



Advancing Professional Competencies of Graduate Nutrition Students in the Area of Lactation Education

Award Number: 2013-38422-21305

Award Amount:\$245,000.00

Funding for this Project was Provided by NIFA

Project Objectives:

1. To increase the enrollment of Hispanic graduate nutrition science students from 9% to 18% by June 30, 2016.
2. To increase the two year graduation rate of Hispanic graduate nutrition science students from 36% to 45% by June 30, 2016.
3. To increase the professional competencies of 72 Hispanic graduate nutrition science students in the area of lactation education by June 30, 2016.

Project Activities:

Objective 1: To increase the enrollment of Hispanic graduate nutrition science students

- ❑ Facilitate outreach efforts about graduate academic programs and careers in nutrition science.
- ❑ Award Hispanic students intending to apply to graduate programs in nutrition science subsidies to take the graduate record exam.

Objective 2: To increase the two year graduation rate of Hispanic graduate nutrition science students

- ❑ Award tuition scholarships to Hispanic graduate nutrition science students
- ❑ Engage Hispanic graduate nutrition science students in a lactation education practicum experience

Objective 3: To increase the professional competencies of Hispanic graduate nutrition science students in the area of lactation education

- ❑ Develop and offer graduate Nutrition Science students a course in lactation education.
- ❑ Develop and offer a lactation education practicum experience for Hispanic graduate nutrition science students.
- ❑ Develop and issue a university certificate of course completion to students completing the lactation education course.

Beneficiaries of the Project:

- ❑ 150 be Hispanic graduate nutrition science students
- ❑ 735 four year college students
- ❑ 1800 low-income Latina women and their infants

Expected Impact of Project:

- ❑ Enroll 72 Hispanic graduate nutrition science students in a lactation education course
- ❑ Enroll 36 Hispanic graduate nutrition science students in a lactation education practicum experience where they will facilitate one-on-one phone-based prenatal breastfeeding education and counseling to 1800 low-income mothers.
- ❑ Issue certificate of lactation education course completion to 72 Hispanic graduate nutrition science students.
- ❑ Recruit 36 Hispanic graduate students to serve as outreach ambassadors who will implement 36 informational sessions about career opportunities and academic programs in the area of nutrition.
- ❑ Award 36 tuition scholarships to Hispanic graduate nutrition science students
- ❑ Award 15 Hispanic undergraduate students intending to apply to a graduate program in nutrition science a subsidy to take the graduate record exam.

Institutions and Agencies/Organizations Involved:

- ❑ USDA's Food and Nutrition Service Agency
- ❑ California WIC
- ❑ Northeast Valley Health Corporation
- ❑ California State University Northridge Marilyn Magaram Center
- ❑ California State University Northridge Institute of Community Health and Wellbeing

Relevant Priority or Mission Area:

- ❑ This project directly supports NIFA Priority Area of improving the nation's nutrition and health and addressing the childhood obesity problem. The project's goal of advancing nutrition science students' professional competencies in the area of lactation education would be an important step toward improving the nation's nutrition and health in general, and the childhood obesity problem in particular.

USDA Collaborators:

- ❑ California WIC Program
- ❑ Northeast Valley Health Corporation
- ❑ Food and Nutrition Service Agency