

Hello, this is Talia Ciarabellini from the Blood Bank with a community comment.

Did you know that careers in the medical field are a few of the consistently growing careers in the nation? This is also true for Humboldt County.

For the past ~~three~~ ^{counting} years, I have had the privilege of ~~teaching~~ ^{working with} Health Occupations students within the Health Pathway at Eureka High School. As ^{As,} part of the Humboldt Regional Occupations Program (HROP), students interested in the medical field get to explore the career opportunities available, and hear from professionals who are living it out. As students explore these career opportunities, they are learning life lessons about communication, teamwork, and professionalism. They are also learning about the body, what causes disease, and how to care for ~~a~~ patients. *They shadow nurses and phlebotomists at the blood bank.*

A special opportunity offered students is to gain college credit for Medical Terminology, a prerequisite for many medical programs. This is made possible through College of the Redwoods (CR), and is a valuable opportunity to save time and money once at CR. *the students move onto CR.*

St. Joseph's Hospital offers an additional opportunity, allowing students to "job shadow" professionals in the workplace. As students are paired with a mentor, they are able to see what these individuals do on a day-by-day basis and what the job is really like. Most students are really excited about this aspect of the class, and can't wait to go back to their sites.

This enthusiasm often spills out into the community, as students want to share what they have learned. Currently, ~~I have~~ two students ~~who~~ ^{Health Path} are developing a project to educate young people about Diabetes, and especially how it can be prevented with lifestyle choices. They are looking into the effects of sugar intake and exercise. The students also like to go out into the community and explore healthcare events, such as the St. Joseph's Hospital Healthcare Fair coming up this month.

If you would like more information regarding HROP Health Occupations, please call Eureka High School, or email me directly at schneiderm@eurekacityschools.org

Thank you!

Thank you, this has been Talia Ciarabellini from the Northern California Community Blood Bank for Community Comment.