

Elgin Community College

HEALTHCARE BRIDGE PROJECT

ICCB ADMINISTRATORS MEETING, APRIL 14, 2010

DEVELOPMENT

- ✘ Initial kick-off brainstorming meeting inclusive of hospital partners and ECC faculty/staff from adult education and healthcare.
- ✘ Hired part-time Coordinator (ESL adjunct) in development year to conduct research, develop marketing materials, handle student recruitment, etc.

DEVELOPMENT

- ✘ Hired outside consultant to develop curriculum due to faculty compensation issues related to the union contract.
- ✘ Following abrupt resignation of consultant, hired ESL adjunct faculty member (also Coordinator on project) and college's Nursing Retention Specialist to co-develop the course.

DEVELOPMENT

- ✘ Involved Coordinator from Workforce Transitions to serve as pre-screener to meet one-on-one with potential students.
- ✘ Tried to learn from others with successful programs both locally and nationally.

LESSONS LEARNED: DEVELOPMENT

- ✘ Hire right – tap into expertise within your own institution.
- ✘ Co-develop course with someone from targeted industry area, not adult ed. alone.
- ✘ Request input directly from local businesses in the sector area.
- ✘ Partnerships are key – adult ed. does not have to do it alone. At ECC, active collaboration with Workforce Transitions & Healthcare has been essential.

CURRICULUM

- ✘ 3 credit hour course
- ✘ Meets twice per week for 11-12 weeks, approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes per class
- ✘ Co-enrollment requirement in Intermediate-Advanced ESL or GED
- ✘ Class offered immediately following morning ESL/ASE classes (e.g. 12:15-2:00)
- ✘ Daytime vs. nighttime debate
- ✘ Class size max. of 15

CURRICULUM

- ✘ Course is taught by ESL faculty member but includes numerous guest speakers, such as:
 - + Nursing Retention Specialist (HIPAA, U.S. Healthcare system, facts common to all healthcare professions)
 - + Workforce Transitions Coordinator (goal-setting, study skills, time management, resources/support, learning styles)

CURRICULUM

- ✘ Course includes numerous field trips to Rosewood Care Center, Provena St. Joseph Hospital, Sherman Hospital, and 2 days spent within ECC's health careers building (total of 5 field trip dates).
- ✘ Field trips made it necessary to split class of 15 into two groups. Semester #1 used substitutes for half not on field trip. Semester #2 developed hybrid model (on-line) and faculty swap.

CURRICULUM

- ✘ Vocabulary
- ✘ Role play
- ✘ Introduction to COMPASS Reading test
- ✘ Math (e.g. conversion, ratios, addition, subtraction)
- ✘ Readings in context (e.g. Surgical Technologists)
- ✘ Reflective Learning Log
- ✘ Mock job interviews, applications, resumes
- ✘ Required self-assessment with Workforce Transitions Coordinator

LESSONS LEARNED: CURRICULUM

- ✘ Stay true to target audience (don't go outside of targeted level range).
- ✘ Carefully consider whether to combine ESL/ASE, pros and cons either way.
- ✘ Use speakers and field trip activities to pull in the experts.
- ✘ Think through the logistics, e.g. who will coordinate field trips every semester? Will same faculty member teach the course every semester?

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION

- ✘ Flyers, newspaper ads, in-class presentations, promotion within student orientation sessions, etc.
- ✘ Offered class in late start format to allow for recruitment from within early start ESL/ASE classes.
- ✘ Many express interest but some back away after reality check of pre-screening.
- ✘ Easier to recruit when Coordinator was in place last year.

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION

- ✘ Offered 2 sections in Fall 2009. Out of 34 enrolled, 6 dropped. 28 students completed (82%).
- ✘ Offered 2 sections in Spring 2010. 27 students enrolled.
- ✘ Chose not to provide supportive services through grant to ensure program sustainability.

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION: LESSONS LEARNED

- ✘ Late start format is effective.
- ✘ Don't let the recruitment wind out of your sails
 - designate individuals to be responsible for keeping recruitment alive.
- ✘ Will probably offer course during only one semester in FY11 (market is tapped out within adult learner pool at ECC).

WHAT'S NEXT?

- ✘ ECC is exploring other bridge development opportunities for FY11.
- ✘ De-briefing meeting scheduled for end of spring semester with core planning team.
- ✘ Data project has been launched with Institutional Research to obtain transition data for all ABEC students.

QUESTIONS?
