**UC AHEC Program Activity Report**

**September - December 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**

The core curriculum has been reviewed. A sub-committee is working on a draft website template that includes links to the participating educational institutions’ websites (Cincinnati State and UC.) It will be hosted by The Health Collaborative and used by students, parents and counselors.

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

Staff has met with new student leadership and working on two programs – viewing and discussion of “The Providers” documentary and an “Introduction to Rural Primary Care” presentation with Dr. Chris Bernheisel. The Ohio RPTP (UC, Ohio U, OSU, Wright State and NEOMED) is meeting in December.

**Blemished Record Project**

The team continues to meet, with UC AHEC as its convener. The group is finalizing the process for accepting student requests for expungement and/or sealing juvenile records for healthcare career tech students at Woodward High School. A trial event will be held in Spring 2022. Team members are: Hamilton County Juvenile Court and the Prosecutor’s Office, along with the Children’s Law Center of Northern Kentucky, Cincinnati Public Schools, UC AHEC and Colleges of Pharmacy and Law. UC AHEC is working to transition the convening/management relationship to the College of Law.

**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. Kim Newberry’s students at Laurel Oaks have also completed training with these suits. 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.

**Rural HIV Risk Reduction:**

We continue to partner with Equitas Health to reduce HIV and STI in rural communities. AHEC has partnered with UC College of Medicine medical students and Equitas Health to launch a rural STI mobile clinic in Portsmouth, OH.

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

**IPE and Rural Training**

AHEC Scholars: Finalizing third annual Tristate AHEC Scholars activity with North Central AHEC and Eastern Indiana AHECs on substance use addiction and prevention. Hired program coordinator to manage the program. Recruited 9 new Scholars in fourth cohort.

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. We anticipate two more students participating in summer 2022.

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:** Taylor O’Shaughnessy is joining our team. She is a health inspector in Mercer County, KY. She has experience in managing the AHEC Scholars program through the University of Kentucky AHEC. Her position will be hybrid with mostly remote work and three to four days on campus. She plans to move to Northern Kentucky after the first of the year. We also welcomed Jennifer Sweis from the Department of Family and Community Medicine to serve in a limited capacity as our Finance Officer.

**Clermont County Senior Center move:** The move was completed at the end of September. We were able to gift a number of our HLRC models, etc. to community partners for their use.

**Clermont County Safe Communities:** September 30, 2021 concluded our participation in the Safe Communities from Ohio Department Public Safety (ODPS)/Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO).

**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 and is applying for a community grant through UC to fund the project.