to healthcare organizations in Montana. Internal evaluation is now a large requirement for all AHEC grant funded programs. Program Evaluator, Erin Bills, has established evaluation services at the Montana AHEC Program Office. She provides leadership in all research and evaluation areas of Program Office activities, and evaluates activities with federal, state, tribal, and local organizations across Montana. She considers the creation of a statewide, streamlined approach to AHEC Performance Measure reporting her biggest AHEC-specific accomplishment this year and would like to thank all Regional AHEC Offices for their continued dedication to the process.

Featured Program Evaluation, Spring 2014
Child Ready Montana, State Partnership of Regionalized Care (SPROC) Grant, HRSA
The intent of the Child Ready MT program is to develop an accountable, culturally competent, and accessible system of care for pediatric patients across the state, which will result in providing the right care at the right time in the right place. Erin designed the evaluation plan for the grant submission (Spring 2012) and has been contracted by St. Vincent Healthcare as project evaluator and epidemiologist. Reporting period major accomplishments include:

✓ Site assessments and mock code scenarios were conducted across ~85% of Montana CAH and non-CAH
✓ Site assessment and Indian Health Service data were presented in June 2014 to the Advisory Council.
✓ Utilizing data collected and reported by MORH/AHEC in partnership with EMS-C, DPHHS, St. Vincent Healthcare, and IHS, Child Ready Montana has outlined clear steps to implement a regionalized model of care to improve pediatric readiness
✓ Child Ready designations will be granted to prepared facilities

- Cindra Stahl will be taking on additional roles in the office as Assistant Director for AHEC
- Amanda Judisch will serve in an interim role during Natalie Claiborne’s maternity leave this fall