

2010 Health Careers

# AHEC Update

NORTH CAROLINA AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS



“One of the most positive results from my CSI hospital internship (Mountain AHEC) is that now I am volunteering at the Good Samaritan Clinic, where I can continue to increase my knowledge with on-site learning. Every day in school I feel I am ahead of my class. This is the greatest aspect of the program for me, because I was sick with nervousness about starting college and failing. So many intelligent and successful people told me, ‘You’re going to make it.’ I have that burst of confidence that is going to help me make it through this year and the rest of my educational career.”

*Candice Craig, student*

## Health Careers and Workforce Diversity in North Carolina

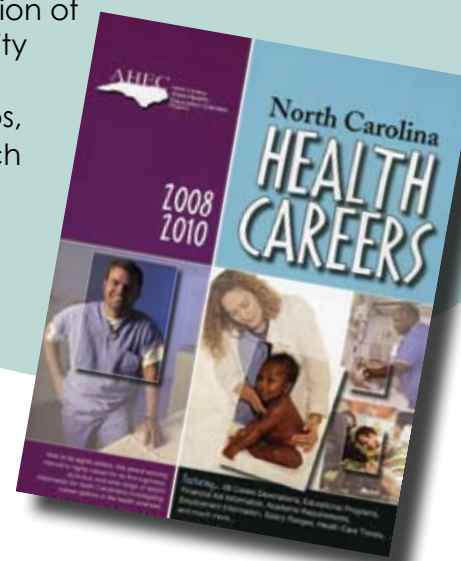
Statistics show that in all health professions, minority populations continue to be underrepresented relative to our overall state population, despite the high demand for health care professionals. While African Americans, Native Americans and Hispanic/Latinos account for 10% of North Carolina's health care workforce, these same minority groups comprise 25% of the state's population. The NC AHEC Program's collaborative efforts to provide support at every link of the educational pipeline promotes workforce diversity in health professions, while working toward a profile that more closely reflects the composition of the general population of our state.

## AHEC's Response to Health Careers and Workforce Diversity Needs:

- Information and materials dissemination, including statewide distribution of the NC Health Careers manual to middle and high schools, community colleges, colleges and universities. ([www.nchealthcareers.com](http://www.nchealthcareers.com))
- Health careers enrichment and exposure activities (camps, workshops, clinical experiences, site visits, math and science enrichment, research & test-taking skills).
- Cultural sensitivity and awareness training workshops.
- Partnering and collaboration with elementary through high schools, community colleges, colleges, universities, health- and community-based organizations, philanthropic organizations, and others with a similar mission.
- Regional and statewide tracking and evaluation.

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[www.ncahec.net](http://www.ncahec.net)



## Health Careers/Workforce Diversity 2008-2009 Data

- **36,379 total participants in HC/WD activities**
    - ◆ 17,029 males (47%) and 19,350 females (53%)
    - ◆ K-8th grade: 28,759 participants
    - ◆ 9th-12th grade: 5,469 participants
    - ◆ College/adult: 2,151 participants
  - **AHEC Pipeline Students\***
    - ◆ 497 students completed 20-39 hours
    - ◆ 671 completed more than 40 hours
- \* Pipeline students are those who have completed a minimum of 20 hours of AHEC health careers programs
- **2003-2008 NC AHEC Health Careers Pipeline Students by HPSA\***
    - ◆ 95% of whole or partial HPSA counties (36 of 38) have sent health careers students to AHEC Pipeline Programs
    - ◆ 42% of all students (3,169 of 7,465) were from whole or partial HPSA counties



HPSA County Type	Health Careers Pipeline Students
Whole or Partial County (38)	3,169
Not a HPSA County (62)	4,296

\*Health Professional Shortage Areas

## NC AHEC: Recruiting Underrepresented, Minority, and Disadvantaged Students through Pipeline Programs

The NC AHEC Health Careers and Workforce Diversity Council, consisting of representatives from the NC AHEC Program Office, the nine AHECs, the NC Health Careers Access Program, and the Duke AHEC Program, is a statewide system with an infrastructure consisting of staff, core programs, support and activities. This system seeks to link graduate and undergraduate institutions, community colleges, local school districts, health care agencies, and communities to create an environment that attracts underrepresented, minority, and disadvantaged students and places them in the educational pipeline – from kindergarten to professional practice.

### North Carolina Area Health Education Centers

#### Area I AHEC

Rocky Mount  
www.area1ahec.org

#### Charlotte AHEC

Charlotte  
www.charlotteahec.org

#### Eastern AHEC

Greenville  
eahec.ecu.edu

#### Greensboro AHEC

Greensboro  
www.gahec.org

#### Mountain AHEC

Asheville  
www.mahec.net

#### Northwest AHEC

Winston-Salem  
northwestahec.org

#### South East AHEC

Wilmington  
www.seahec.net

#### Southern Regional AHEC

Fayetteville  
www.southernregionalahec.org

#### Wake AHEC

Raleigh  
www.wakeahec.org

#### Duke AHEC Program

Durham  
dukeahec.mc.duke.edu

#### NC AHEC Program Office

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