

# **ADOLESCENT CAREER MENTORING**

#### **SUMMARY**

According to the National Center of Educational Statistics, in the school year 2011 - 2012, 80% of public high school students graduated on time with a high school diploma.

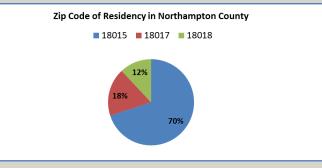
#### **School-To-Work Program**

For the past seventeen years, St. Luke's Hospital and the Bethlehem Area School District have been collaborating to provide English as a Second Language students the opportunity to explore healthcare careers through the School-To-Work Program (STW).

The STW Program was created to improve graduation rates, lower absenteeism, and encourage students toward postsecondary education. Its intent is to engage at-risk students to remain in school by exposing them to health careers at St. Luke's Hospital, to offer support and guidance as they work to achieve fluency in English, and to obtain valuable career and life skills.

### HIGHLIGHTS

• This year the program served eighteen students from the Bethlehem Area School District at Liberty High school in Northampton County. Since its inception, the School-To-Work Program has served 242 students.

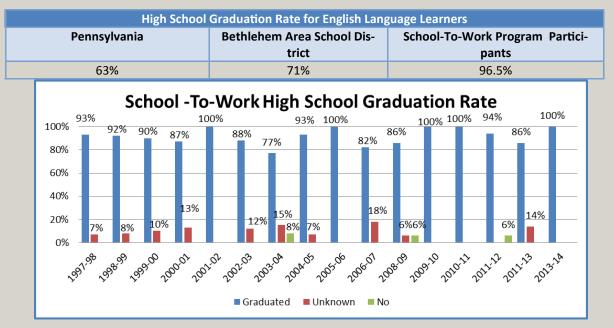


- Four STW program participants were awarded scholarships and/or academic awards at the Bethlehem Area School District Minority Senior Awards Ceremony on May 29, 2014.
- During the 2013-2014 program year, STW program participants rotated/visited 21 departments at St. Luke's Hospital.

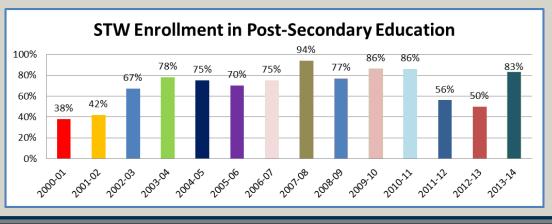
Participating Departments			
Ambulatory Surgical Center	Environmental Ser- vices	Laboratory	РРНР 7
BioMedical Engineering	Family Birth Center	Lehigh Valley Child Care Center	РРНР 8
CAT Scan	Human Resources	Medial Affairs	Radiology
Central Transport	Hospice House	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	Service Improvement
Service Improvement	Inpatient Dialysis	Oncology	Women's Health Center
Community Health Depart- ment	Intensive Care Unit	РРНР 4	

### **SUCCESSES**

- 94% (17 of out 18 enrolled) of the STW program participants completed the program successfully.
- 57% (n=10) of STW program participants increased their English skills proficiency based on their WIDA pre and post test results. Most beginner students made growth and maintained the growth with the STW program. Intermediate or advanced level students showed improvement, but is not as evident and not as rapid as at the lower levels of proficiencies.



- During the academic year 2013-2014, of the 12 students who were seniors, 100% graduated high school. Overall, from 1997 to 2014, the School-To-Work Program has had a high school graduation rate of 96.5%.
- 83% (n=10) of the students who graduated from high school in the academic year 2013 2014 enrolled in post-secondary education in a local community college or a technical school.



## **CHALLENGES & NEXT STEPS**

St. Luke's Community Health has been awarded a grant from the Lehigh Valley Workforce Investment Board Inc., for the Health Career Exploration Program. This program will provide English as a Second Language students from the Bethlehem Area School District hands-on experience in the healthcare setting at St. Luke's. The components will focus on healthcare related terminology, exposure to various healthcare careers through subsidized work experiences at St. Luke's Hospital and job readiness skills training. This program will be starting in August 2014.

For more information about the Adolescent Career Mentoring Programs, please contact Victoria Montero, MPH, Manager, Healthy Living Initiatives at 484-526-2104 or <u>Victoria.Montero@sluhn.org</u>.



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