THE ROAD I DIDN'T EXPECT TO TRAVEL: NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS
Annette Kankelborg, HealthCARE MT, HTS, Montana Tech
Bethanie Wharton, HealthCARE MT, HTS, University of Montana Western
Nicole Nygren, TRIO Student Support Services, University of Montana Western
Katie Skauge, Student Mentor, University of Montana Western
Katie Temple, Case Manager, Veterans Health Administration
Hilfe Jo Brown, Faculty, Aaniiih Nakoda College

CREATING ACCESS TO RURAL EDUCATION
- $15,000,000.00 TAACCT IV Grant
- 16 Colleges in Montana
- Over 200 Industry Partners
- Montana Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)
- Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education
- Department of Labor

HEALTHCARE MT – CREATING ACCESS TO RURAL EDUCATION
1. Create statewide healthcare pathways to simplify the process for earning a career certificate or degree in the healthcare industry.
2. Systematically address Montana's nursing shortages and provide accelerated pathways to completion in nursing programs.
3. Increase student success by providing services that better prepare adult students for success in the curriculum, accelerate credential completion, enrich students in education pathway navigation, and provide access to distance education.
4. Engage the healthcare industry, education, workforce programs, and other stakeholders to improve workforce development strategies by improving on-the-job training and apprenticeship opportunities.

HEALTHCARE MT OBJECTIVES
Create Access to Rural Education
- Distance Technology
- Common Curricula
- Pathways
- Enabled Learning and Support
- Prior Learning Assessment
- Employer Based Clinical Opportunities
- Apprenticeship Opportunities
- Placement into the Workforce

HEALTHCARE MT COMMITTEES
- Admissions Committee
- Allied Health Core Curriculum Committee
- Diversity Committee
- First-Generation Committee/Non-Traditional
- Marketing Committee
- Nursing Curriculum Committee
- Outreach Committee
- Steering Committee

FIRST-GENERATION/NON-TRADITIONAL COMMITTEE
Members:
- Mary Nielsen, HealthCARE MT, Nursing Curriculum Director
- Annette Kankelborg, HealthCARE MT, HTS, Montana Tech
- Bethanie Wharton, HealthCARE MT, HTS, Western
- Debra Rapport, Nursing Faculty, Helena College
- Dorie Kenitzer, HealthCARE MT, AHEC
- Rick Dendinger, HealthCARE MT, HTS, Helena College
FIRST GENERATION/NON-TRADITIONAL COMMITTEE

- Charge: Evaluate how to include and assist diverse populations into successful acceptance, retention, graduation, and academic progression to BSN and higher.
- Population: Skilled, but Un-Credentialed Workers, Veterans, Unemployed, Adult Learners, Native American Students

VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE DIVERSITY

- Visible Diversity: Age, Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Physical Attributes
- Invisible Diversity: Work Experience, Marital Status, Educational Background, Parental Status, Income, Religious Beliefs, Geographic Location, Social Status

WHO ARE FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS?

- A student with neither parent having any education beyond high school.
- Neither parent having received a four-year college degree.
- 88% of students enrolled in postsecondary institutions are first-generation college students.
- 88% of these students will not earn a bachelor's degree in six years.
- Drop out of college at four times the rate of their peers.

WHY FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS STRUGGLE

- No family to ask important informal questions about college to help them in negotiating a college campus.
- Lack the informal social and academic "rules" and norms of college.
- Students are uncomfortable requesting assistance because they don't want to be a burden and/or to embarrassed to ask.
- Since family members have not experienced the hard work of college academics, they usually expect these students to continue contributing to family income and responsibilities.

NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT RETENTION RISK FACTORS

- 41% Delayed Enrollment
- 88% Live Off Campus
- 56% Attend Part-time
- 38% Work Full-time
- Independent
- Married
- Single Parent
HEALTHCARE MT STUDENT SUPPORT SYSTEMS

- Remedial Support for Curriculum Readiness – EdReady
- Online Tutoring – SmarThinking
- Professional Career Coaches
- Study Skills Workshops
- Intrusive Advising
- Assessment and Credit for Prior Learning
- Distance Education

FIRST-GENERATION/NON-TRADITIONAL DIVERSITY COMMITTEE CREATED

- Quick Reference Guide for Each Campus
- Non-Traditional Student Peer Mentoring Guide For Higher Education

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO THE OTHER PANEL MEMBERS

- Katie Temple, Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) RN Care Manager, Veterans Health Administration
- Billie Jo Brown, Nursing Faculty, Aiiinah Nakoda College
- Bethanie Wharton, HealthCARE Montana Transformation Specialist, University of Montana Western
- Nicole Nygren, Advisor, TRIO Student Support Services
- Katie Skauge, SSS Student Mentor, University of Montana Western