

NEWS RELEASE

May 6, 2011

Contact: Alison Holland, 320-629-4566, holland@pinetech.edu

All PTC news releases are available at www.pinetech.edu/about-ptc/news-releases

Healthcare Alliance launches new website

PINE CITY, Minn. – Curious about a career in healthcare? Already serving in the healthcare field? Continue your education. Expand your horizons. Visit healthcare-alliance.org today.

The Healthcare Alliance of east central Minnesota and western Wisconsin is proud to announce the launch of its new website. Healthcare-alliance.org aims to provide a one-stop opportunity for the region's job seekers in healthcare, incumbent healthcare workers seeking continuing education and both youth and adults considering careers in healthcare. There, visitors will find healthcare news, events, job postings, education opportunities, career exploration resources, job seeking resources and more.

When statistics began predicting an escalating amount of retirees, a growing demand for healthcare and altogether fewer workers, Pine Technical College responded by gathering partners from area school districts, higher education, healthcare providers and the workforce development center system in 2007 to address the regional healthcare worker shortage. Initially, the group – dubbed the Healthcare Alliance – consisted of 12 partners. Today, the alliance is more than two dozen strong, working together with a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and commitment to growing our region's healthcare. As a result, in the spring of 2010, the Alliance was awarded a \$4.2 million grant under the President's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, to fulfill its mission. The development of healthcare-alliance.org was fully-funded by this federal ARRA grant.

Pine Technical College, established in 1965 and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, serves more than 1,000 students and awards certificates, diplomas and associate degrees. PTC's notable programs include accounting, American Sign Language, automotive technology, business administration, computer programming, computer science, early childhood development, gunsmithing technology, practical nursing, precision manufacturing/machining (CNC), public welfare financial worker, and many more.

PTC is a proud member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, which is comprised of 32 state universities and community and technical colleges serving the higher education needs of Minnesota. The system serves about 277,000 students per year in credit-based courses and an additional 157,000 students in noncredit courses.

– more –

For more information about the Healthcare Alliance, visit www.healthcare-alliance.org or call 320-629-4566. For more information about Pine Technical College, visit www.pinetech.edu or call 320-629-5114.

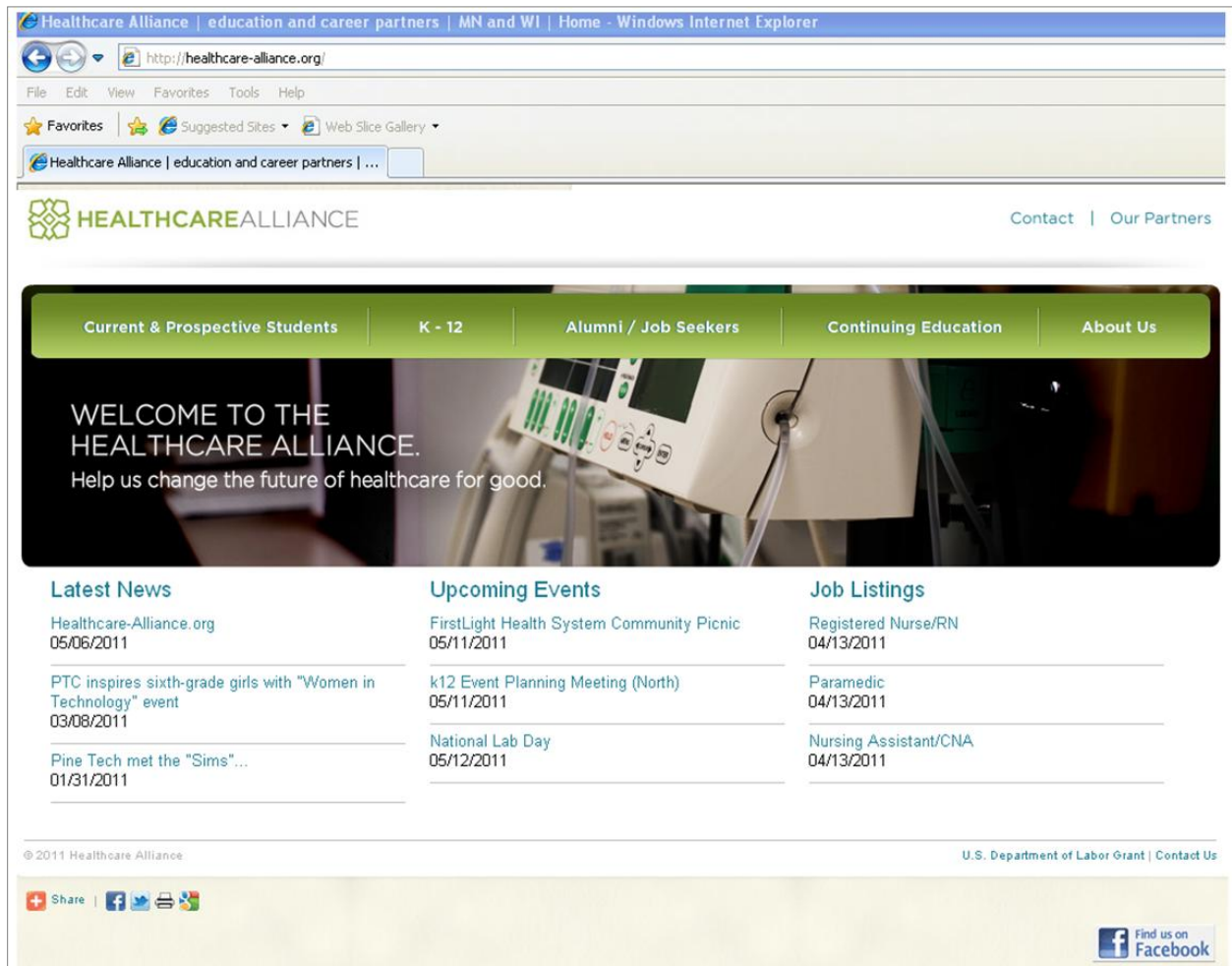


Image above: A view of the Healthcare Alliance’s new homepage, www.healthcare-alliance.org.

###