Chapter 5: Program Initiatives to Improve Performance

<u>Career Pathways Health Care Initiative</u>   <u>Priority: 1</u>

- ➢ Summary
  - ▪ PeaceHealth Siuslaw Region is the number one employer in the Florence area and due to the need to create family wage earning jobs a partnership has been developed between LCC, SOCC, Siuslaw School District, and Northwest Health Foundation. The mission: "To enhance the pool of qualified applicants necessary to meet our health care staffing needs in the years to come."
  - ▪ The partnership-planning goal for 2003-2004 is to develop an articulated nursing program with SOCC and Lane that will use web-based learning to eliminate that need for students to constantly travel to Coos Bay or Eugene. A similar program already exists between Tillamook Community College and Clatsop Community College.
  - ▪ Our planning goal is to have annually six students enrolled in the nursing program from the Florence Center. Currently we have between 35- 40 students taking pre-requiste courses at the Florence Center.

  - ▪ Funding source will be a grant submitted by PeaceHealth/Siulsaw Region to the Northwest Health Foundation.

- ➢ Summary
- ▪ Due to the amount of travel time to attend classes being offered at the Eugene main campus the Florence Advisory Board along with staff is further developing the distance learning options for students.

- ▪ When completed, the project will be offering courses that include telecourses, on-line, web-based and interactive instruction using IP-Video. The need is to meet demands for expanded learning options for students regardless of their geographical location.

- ▪ The IP Video partnership will include SOCC, Umpqua Community College, and main campus in Eugene. In our first year we hope to attract 200 students using one of the mediums described.

Most of the resources are in place and hopefully PeaceHealth/Siuslaw Region will be successful in obtaining a grant to fund a web-based training program.

<u>Family and Health Occupation Pre-requiste Initiative</u>   Priority: 3
  ➢

  ➢ Summary
  ▪ We've experienced steady enrollment growth in our credit offerings for Family and Health Occupation pre-requiste courses due to the unemployment issues facing our rural coastal community and the need for family-wage earning jobs. With PeaceHealth/Siuslaw Region our largest employer, students are highly motivated to move toward that job market.

  ▪ Along with the growth, a need exists for a part-time math tutor to assist students has they enroll in math and science pre-requiste courses. The current success of our math tutor for students is significant. Since most of our students work and have families to support the challenge is more significant. **According to our math instructor Wes Wilcox …" between the start of Winter Term 2003 and the end of Spring Term 2003 our tutor made 203 student contacts. I cannot say enough about the help to the students and the program that this position has offered. This position has not only increased the completion rate in the program but has given more time to work with specific students."**

  ▪ **Carl Perkins** funds are needed to keep this position at the Florence Center. Due to significant budget reductions in our time sheet account we have virtually no alternative means to fund a part-time position.

    I'm requesting $9,421 in funding (this includes OPE) to cover three terms for a part-time math tutor.

    Org: 440500
    Program: 150000

    Conclusion

    These projects/initiatives are consistent with the college's vision of "Transforming lives through learning" by giving students an opportunity to complete their necessary academic requirements to enter the job market with family wage-earning jobs.

    The stated mission includes opportunities in the "professional technical and lower division transfer programs" that is reflected in our focus on Family and Health Occupation training. Additionally, due to our efforts with Distance Learning we will be achieving "affordable" courses that do not require travel to Eugene or Coos Bay.

These projects also show a significant amount of "Collaboration and Partnership" that results in the "promotion of shared governance" and "Innovation"

Finally, its important to realize the uniqueness of a rural coastal community that has significant geographical and economical challenges for our students that I believe are more acute than you'll find in the larger communities. The Florence Center, for many students, is the only viable option to gain training for "employee skill upgrading" and "life skills development"

IF FUNDING SOURCE COULD BE CARL PERKINS FUNDS, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

➤ What evidence do you have that shows special populations (disabled, economically disadvantaged, single parent, displace homemaker, academically disadvantaged and limited English proficiency) have access to your programs? **The Florence Center currently provides ESL and GED prep classes, services for adults with special needs, and ABSE development. Classes are open and available to all western Lane County residents.**

➤ How does this request fit in with at least two of the Carl Perkins related goals (listed separately)?
Student Skills Goal
A tutor is essential for student success due to the fact that all instructors are part-time and the availability for assistance is limited to the classroom. Most students are employed and work on extremely tight schedules, according to math instructor Wes Wilcox. With a steady growth of math students pursing both medical and business related courses the need continues to increase.

Professional Development Goal
A trained tutor will provide improved development for our students in the pursuit of their vocation. This WILL benefit all students

➤ Describe how this project might show collaboration with Lane County high schools.

The Siuslaw School District Board of Directors gave unanimous approval to engage in a partnership program with PeaceHealth/Siuslaw Region and Lane Community College at Florence that focused on the "Health Career Pathways Project". Their approval is a result of an articulated program in Florence that is intended to support our effort to offer courses in Family and Health Occupations with a primary focus on nursing.