

Federal Efforts in Genetics Education and Training of Professionals

Secretary's Advisory Committee on
Genetics, Health, and Society Meeting
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SACGHS Request

- # SACGHS requested information on Federal efforts in genetics education and training of professionals and genetics workforce analysis
- # SACGHS staff surveyed the sixteen *ex officio* agencies to learn more about their efforts

Survey Elements

- # Narrative summary
- # List of relevant activities
- # Description of each activity (including target audiences, partnerships, and impact)
- # Funding of relevant activities in FY 00–FY 03

Survey Elements (cont'd)

- # Agencies were asked to describe:
 - Mission relatedness of efforts
 - Decision making criteria
 - Specific needs that are being addressed
 - Results of any program evaluations

Survey Results

- # Seven agencies reported having (180) relevant activities

DOC, DOD, DOE, DOJ,
HHS/CDC, HHS/HRSA, HHS/NIH

- # Eight agencies reported having no relevant activities

DOL, EEOC, HHS/ACF, HHS/AHRQ,
HHS/CMS, HHS/FDA, HHS/OCR, HHS/OHRP

Survey Results (cont'd)

The fundamental need addressed by Federal efforts –

**facilitating the translation of
genetics into practice**

Survey Results (cont'd)

NARRATIVE SUMMARIES

- # Agencies are thinking comprehensively, choosing activities in a systematic way, and integrating those efforts across the agency
- # Most activities are:
 - complementary due to significant agency cooperation, and
 - target a broad range of audiences

Survey Results (cont'd)

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

- # Health professionals are primary target
- # Many other professionals are also targeted, including:
 - clergy, journalists, teachers, underserved populations
 - judges, lawyers, law enforcement personnel

Survey Results (cont'd)

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

- # Most agencies support the following types of education and training activities:
 - Dissemination
 - Educational outreach to practicing health & other professionals
 - Consensus building
 - Training
- # HRSA, with NIH and CDC, carry out workforce analysis activities

A Health Professional Education Project: GIFT

On-Line Family History Newsletter

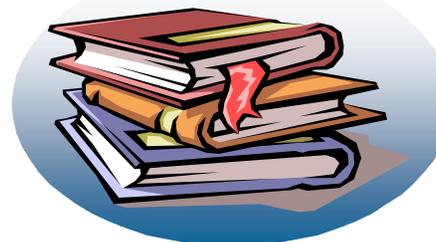
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Presentations

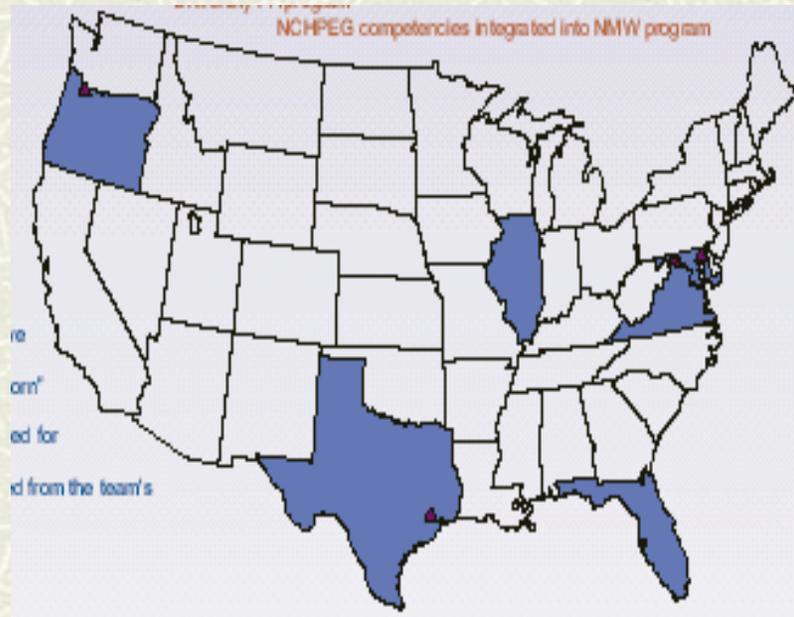


Curriculum



A Health Professional Education Project: GIFT (cont'd)

2002



2003



A Professional Education Project: EINSHAC

- # DOE's Genetics Adjudication Resource Project at the Einstein Institute for Science, Health, and the Courts
 - 3,300 judges have participated in 38 workshops, to date
 - Served as a model:
 - Judicial Conference for Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, and
 - Genetics Conference for Clergy

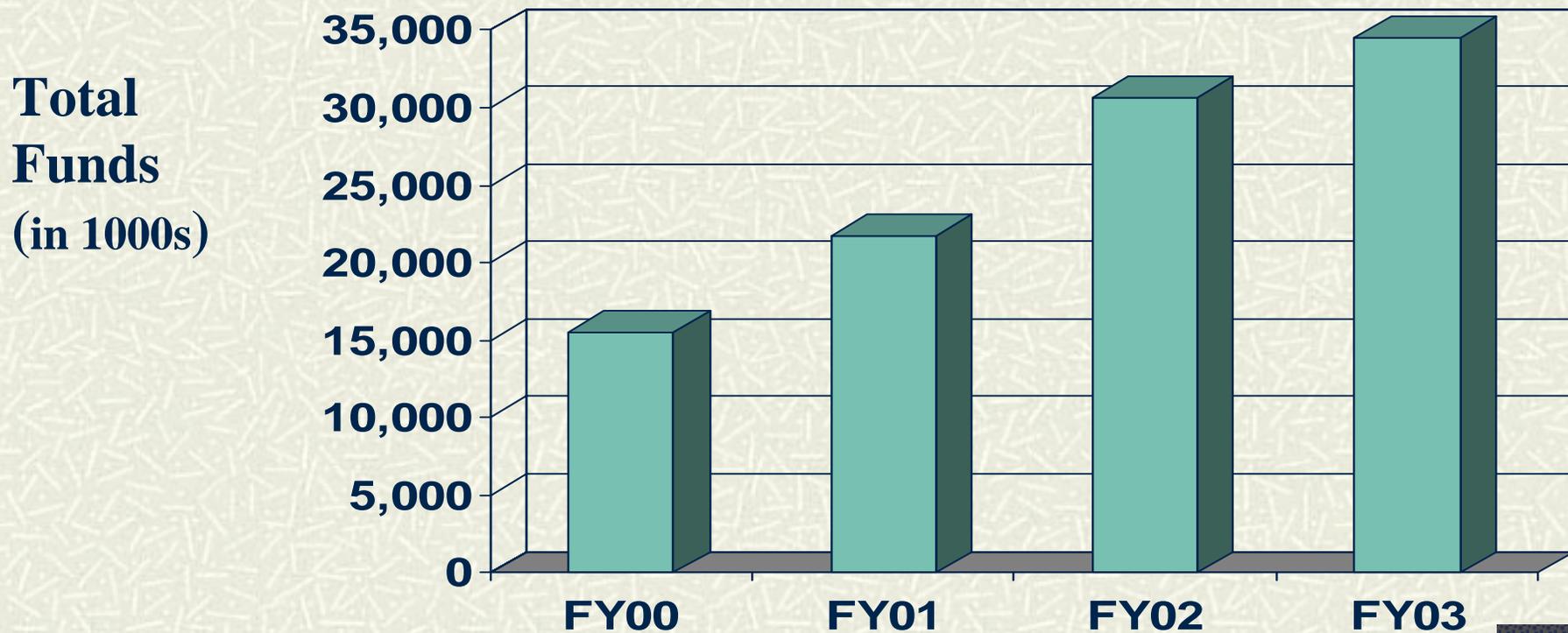
Survey Results (cont'd)

TOTAL FUNDS SPENT FY 2000-2003

DOC, DOE, DOJ, CDC, HRSA, NIH spent a cumulative total of **\$102,019,189** in support of 180 activities

Survey Results (cont'd)

FY 2000-2003 Funds Spent by Six Agencies



Summing Up

- # Federal efforts for the translation of genetics into practice include:
 - Seven agencies are supporting activities for health professionals and other professionals
 - Activities vary by agency mission
 - Funding has increased over the last three years

A Few Summary Observations

- # Genetics education/training and workforce analysis efforts are supported by discretionary funding
- # Workforce analysis is an important, but not the only, element needed to inform the balance of education and training efforts between genetic specialists and general practitioners
- # Additional evaluation efforts at the project (and possibly agency) level may be needed

A Few Summary Observations

- # Genetics education and training efforts are part of the larger goal of enhancing access through translation and appropriate integration of new genetic technologies into health care and public health
 - Genetics education and training activities that focus on appropriate use and integration in the broadest sense will be particularly effective