

# Building Pathways to Health Careers

February 2009

## Up Coming:

- **Next Advisory Committee Meeting:**  
TBA June, 2009
- **Next Grant Steering Committee Meeting:**  
March 31<sup>st</sup> 9:30am
- **Next quarterly report due to the Department of Labor:**  
May 15, 2009



## High School Graduates, First EMT Class:

By Laurie Sheldon,  
EMT Program Director

The Academy of Allied Health Sciences, one of five high schools operated under the Union County Vocational-Technical School District, entered into a partnership with Union County College to have all members of the senior class enroll in an Emergency Medical Technician Program. The program is a 120 hour program that combines 110 didactic hours with an additional 10 hour clinical rotation, while providing six college credits in the process.

The thirty-two high school seniors met every Friday from September to January for a full day of training. Students needed to complete a total of seven modules in the program. The modules began with a Preparatory module that stressed the importance of safety considerations that Emergency Medical Technicians face in their work in the field, as well as anatomy and physiology, assessing vital signs and proper lifting and moving techniques. Students then moved into an Airway module, learning more about the airway structures and the skills necessary to manage a patient's airway, including oxygen therapy, equipment for rescue breathing, and the use of airway adjuncts.

The program continued with a patient assessment module before moving into the Medical Emergency module. Under the Medical Emergency module, students were exposed to illnesses related to respiratory, cardiac, allergic, environmental, behavioral, altered mental status, obstetrical and diabetic emergencies, including assisting patients with medications. Students then moved into the program's trauma module, honing their splinting, bandaging and backboarding skills, as well as rescuing patients from vehicles.

The program concluded with a pediatric module, ensuring that students recognized the physical and injury management of this special population before

**"A mind once stretched  
by a new idea never  
regains its original  
dimensions."**

Anonymous



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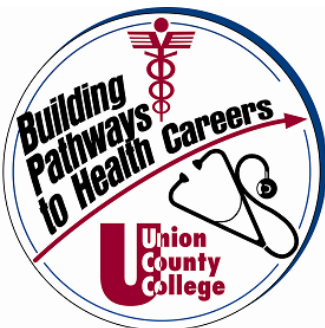


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## Featured Article:

We are interested in featuring a short article or description of a selected Advisory Committee participant every month in this section. Please get involved and submit your paragraphs by April 15, 2009 for the April 2009 newsletter.

Please submit all information and questions/comments to Kathleen Michell at [michell@ucc.edu](mailto:michell@ucc.edu).



## Article Continued:

finishing with the ambulance operation module. In the final module, students practiced skills needed to manage patients during a mock mass casualty, including extrication and air medical support in patient care.

The use of lectures, small skill groups and scenario practice all combined to have students understand and implement proper patient management under all the various circumstances they will encounter while working as Emergency Medical Technicians. The students who completed the program are eligible to sit for the NJ State certification, as well as the National Registry of EMT's written examination for final certification. Once certified, students look forward to take their new knowledge into the workplace, seeking summer employment as well as other opportunities near the colleges they will be attending in September. A second class of twenty-two seniors began their training the last week of January and will be completing the program in June.

## Next Month:

Next month's issue will feature Trinitas School of Nursing- designated as a Center of Excellence by the National League of Nursing, NLN.

