**UC AHEC Program Activity Report**

**July - September 2022**

**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 THC committee continues to meet to discuss ‘priority enrollment’ opportunities for high school students who engage in pathway courses and continually updates the website. AHEC staff is working with Southwest Ohio Tech Prep and Southern State Community College to create ‘mini camps’ to increase awareness and inform high school students about healthcare careers. The first session will be at the end of October at Southern State’s Hillsboro campus.

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

An information session in August drew 14 students interested in healthcare. Staff continues to strategize about outreach to Clinton Memorial and Highland District Hospitals for shadowing experiences. The Ohio RPTP is planning for National Rural Health Day on November 17. UC will submit at least two TikTok or Instagram promotions about our rural students.

**Blemished Record Project**

CPS still needs to sign an agreement with the Children’s Law Center and a fall event is tentatively planned at Woodward High School.

**Behavioral Health Workforce**

A behavioral health workforce statement has been drafted with the help of the Mental Health Addiction Advocacy Coalition. Next steps: Recruiting a Steering Committee of 10 – 12 for a 90-day project to determine two action steps. Completing an environmental scan of the regional community colleges and universities that provide any related social work, psychology, counseling certifications.

**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. The STI clinic program is still in progress.

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

**IPE and Rural Training**

AHEC Scholars: UC AHEC accepted 9 students for our 2022 Cohort (Cohort 5). This is the first time a medical student has joined the program. Many new students are studying social work, allied health sciences, and pre-medicine.   
4 of 9 students from Cohort 4 returned for their second program year.  
Orientation/re-orientation sessions have concluded for all AHEC Scholars students but one.

AHEC Scholars events to be held this semester include: Our World: The Social Determinants of Health Board Game, Mental Health First Aid training, Lecture: Asian & Latinx Discrimination and Hate in Healthcare, and a showing of the documentary “The Providers”.

Plans have begun for the next Tri-State Scholars event, scheduled tentatively for February 2023.

Rural and Urban Underserved Scholars Track: One student completed the RUST rural program in summer 2022.

Rural Medicine Experiences at College of Medicine: We are actively recruiting more rural preceptors for our third and fourth year medical students’ clinical experiences. We are allocating funds to support more rural rotations for students as interest and preceptor availability grows.

**Additional AHEC Updates**

**Summer Camp June 2023:** 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 has applied for funding through a community grant from UC to fund the project. Taylor met with BCACC staff on 3/8 to discuss camp logistics and planning.