

150 + students & 25 Philadelphia healthcare professionals help make the District 1199C Training Fund's 2014 Health Career Fair a success

Students from 11 Philadelphia high schools attended the Fund's Health Career Fair on November 14th.



11/14/2014, PHILADELPHIA : Approximately 150 students from 11 Philadelphia high schools attended the District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund's Health Career Fair, an annual career exploration event at the Training Fund's Breslin Learning Center in Center City Philadelphia.

The 2014 Health Career Fair featured 25 healthcare and human service professionals from across the Greater Philadelphia region, whose generous donations of time and expertise helped make the Fair a success. Speakers at this year's event included nurses, midwives, physical therapists, social workers, dentists, hospital system and insurance company administrators, behavioral health specialists, and others. Dr Walter Tsou, MD, MPH, delivered an inspiring and informative keynote address; Dr Tsou, a public health and healthcare reform consultant as well as a visiting faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania, is a former Philadelphia Health Commissioner and American Public Health Association President.

This range of speakers helped student attendees at the Career Fair widen their perceptions of what it means to work in the local healthcare sector, and begin to grasp the huge range of employment opportunities open to students with almost any set of skills, interests and aptitudes.

In addition to ten Career Panels, the Fair included interactive occupational health-and-safety training led by peer trainers from Lincoln High School. Four Lincoln students, who received their training through an OSHA-funded worker education program operated by the Training Fund, led their peers through hands-on, interactive educational presentations on disease transmission/prevention, dealing with hazards in the workplace, and other important occupational safety and health topics.



*A group of Philadelphia high school students hear about dermatologist **Sandra Whipple, MD's** career pathway at the 2014 Health Career Fair. Dr Whipple was one of 25 speakers who shared the stories of their career trajectories and educational pathways.*

This year's Health Career Fair was organized by the Training Fund-sponsored Greater Philadelphia Healthcare Partnership in collaboration with a team of first-year Wharton School undergraduate students. The *Health+* student team recruited speakers and sponsors and organized all career exploration and interactive panels; in coming weeks, the students will also complete a comprehensive evaluation of the Career Fair and its programming, analyzing survey data and making recommendations for Fair improvement for their "Management 100" course at Wharton.

Students attendees at the 2014 Career Fair represented Abraham Lincoln, Jules E Mastbaum, A Philip Randolph, Martin Luther King Jr, Paul Robeson, John Bartram, Overbrook and South Philadelphia High Schools, YouthBuild Charter School, Kensington Health Sciences Academy and Franklin Learning Center. Training Fund Executive Director Cheryl Feldman stressed the importance of the Fund's commitment to supporting the School District of Philadelphia and its students: "This is one of the most important events the Fund organizes each year," she explained. "Helping to get young people interested in and informed about health careers is vital to ensuring that local employers have a pipeline of qualified applicants to meet their future hiring needs."

The District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund's Health Career Fair is an annual event, held each November. Philadelphia high schools interested in attending future events should contact the School District's Office of Career & Technical Education. Students interested in healthcare training programs offered by the Training Fund can visit www.1199ctraining.org, call 215-568-2220, or stop in to the Breslin Learning Center at 100 South Broad Street (intersection of Broad and Chestnut Streets), 10th Floor.



More than 150 Philadelphia high school students attended the District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund's 2014 Healthcare Career Fair, at the Fund's Breslin Learning Center in Center City Philadelphia.



The District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund is a non-profit workforce development and education labor-management partnership between 50 Delaware Valley healthcare and human services employers, and District 1199C—National Union of Hospital & Health Care Employees, AFSCME AFL-CIO. Founded in 1974, the Fund serves more than 5,000 union members and low-income residents of the Greater Philadelphia region each year.

The Fund has administered a regional healthcare-sector industry partnership, the Greater Philadelphia Healthcare Partnership (GPHP), since 2005. GPHP membership includes more than 150 healthcare employers, academics, representatives of community-based organizations, public sector partners and workforce development professionals .