



University of Connecticut Health Center

ISSUE 1

SPRING 2002

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Connecticut Health

The next generation of health care development

PROGRAM OF THE MONTH:

Dental Screening at Camp Courant

DIRECTED BY DR. DEBORAH REDFORD-BADWALL DDS PHD



The Department of Pediatric Dentistry directs a dental screening program for the campers at Hartford's Camp Courant, the summer camp sponsored by the Hartford Courant for underprivileged children. In 2001, the dental teams saw a total of 910 children with various degrees of dental problems, and provided appropriate referrals and follow-up.

Hartford's Camp Courant is the largest free day camp in the nation, serving up to 2,500 Hartford children during the summer season. Children ages 5 through 12, who live in the city of Hartford, participate in a variety of recreational, educational and cultural programs at the campsite in Farmington. Transportation, two nutritious meals, health care and a bathing suit are provided to every child who needs one. All of the programs are geared towards developing self-esteem, building positive relationships and having fun.

Hartford's Camp Courant began as a summer excursion fund in 1894 and has become

the nation's largest free day camp. For over a century, Camp Courant has provided free summer activities for city children. The University of Connecticut Health Center's Department of Pediatric Dentistry supports the provision of dental care



to these underserved children as an extension of its extensive, high-quality clinical and educational involvement in the Hartford community.



Connecticut Health projects take place in virtually all 169 Connecticut towns and meet a wide range of community and public health needs.

Questions or comments? Interested in listing your project?

Contact Ms. Corey A. Conlon at caconlon@adp.uchc.edu or (860) 679-3236.

Accomplishments Forge Alliance

Frank Gifford, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations has found the CT Health website a useful tool for fundraising. "The Development Office tries to match the philanthropic goals of benefactors with the programmatic goals of the institution. The CT Health website allows provides quick reference to all Health Center outreach pro-

grams and helps in that match-making process". Frank noted the recent gift from People's Bank to the Health Career Opportunities Program as an example of how this works. When People's Bank expressed interest in K-12 education, a review of the CT Health database suggested Dr. Hurley's programs might be a good fit. The result was a five-year, \$100,000

commitment to the summer research apprentice program and additional support for electronically linking area high schools. Building upon this success, the Development Office and Connecticut Health are exploring other opportunities to secure private funding.

www.connecticuthealth.org

Connecticut Health General Information

Connecticut Health facilitates and promotes public health and public sector service to the State of Connecticut. The *Connecticut Health* Project Database serves as a central source of information regarding UCHC's community and public health programs. Working with governmental and community-based organizations, it seeks out opportunities for UCHC faculty and staff to collaborate on new initiatives, and it consults on the development of new projects that are initiated from within the Health Center.

Connecticut Health represents for the University of Connecticut Health Center a new and permanent emphasis on community and public health. It embodies the contribution of the Health Center to the health of the citizens of the entire state. From *Connecticut Health* will come an expanded range of programs that augment the Health Center's traditional mission in education, research, and high quality medicine and fulfill its obligation as a publicly funded institution.

Highlights – Did you know . . . ?

- Connecticut Health has currently identified 220 projects that provide community and public health services.
- UCHC houses the largest Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in the state of Connecticut.
- The number of children suffering from asthma in the US is estimated to have increased by 49 percent since 1982. See what UCHC is doing about it! Search the *Connecticut Health* database by keyword: asthma
- UCHC provides all of the health, mental health, and dental care to the 18,000 state inmates.

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The world is full of obvious things which nobody by any chance ever observes.

- Sherlock Holmes -

The Hound of the Baskervilles

What is Connecticut Health anyway?

The University of Connecticut Health Center is placing increasing emphasis on its community-based and public health programs. In 2000, the health center developed four new strategic initiatives as, one of which, *Connecticut Health*, calls for a substantially increased collaboration with governmental and private non-profit agencies in addressing the community and public health needs of the state.

Connecticut Health is an umbrella under which are gathered the hundreds of UCHC projects and programs that address the health-related needs of sister state agencies, local governmental agencies, community-based organizations, and the citizens of Connecticut. *Connecticut Health* seeks to incentivize, facilitate, and promote public health and public sector service to the State of Connecticut. A program falls within *Connecticut Health* by virtue of substantive involvement of UCHC faculty, staff, residents and students in addressing community and public health needs. Programs range from providing all of the health and

mental health care for the state's prison population to running small pilot projects designed to improve the day care available to disabled children. Programs addressing the needs of underserved populations, providing direct care to the poor and uninsured, research projects that address significant health problems in underserved populations, and educational programs are of particular interest. Virtually all *Connecticut Health* projects are undertaken as a collaboration with governmental agencies or community-based partners.

Because the full extent and range of community-based programming at the



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www.connecticuthealth.org

health center has never before been fully appreciated, *Connecticut Health* maintains a website to serve as a central source of information regarding UCHC's community and public health programs. Contact us if you are interested in listing a project on the *Connecticut Health* website.