

DIALOGUE

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Howard, the second (Fall 1990). These and subsequent visits were designed to expose all students to each geographic location, as well as to how preservice education is conducted at each site. At no time was the "deficit model" to be considered the norm for students or institutions of color. Reading lists and appropriate assignments precede the visits; symposia and other interchanges occur on the campuses during the visitations. Essentially, Dr. Shields reports, these between-campus visita-

tions have resulted in increasing cultural comfort between/among Howard's students and Vassar's students. Learning and bonding have occurred between the two student groups. Diaries and logs of students' experiences are kept in ethnographic fashion. These visitations offer some multicultural knowledge about relating to people from diverse backgrounds, about characteristics of distinctive geographic areas and the lifestyles therein, and form a basis for being sensitive to cultural differences. Dr. Mary Dilworth, Director of Research and Information

Services, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) has described creative/innovative program development at other selected Black institutions as follows. At South Carolina State

University there is a strong emphasis on the value of the School of Education to the institution. Further, it's president, Dr. Barbara R. Hatton, encourages faculty from all schools (not just the School of

HUD

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housing crisis. People have a fundamental right to live and die in their own homes with their friends and families around them." Berenson is a steering committee member of the National AIDS Housing Coalition (NAHC), which coordinated the meeting.

Meeting participants included NAHC co-chair Robert Hutchinson (Providence) and steering committee members Don Maison (Dallas), Donald Chamberlain (Seattle), G. Sterling Zinsmeyer (New York City) and Berenson. Other participants were Annamarie Lewis, Dorothy Walker, Kenneth Lowry and Richard Benedict, all of New York City, and Kelly Wallace (Los Angeles), Todd Summers (Boston) and Andrew Quiroga (Dallas). In addition to the secretary and other senior members of HUD, the group was joined by Andrew Barrer, senior advisor to the Office of National AIDS Policy, which initiated contact between the coalition and the secretary.

In it's 1993 final report, the National Commission on AIDS noted that "more flexibility and attention by the Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding the housing needs of people living with HIV would diminish the problems of homelessness" and that better housing could substantially reduce unnecessary hospitalizations.

AIDS Action Council, founded in 1984, is the only national organization devoted solely to lobbying the federal government on AIDS policy, legislation and funding. AIDS Action Council represents more than 1000 community-based AIDS service organizations throughout the United States.

BLACK PHYSICIANS

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- New program initiatives were discussed to improve the health of African-American women.

- Entertainer Peabo Bryson performed at a highly successful NMA Scholarship Fundraising Benefit.

- Congressman Louis Stokes was presented NMA's Scroll of Merit, and NMA awarded a Scroll of Merit posthumously to the humanitarian and tennis legend Authur Ashe, which was accepted by long-time Ashe family friend, Eric O. Mandeville, M.D.

In the annual NMA elections, Yvonnecris Smith Veal, M.D., of St. Albans, New York, became President-elect, and Shirley F. Marks, of Tyler, Texas, was re-elected Speaker of the House of Delegates. Re-elected as chairman of the NMA Board of Trustees was Ezra C. Davidson, Jr., M.D., of Los Angeles, CA, and Walter W. Shervington, of Baton Rouge, LA, was elected Secretary of the Board. Pumell Kirkland, M.D., of California, was elected Vice Speaker of the House of Delegates, and Neva Lubin, M.D., of Chicago, Secretary of the House of Delegates.

LEARNING

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In general, while the peer educators understood basic concepts about dietary fat, the women had to be taught about the difference between fat and cholesterol. They had to be trained to think more incrementally. "For many it was 'all or nothing' in that they thought of healthy eating as either being on a diet or off," she says.

Nutrition knowledge improved dramatically during the five days of training. Participants saw videotapes, discussed ways to make recipes healthier, and each day for lunch experimented with making meals that not only were good tasting, but also lower in fat. The women were given pre- and post-tests about nutrition. The average score on those tests improved from 59 percent pre-training to 74 percent post-training.

The researchers then recruited African-American

NAARPR REPORT

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issue. Rich Europeans will still point to it as an entity, since it serves their purpose, and it will go nowhere in terms of black people on the street.

We as a people are always looking for a Messiah. However, it is clear that when one comes along today, he is treated no better than in the past. La Lucha Continua! The Struggle Continues!

women through the Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Center in St. Louis' inner city. The 66 women who completed the program either met with a dietitian or worked with one of the newly trained educators.

"These women really wanted to do better, but many did not realize just how much fat they were consuming," says Debra Haire-Joshu, Ph.D., co-investigator and research assistant professor of medicine at Washington University School of Medicine.

"Many of the women told us that they had no clue how much they were actually eating until they sat down with a dietitian or peer educator," Houston says. "We spent lots of time clarifying the concept of 'serving' as opposed to 'helping.' A woman

might have four or five 'servings' of mashed potatoes with gravy, but since she had only one 'helping', she might believe she was eating less than she actually was."

Using structured interviews, the researchers found that after eight weeks of training, women trained by their peers had more knowledge of general nutrition and fat content of foods, and were able to more easily read and understand food labels, than those who received standard consultation from a registered dietitian.

"Our dietitian could have done much better because she is very talented, but we wanted to provide more 'usual' care," Houston explains. "That kind of care at Grace Hill, given the case load, is to have someone come

in, discuss some problems and some basic solutions in about 15 minutes. That's typical care in most clinic settings and even some hospital settings."

The peer educators had multiple visits for longer periods of time. Many of the peer educators took their pupils to the grocery store and provided other support as well. "I think the study says a lot in terms of cost because professional counseling by a dietitian will cost you more," says Haire-Joshu. "What the peers do is also valuable because it is an ongoing process. Health professionals come and go, but the peers remain in the community."

To Be Continued

WESTSIDE STORY

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we die for it? Hey, the prisons, the ghettos, the backwoods, and the dope houses, America gives up freely...little do they know, this has always been the nucleus for the black fire. Malcolm, Martin, Farrakhan, NWA, Public Enemy, Frank Hawkins, Dr. Tate, Wendell Williams, and all the great brothas have come from these ever black playgrounds!

Tomorrow another OJ, Alex Haley, Michael J. or Sammie will continue to crush America's racist stereotypes. Mr. Chavis, the bankers, the doctors, the educators, the players, and the hustlers, grow from boys to men in these same streets. From slave fields, to urban jungles, all oppression can do is fuel the black fire, which we all know will never burn out. peace...

Education) to work in the community's public schools for mutually beneficial experiences. The university is considering adopting a school system in South Carolina, and aiming it's resources at making a positive difference in that system.

At Jackson State University in Mississippi, Dr. Dilworth reports that a comprehensive services project is under way, with prospective teachers interacting with social workers, health professionals, housing officials, and the criminal justice system, to learn how to deliver integrated services to children and their families. The revised curriculum there makes it possible for prospective teachers to do internships in these places with other specialized professionals.

Still other examples exist. Xavier University in New Orleans has received a Kellogg Foundation grant to form a Center on Excellence in Teaching. Clark Atlanta University has received a grant

to encourage and train retired military personnel to become teachers.

This is both program development and a recruitment method. Norfolk State University (VA) and Morgan State University (MD) have received a grant to initiate a Teacher Leadership Corps where faculty will recruit and work with teams of mathematics and science teachers from school systems to prepare for reform in those subject areas. Grambling University (LA) has a long history of preparing prospective teachers to pass the NTE and other teacher certification examinations. Florida A&M University is making progress in standardized test preparation for it's graduates.

The discussion makes no claim to be exhaustive, but cites examples of program development in Black higher education institutions designed to revise and improve current teacher education programs.

TO BE CONTINUED

HIGHER EDUCATION

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appreciative. Appreciative that my family cared enough about me to want me to succeed. Appreciative of people's time and efforts. Appreciative of all the comfort and security I took for granted at home.

College will bring an important concept to your attention. Knowledge is power. Whoever has knowledge has the key. With knowledge, nothing or no one can hold you back from attaining your goals. With knowledge comes self-esteem. Self confidence will motivate you to take action, take chances and pursue your dreams. It will inspire you to go beyond your comfort zone.

We all have the potential to succeed and it is up to us to decide what we want to do with it. Do not let anyone tell you that your goals are unattainable.

FOR THE LADIES

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there are no clean towels in the house?

Sometimes I would look at this big mess and wonder what was wrong with me. Why can't I keep my house clean just like Claire Huxtable?

That's the time when I have to grit my teeth, roll up my sleeves and go to work. First I call a friend who has just as many kids as I do and explain to her what a wreck my home is in and how much I dread cleaning it. She replies that her house is in much the same condition and she feels exactly as I do.

Now, I don't feel alone anymore. I understand that I'm not the only working mom in the world whose little nest is not in tip-top shape all the time. So to those working moms out there to whom this scenario is familiar, take heart. There's nothing wrong with you. You're doing it right. It's that trouble-maker Claire Huxtable that's got the problem.

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