Legislator Brief - February 2018

PSU receives federal grant to expand rural behavioral health and substance abuse services

Plymouth State University’s combined master’s level programs for clinical mental health counselors, school counselors, and school psychologists have been awarded a $1.9M four-year HRSA Behavioral Health Workforce Development grant to expand the behavioral health workforce in rural and medically underserved areas of NH.

The University will use the funding to focus on integrated prevention and clinical intervention and treatment for at-risk youth, adults, and their families. The grant will have a special emphasis on meeting the needs of those who are at risk for mental illness, substance use and suicide, and those least likely to seek continuous help.

Finding Food Security

Hunger is a wicked problem facing much of the globe today: one in six Americans do not know where their next meal will come from. Plymouth State is not immune to this issue, and many of our students experience food insecurity. Learn more about the magnitude of this issue and what the Student Support Foundation and First-Year Seminar classes are doing to address it by solving the systemic causes of hunger through the video.

Research on food insecurity has been done at all academic levels. In her First-Year Seminar class that addressed the wicked problem of hunger, Kady Hoffman ’21, first-year student from Sherman, Connecticut, focused on food waste at a local level. Part of her research was conducted at D Acres Permaculture Farm & Educational Homestead in Dorchester with PSU alum Maureen “Moe” Rowe ’12, D’Acres’ program manager.