



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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January 22, 2010

**Danielle M. Hibbard Earns Her Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) Certification**

Indian Stream Health Center (ISHC) wishes to congratulate Danielle M. Hibbard on the earning of her Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) certification from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, NCHEC. She has been with ISHC since April of 2009 and works in the Outreach Department with Ginny Petro, Licensed Practical Nurse. In her position, Hibbard organizes and implements community outreach activities. She also creates educational print materials and community information articles for ISHC.

Hibbard took her test for her CHES in October and received the good news of passing the exam in December. To obtain a CHES, Hibbard first had to have a bachelor's of science in health education, which she obtained at Plymouth State University in 2008. Once she completed her degree, she had to take the test that covers the seven core competencies of a health education specialist. They are:

- Assess individual and community needs for health education.
- Plan effective health education strategies, interventions, and programs.
- Implement health education strategies, interventions, and programs.
- Conduct evaluation and research related to health education.
- Administer health education strategies, interventions, and programs.
- Serve as a health education resource person.
- Communicate and advocate for health and health education.

The certification is an indication of professional competency and a desire towards continuing education. Shirley Powell, CEO of ISHC had this to say, "Danielle shows great enthusiasm and a willingness to further educate herself for the betterment of herself and ISHC. We are fortunate to have her as a member of our team."

Hibbard is also an active member of the community serving on the North Country Community Recreation Center's Board of Directors and is a member of the Colebrook Kiwanis. Her motivation for obtaining her certification was "I think it's important to continue to educate yourself throughout your career. Getting my CHES meant that I have to obtain continuing education credits to keep the certification. I also wanted to prove to myself that I could pass the test."

ISHC is proud of its staff and encourages career development and growth through education. Hibbard is the third employee in 2009 to obtain an extra degree or certification in their specific professional field while working at ISHC.