UC AHEC Program Activity Report
June - August, 2021

Goal 1. Increase and expand the urban and rural underserved healthcare workforce through programs that expose underrepresented minority and rural students to health care careers.

Pipeline Healthcare Pathways Project

This group has drafted a core curriculum to be reviewed in September. Members include UC AHEC, Cincinnati State, Southwest Ohio Tech Prep Consortium, UC Colleges of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, UC Clermont and Blue Ash and The Health Collaborative. Work teams are in the following degree programs:

- Health Science - Exercise Science, Occupational Therapy, PTA, Speech Language/Hearing Sciences, Audiology
- Respiratory Tech, Monitor Tech, EKG Tech
- Social Work – Behavioral Health and Mental Health
- Nursing – Medical Assistant, Surg Tech, Patient Care Assistant
- Medical Lab Tech
- Health Information Management – Health Unit Coordinator
- Imaging Technology (Radiology, Mammography, Sonography)

Rural Student Interest Group and Statewide Rural Health Pathways (RPTP) Initiative

- Student Interest Group: No activity. Staff has reached out but delayed due to Batavia office closure, staff recruitment

Goal 2. Partner with strategic organizations across the community, region, state and nation to advance healthcare to rural and urban areas and support existing healthcare programs and providers.

Older Adult Aging in Partnership with UC Division of Geriatric Medicine

We have partnered with the Geriatrics Division in the Department of Family Medicine to promote rural and underserved health initiatives for older adults in our community.

- Older Adult Training Simulation: We have two older adult training simulation suits. We have partnered with the Research and Geriatrics Divisions at UC Department of Family Medicine to research simulation experiences that will increase empathy in those caring for older adults. To date, we have trained 10 medical students with these suits with an additional 10 training experiences planned for the academic year 2021-22. These suits and simulation exercises are available to community partners for training experiences at no cost.

- Remote Home Visits: We have partnered with The Christ Hospital Family Medicine Associates offer remote home visit medical appointments during COVID in urban underserved communities. To date, the telehealth program has trained 40 learners (including medical students and residents/fellow physicians) and completed 84 patient visits. With the increase in COVID cases in our region, the remote home visit team will be increasing their visit numbers again starting in August.
Rural HIV Risk Reduction:
We have partnered with Equitas Health and developed pre-exposure (PrEP) and post-exposure (PEP) prophylaxis prescribing materials, training guides, and information on Prevention Assistance Program Interventions (PAPI) for distribution to rural and urban underserved providers. The training is available in a pre-recorded and virtual live content and toolkit materials are available on USB drives and in print. These tools are available to any healthcare agencies or healthcare professionals at no cost.

Goal 3. Develop interprofessional learners who will serve patients in underserved rural and urban communities.

IPE and Rural Training

- Rural and Urban Underserved Scholars Track: Two students completed the rural summer immersion experience in June 2021, each spending a week with a family medicine physician and living in Ottawa, OH.
- Longitudinal Primary Care Clerkship: All UC College of Medicine first- and second-year medical students (370 total) participate in a longitudinal primary care clerkship that pairs them with a community primary care preceptor over 1 year. We are actively recruiting more rural and urban underserved preceptors for this program.

Additional AHEC Updates

Program Coordinator Position: We are recruiting a program coordinator to join our team. This is a change from the previous program manager position since we also are paying for time from a Department of Family & Community Medicine accountant to monitor our budgets.

Clermont County Senior Center move: Since 2018, the AHEC’s ‘regional office’ has been at the Clermont Senior Services Center in Batavia. Due to changes in program personnel and COVID-related work changes, this office will close at the end of September 2021. Current offices at the Medical Science Building at UC College of Medicine will remain. Plan to explore future opportunities for a rural county-based office.

Clermont County Safe Communities: September 30, 2021 will conclude participation in the Safe Communities grant that was funded from Ohio Department Public Safety (ODPS)/Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO).

Health Learning Resource Center (HLRC): The HLRC contents are being distributed to our education, community service and health-related partners for their ongoing use and we will track utilization. Community partners who have received materials include: Cincinnati Public Schools, Health Care Access Now, The Health Collaborative, Bethel Elementary School, and Brown County Health Department.

Summer Camp June 2022: This program for middle schoolers in Adams, Brown, and Clermont Counties is now being led by Brown Clermont Career Campuses. UC AHEC will provide support.