The Department of Health Sciences at NTCC collected information to assist in developing a plan for meeting community needs. Part of this plan is to ensure our direction and vision aligns with these needs. NTCC Health Sciences recently sent out and closed a survey on program offerings and as a result will now be offering 3 new programs in the Spring! Thank you for your valuable input.

In Spring 2015, NTCC will offer the Patient Care Technology (PCT) program. The PCT curriculum provides study in basic care and assistance of patients, monitoring and taking notes on patient care. The goal of the program is to provide enhanced skills to the certified nurse aide and prepare the health professional to assist individuals, families and groups achieve and maintain optimal health.

In addition to PCT, NTCC will offer the Community Health Worker program. This curriculum provides study in chronic disease knowledge, patient resources, and teaching skills. The goal of the program is to provide care coordination skills to assist at risk patients with managing their care, locating resources, and communicating with their healthcare provider.

The Patient Navigator program will also be offered in Spring 2015. This curriculum provides study in patient navigation skills, patient resources, and advanced care coordination. The goal of the program is to provide enhanced skills to current health professionals to help patients navigate a fragmented healthcare system, locate resources, and build relationships with healthcare team members.

The Department of Health Sciences at NTCC is very excited to offer these new programs. We look forward to meeting community needs and expanding our department and programs to enhance the future of rural health services.
Daingerfield Health Fair

The 20th Annual Daingerfield Area Health Fair was a success once again. Approximately 300 people attended the event. Sixty-four booths provided great information and services for those who attended. Speakers relayed information on the Star Plus Program, Diabetes Education, Asthma and Elder Law. The agencies that participated and the Health Fair Committee are to be commended for bringing thousands of dollars in free health care and valuable information to improve the quality of the lives in our community. The Daingerfield Health Fair was sponsored by the DLSISD School Health Advisory. Irene Richardson, NTCC Associate Professor of Nursing, attended with twelve NTCC nursing students who helped in setting up the event. The nursing students also worked at booths and participated in clean up duties.

5K AND 15K RUN/WINE FESTIVAL

The Titus County Chamber of Commerce held a 5k and 15k Run and Wine Festival on October 11th. The NTCC nursing students participated by providing medical support at the festival. “Your group was amazing! They were so helpful and stuck it out through ALL of the rain!”, stated Faustine Curry–Titus County Chamber of Commerce.

Mt. Pleasant Community Health Fair

The NTCC Dental Hygiene Class of 2015 participated in the annual Mt. Pleasant Community Health Fair for 2014 on Saturday, October 11th, at the Tennison Memorial United Methodist Church Activity Center. The fair was open to the community with an emphasis on our Hispanic neighbors. The mission was to provide as many free or reduced cost services as possible. The NTCC Dental Hygiene booth provided oral health education to the event attendees as well as information pertaining to the services offered at the NTCC Dental Hygiene Clinic.

Scare Affair

NTCC hosted the 27th Annual Scare Affair on October 18th and the Allied Health Departments participated in the fun. The community enjoyed free candy for all trick-or-treaters and low-cost games for all ages. The Dental Hygiene Club “Tooth Fairies” made sure everyone had floss to keep those smiles healthy! The MLT club built a Glow House full of games inside. Fun was had by all who attended!
NTCC has recently decided to pursue a rural health sciences focus within our health sciences offerings. In this effort all students who come to our institution and wish to explore a health field, regardless of major, will be required to enter a pre-health sciences pathway. This pathway will consist of common pre-requisite courses such as A&P, Human Growth, Community Health, Introduction to Health Professions, and perhaps minority studies, environmental health, and social problems. The details are yet to be finalized with the higher education coordinating board. This pathway was designed for a multitude of reasons but is primarily to help recruit students who are confident in their career choice, prepared for health careers, and to ensure their successful completion.

This new focus will be to produce rural healthcare providers who can work at the top of their license and scope of practice, be very familiar with the rural population we serve, their unique barriers and challenges, and provide value to our employers.

In this effort, NTCC is requiring students to job shadow multiple careers of interest under the introduction to health professions course. This is different from what we have done in the past under the PTA program for admission. This is primarily to give students an idea of multiple professions and how they work in an interdisciplinary team setting. We have created a process for which the job shadowing occurs and look forward to this new endeavor.

With a membership of 60,000 nationwide, the National Student Nurses’ Association mentors the professional development of future registered nurses and facilitates their entrance into the profession by providing educational resources, leadership opportunities, and career guidance.

With the goal to promote information and collaboration of the profession, NTCC is re-establishing the local Northeast Student Nurses Association. A membership drive is currently underway. There are 3 levels of membership as follows:

1. For the current student in the nursing program
2. For those interested in the nursing program
3. For those organizations wanting to be a part of graduates of this nursing program.

Stay tuned for additional information to follow!

**NTCC Dental Hygiene Clinic**

The Dental Hygiene department has received reports that many people in the community are under the impression the clinic is already closed. Just a reminder, the Dental Hygiene Clinic is currently open and accepting patients. You can get affordable dental hygiene services for the whole family at the NTCC Dental Hygiene Clinic.

The services include: dental screenings, x-rays, teeth cleanings, fluoride applications, sealants, and oral health education.

ADULTS: $30
CHIL:DREN: $15
(age 6 and under)

**We Are Focused On HEALTH!**

We are extremely pleased to announce that the Department of Allied Health has changed its name to Department of Health Sciences. We will be looking at developing a new innovative focus on programming that meets the needs of our community. Please take a few minutes to complete a short survey so we can gather the final information needed to realign our vision. Feel free to forward this survey on to friends, family, employees, students, and or other potential stakeholders. You may access the survey at:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/alliedhealthrebrand](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/alliedhealthrebrand)
NTCC Department of Health Sciences supports the development of rural health occupation training programs that focus on activities relating to the recruitment and retention of primary and allied health care providers in rural communities. The Department of Health Sciences will strive to develop innovative community-based educational and clinical health training programs that encourage health professionals in rural communities where they will train and eventually practice.

Healthcare is one of the fastest-growing industries in the world. If you have a passion for helping others and want to work in a fast-paced, rewarding field, one of these NTCC training programs might be right for you.

We encourage you to contact us with any of your questions.

**Toll-free:** (800) 870-0142

### Upcoming Events for Health Sciences

**NURSING INFORMATION SESSIONS**  
UHS ROOM 223:  
Wednesday, November 5th 12 noon  
Wednesday, December 10th 12 noon

**PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT INFORMATION SESSIONS UHS ROOM 246:**  
November 20, 2014 11:00 am  
January 15, 2015 10:00 am  
February 4, 2015 1:00 pm  
March 17, 2015 9:00 am

**PALS REFRESHER:** November 13, 2014 9am-5pm

**PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN INFORMATION SESSIONS UHS ROOM 227:**  
November 19th 6pm-8pm  
November 22nd 1pm-3pm

**COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER TRAINING:**  
January 12th – March 13th  
June 8th – August 14th,  
October 19th – December 11th

**PATIENT NAVIGATION TRAINING:**  
March 9th – April 3rd  
June 8th – July 6th,  
September 14th – October 9th

Deadline for applying to the (Vocational Nursing (VN) or Registered Nursing (RN)) Programs is January 31, 2015. Please note a current certificate as a Certified Nurse Aide will be a NEW requirement for application to the 2015-2016 nursing program (VN or RN).