osbpd

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Health Professional Shortage Area Designation Training Available

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), Shortage Designation program announced today that it will be hosting the 14th Annual Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) and Medically Underserved Area/Medically Underserved Population (MUA/MUP) training. The training will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in Madera on October 26-27, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Healthcare stakeholders will learn how to prepare and submit an application for HPSA and MUA/MUP designations.

The OSHPD Shortage Designation program acts as the liaison between the federal government and healthcare provider sites applying for HPSA and MUA/MUP designations. These designations enable healthcare providers to access several federally sponsored programs such as the National Health Services Corps Scholars, State Loan Repayment Program, Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike Certification, Rural Health Clinic Certification, Expanded Access to Primary Care Program, and Medicare Incentive Payments. In 2005, California leveraged grant funding as well as higher Medi-Cal reimbursements totaling approximately $484 million from federal, state, and local programs that use HPSA or MUA/MUP designations as one of their eligibility requirements.

According to OSHPD Director Dr. David Carlisle, "Health facilities with these designations are a great resource to improve access to healthcare in rural and urban underserved areas."

For more information about the HPSA and MUA/MUP training or the designation process, please contact the OSPHD Health care Workforce and Community Development Division at (916) 653-0733 or check our Web site at www.oshpd.ca.gov/hwcdd/cooperative/index.htm

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