

Van Kley helps healthcare careers camp run smoothly

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The Sanford School of Medicine was alive with activity last month because it was home to the 2012 Healthcare Careers Camp.

The event saw 50 high-schoolers from South Dakota and other area states visiting campus from June 17-22 to learn about the various opportunities available to them in the medical field.

Helping to ensure that everything ran smoothly was camp coordinator Kathy Van Kley.

She described her role as "lining up everything from hiring the counselors to arranging food, lodging, the speakers and making sure everybody had transportation."

Van Kley also worked with the campers themselves throughout the week.

Working at the University of South Dakota since 2010, this is Van Kley's second year as

camp coordinator. "This year I took from last year things that seemed to work, things that seemed not to work and make some changes as far as speakers and the way we do presentation," she said.

The changes Van Kley helped to implement were successful, she said.

"Everything just went very smoothly," she said. "We had a great group of kids - absolutely no incidents. I thought last year would be my beginner's luck and get the best kids, but this year was even better. They were great."

Many of the campers said they wanted to come back next year.

"It's really just a one-year camp, though, because if they came back next year they would hear a lot of the same stuff," Van Kley said.

During the week, the students learned from all kinds of medical professionals, from physical and occupational therapists, to dentists, to

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pharmacists, to social workers.

"A lot of them came into the camp thinking they knew what they wanted to do, but by the time the left they found another area that they never heard of that they were interested in," Van Kley said. "One was audiology. We had never had that program before ... and a couple of the kids were like, 'I've never heard of that, and I'm really interested in it.'"

Another popular event was the tour of the gross anatomy lab in the school of medicine, as well as the tours of the Sanford

medical centers in Vermillion and Sioux Falls.

Van Kley said working as camp coordinator counts for about 10 percent of her yearly workload.

The rest of the time she serves as a program assistant for Indians Into Medicine, a joint program between USD and the University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences that is designed to assist American Indian students who aspire to be health professionals to meet the needs of tribal communities.



As for the camp, Van Kley said her favorite part about working as coordinator is "seeing the kids get excited about their futures."

"These are good kids, they're smart kids, and they're kids that are going to succeed," she said. "They asked great questions, they were just very enthusiastic for all of the presenters."

She said she hopes they continue their research after they return home.

"I hope they seek out shadowing opportunities, volunteer opportunities and that when they head off to college that they have a pretty good idea of where they want to go and what they want to do," she said.

Law allows veterans designation on drivers license

South Dakota's Departments of Public Safety and Veterans Affairs remind military veterans that a new law taking effect July 1 allows them to have a veteran designation on their state-issued driver license.

The 2012 Legislature passed the law, which gives honorably discharged veterans the option of adding the word "Veteran" to the front of their South Dakota driver license.

Including that designation on the driver license will make it easier for those who have served in the military to verify their veteran status.

Veterans who wish to add the designation to their driver license or non-driver ID card may visit any South Dakota driver license office. They will need to present their DD-214, which shows their honorable discharge status from active duty or present a certificate signed by a county or tribal veterans

service officer verifying their status. Veterans should also remember that the fee for a duplicate license is \$10 and the fee for a license renewal is \$20.

Cindy Gerber, director of the South Dakota Driver Licensing Program, reminds veterans that they will need to provide the other documents required of any applicant for a South Dakota driver license.

Those documents may be viewed at http://dps.sd.gov/licensing/driver_licensing/obtain_a_license.aspx.

"We are happy to work with Deputy Secretary Harding and his staff to provide this opportunity to the men and women who have served their country honorably in the military," Gerber said.

Gerber also said veterans who have questions about the documents or the process may call her office at (800) 952-3696 or (605) 773-6883.

Harding encourages veterans who need assistance with obtaining their DD214 or who have questions regarding their benefits to contact their respective county/tribal veterans' service officer or call the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs at (605) 773-3269.

Here is a summary of the documents required for obtaining a driver license. If you think you may have difficulty obtaining any of the necessary documents, please call the Driver Licensing Program.

One identity document, such as a certified birth certificate or a valid unexpired U.S. passport. (Note: If your name is different than the name on your identity document, you will need to bring additional proof of your legal name, such as a certified marriage

certificate, adoption document or divorce decree. A passport will work, if the name on the passport matches the name on your current driver license).

One document proving Social Security number. Acceptable documents are a Social Security card, W-2 form, SSA 1099 form or pay stub (which must include Social Security number and name).


Two documents proving residential address. Acceptable documents include utility bill, credit card statement, pay stub, rent receipt, phone bill, transcript or report card from accredited school, bank statement, mortgage or tax document, homeowner or renter insurance policy. (A parent's proof of address is acceptable for a minor child.)

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