

Title of Project: Bright Futures Training

Agency Name: Florida Department of Health

State: Florida

Key Word Descriptors: Bright Futures, staff training, nutrition education

Description of Project:

Staff from the Bureau of WIC and Nutrition Services of the Florida Department of Health developed a Power Point presentation, a facilitator's guide, role-playing scenarios, and handouts to assist local WIC agency nutritionists in the provision of standardized training using the Bright Futures in Practice-Nutrition resources. This initiative was undertaken to help revitalize and improve the quality of nutrition services for WIC clients.

The initiative started with the twenty-two public health nutritionists from the Florida Department of Health who attended the training program funded by the Region IV Maternal and Child Health grant which focused on Moving-to-the-Futures training program and an introduction to the Bright Futures in Practice-Nutrition. The workgroup of state and- local nutritionists wanted to continue to build on the theme of revitalizing quality nutrition services. In order to do this the workgroup began the process of developing a more appropriate training program using the Bright Futures in Practice-Nutrition materials to aid in training their local nutrition and nursing personnel throughout the State.

The Bright Futures in Practice: Nutrition training is a one-day program designed to introduce health professionals to important concepts and to help them plan, deliver, and evaluate effective nutrition services that meet the needs of the families and communities they serve. The first training sessions were conducted in January 2001 in six local WIC agencies in Florida. Future training sessions will be offered to County Health Department nutrition and nursing personnel during the next year. The goal is to have all public health nutrition personnel trained in the Bright Futures agenda within the next year.

Results of Project:

The evaluations from the training sessions have been good and final changes are currently being made to the training program. One of the local counties that conducted the training has decided to continue the process of adapting to the Bright Futures concepts. The nutrition staff from Duval county has decided to have additional training sessions, and as a part of the process, has begun to work on drafting a shortened version .of the infant and child nutrition assessment forms presently used by the Florida WIC Program.

Contact persons for more information:

State contact person:

Sondra Comett, MS, RD, LD
Public Health Nutrition Consultant
Florida Department of Health
Bureau of WIC & Nutrition Services
HSFW - Bin # A-16
4052 Bald Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1726
Telephone: (850) 245-4202

Local contact person:

Twanna Gould, MPH, LD
Senior Public Health Nutritionist Supervisor
Duval County WIC Project
900 University Blvd. N. Room 606
Jacksonville, FL 32211
Telephone: (904) 630-3290