The beauty of health

Director of Community Relations Diana Bajoie brought health services and information to eight beauty salons and barbershops on Saturday during her Beauty is Really Skin Deep Health Outreach Program.

LSUHSC public health and nursing volunteers provided health education, breast and testicular self-exam instruction, and took blood pressures.

The second annual event promotes a healthier community by making services available to people as they go about their daily lives.

LSUHSC awarded $12 million research & pipeline grant

School of Medicine Dean Dr. Steve Nelson and Dr. Augusto Ochoa, Director of our Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center, announced a $12 million grant at a press conference on Wednesday. The award will fund research on diseases like prostate and stomach cancers, lymphoma and leukemia, dengue fever, tuberculosis, and herpes infections, as well as support the development of academic research scientists. The grant is a second round of funding for a $10.6 million Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) grant awarded to Dr. Ochoa in 2005. This new funding will support LSUHSC research in the new Louisiana Cancer Research Center under construction on our campus.

This type of grant is doubly valuable because it provides comprehensive support to the research pipeline. It will fund not only research that advances treatment, prevention, or cure, but will also help develop the next generation of competitively funded faculty research scientists.

In addition to the value of research in terms of lives and money saved as well as improved quality of life, the LSUHSC research enterprise is a robust economic engine, attracting millions of outside dollars to the city and state that also support jobs in a highly desirable industry. Research provides high-skill, high-wage jobs and has been considered one of the most powerful drivers of the economic prosperity of communities. According to BIO, in Louisiana 1 life sciences job equals 5.19 indirect jobs.
The Department of Psychiatry at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans has been given the 2010 Gold Achievement Award by the American Psychiatric Association for a program credited by the St. Bernard Parish Public School System as key to reopening schools and recovery of the community after Hurricane Katrina. This Psychiatric Services award is the top honor bestowed by the world’s largest psychiatric organization.

Our Psychiatry Department was recognized for “successfully integrating mental health services into the school system, youth leadership, and community outreach for children and families recovering from the traumatic effects of Hurricane Katrina,” for its work in developing the St. Bernard Family Resiliency Project in collaboration with the St. Bernard Parish Public School System.

The project, with support from Baptist Community Ministries, continues serving families and children, particularly those at highest risk. Its innovation in providing mental health services within a school system, focusing on building strength and resiliency, has been shown to be an effective model for national and international disaster recovery.

LSUHSC nurses identify emergencies

LSUHSC nursing faculty and students may have saved a life at the recent Cao Health Initiative. They identified dangerously high blood pressure in four people, one with an unstable heart rate as well whom EMS transported to the emergency room.

Besides nursing, our dental and dental hygiene, physical therapy, occupational therapy, public health, audiology, and speech pathology faculty and students participated in a wide range of educational and screening activities.