

The background of the slide is a dark blue-tinted photograph of healthcare professionals in a clinical setting. In the foreground, a person in a white lab coat is leaning over a patient lying on a gurney. Other people in white coats are visible in the background, some standing and some moving. The overall tone is professional and collaborative.

NC AHEC

RECRUIT
TRAIN
RETAIN

2025 Year in Review

NC AHEC is helping to grow and strengthen the health care workforce needed for a healthy North Carolina. Collaboration is key to achieving this goal and we appreciate our partners who worked alongside us.

Please join us as we look back at some of the highlights of our accomplishments from the last year.

145 N. Medical Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
www.ncahec.net

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1 MISSION

NC AHEC provides and supports educational activities and services with a focus on primary care in rural communities and those with less access to resources to recruit, train, and retain the workforce needed to create a healthy North Carolina.

1 VISION

We envision a state where everyone in North Carolina is healthy and supported by an appropriate and well-trained health workforce that reflects the communities it serves.

9 REGIONAL CENTERS



REACHING ALL
100
COUNTIES

6

CORE SERVICES

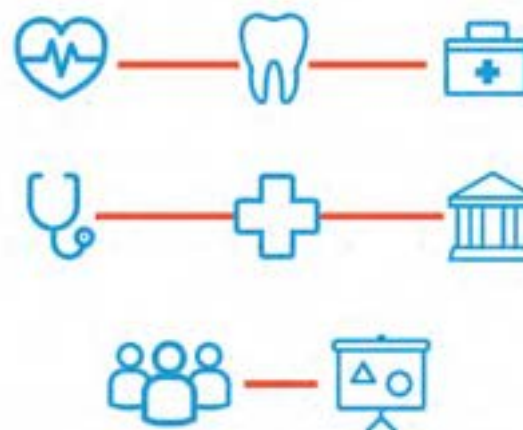
Weaving through all sectors of health education and workforce and supporting individuals in all stages of professional growth across the continuum of care.



7

DISCIPLINES

Providing resources for seven main disciplines, including allied health, oral health, medicine, behavioral health, nursing, pharmacy, and public health + new and emerging professions and interprofessional education opportunities.



CREATING AND SUPPORTING THE WORKFORCE
TO PRODUCE A BETTER STATE OF HEALTH SINCE 1972.



NC AHEC BRINGS TOGETHER DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS
TO COLLABORATE, DISCUSS, AND SOLVE PROBLEMS.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



I am excited to share this 2025 Year-in-Review for the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (NC AHEC) Program. Looking back on the year, I appreciate the resilience of the AHEC team and the remarkable work our Statewide Program has accomplished to recruit, train, and retain the health workforce in North Carolina.

We welcomed several new team members who helped us continue our work and grow into new areas. Unfortunately, we said goodbye to many Program Office and Regional AHEC team members when our Medicaid Practice Support contract was substantially reduced. We are grateful for their service and will miss them.

We accomplish our work in partnership with the leaders and team members of our Regional AHECs. Thank you - your dedication to the AHEC mission and the communities and providers you serve is truly commendable and drives the impressive outcomes showcased in this report.

Effective partnerships with medical and health sciences schools, hospital and health systems, and all our community and state-level collaborators are a hallmark of our work. We are grateful to these partners whose steadfast support of our mission has been crucial. Thank you for your trust, partnership and support, and we hope you share in our pride and sense of achievement.

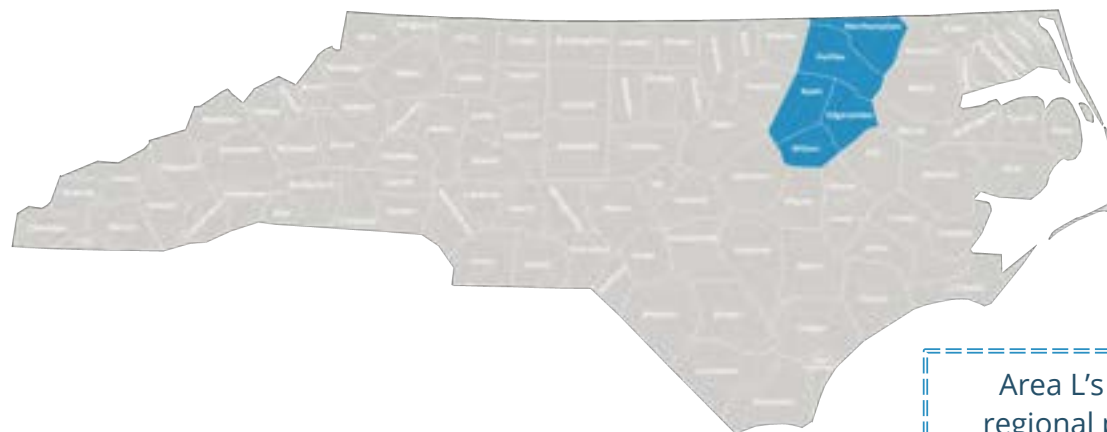
This Year-in-Review highlights some of the accomplishments we've achieved through those partnerships. Of course, these pages reflect only a fraction of the incredible work we've done together.

Looking forward to the coming year, we are eager to enhance our collective impact by building on our programs and partnerships. We warmly invite you to collaborate with us in the crucial and timely efforts to recruit, train, and retain North Carolina's health care workforce.

Hugh H. Tilson, Jr.

Hugh Tilson
Executive Director

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



AREA L AHEC

PART OF NC AHEC

Area L's Health Careers service line reached 687 high school students for a total of 3,158 contact hours. Additionally, Area L partnered with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to bring an interprofessional group of 18 health professional graduate students and eight alumni to Edgecombe County. The group led health and wellness programming for one week at the Conetoe Family Life Center Summer Camp and experienced rural health care delivery first-hand.

Area L's Practice Support coaches are committed to helping regional practices enhance care delivery, improve quality, and reduce financial strain. The team developed and led a new course within the NC AHEC Practice Manager Academy, ***Job Coaching and Evaluations***, and assisted in launching the ***Advanced Primary Care Model Toolkit*** for primary care practices.

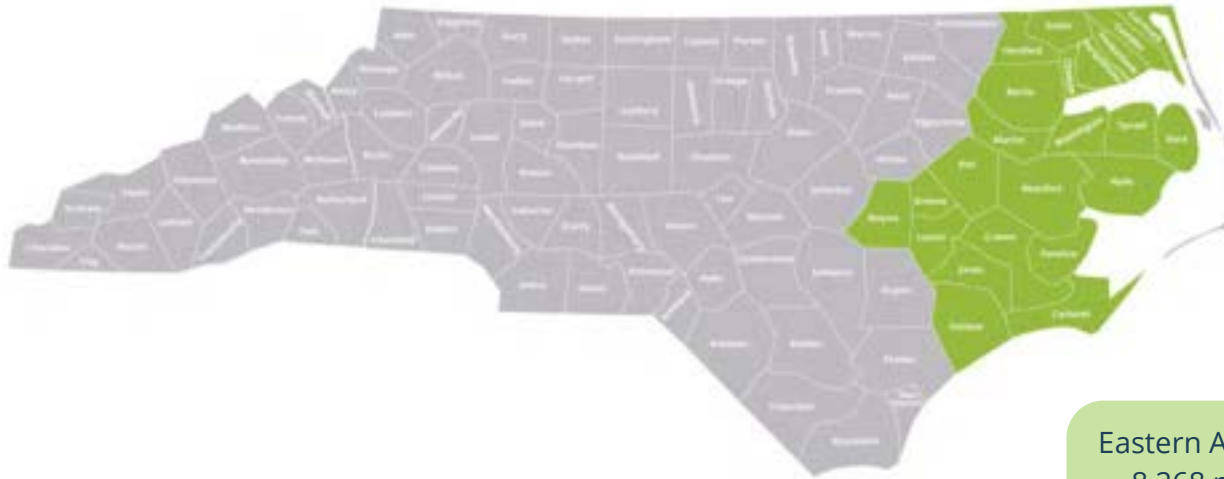
Area L hosted a continuing professional development program, ***Transforming Trauma: Addressing the Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Substance Use Disorders (SUD)***, that discussed how early traumatic experiences shape and influence the development of SUDs.



Harm Reduction Efforts

Delivered 9 ONEboxes, 20 lockboxes, 36 Naloxone cases, and 540 test strips throughout the region





EASTERN AHEC

PART OF NC AHEC

PAVE-ing the way! Eastern AHEC proudly implemented Pathways by AHECs using Virtual Reality Education (PAVE). Supported by a U.S. Department of Labor grant through the National AHEC Organization (NAO), PAVE is a postsecondary education/training and workforce development initiative for youth from rural and underserved communities, with the goal of expanding health career exploration programs.



Eastern AHEC delivered 1,400 CPD programs, provided 8,268 nights of housing, hosted 14 UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy students, and secured a \$10,000 National Library of Medicine Grant.

Eastern AHEC received grants to provide education with support from Foundation for Health Leadership & Innovation, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, The Duke Endowment, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and Health Resources and Services Administration, among others.

Eastern AHEC created and led two virtual learning collaboratives which meet monthly: FQHC Billing Collaborative led by Jessica Britton and ECU Health Behavioral Health Care Manager Learning Collaborative led by Angel Moore (Eastern AHEC) and Becky Dixon (Area L).

MAHEC

PART OF NC AHEC



Welcome home! MAHEC created a community of four 350-square-foot units (tiny homes) to help solve a growing need for housing for healthcare providers in training in rural areas of Western NC. For a small fee, rotating health sciences students have all the creature comforts like a living room/bedroom/kitchenette combo, full bath, closets and a stackable washer-dryer. The hope is that many will ultimately choose to practice in MAHEC's rural areas upon completion of their training.



MAHEC – BY THE NUMBERS

- **1,000+** high schoolers attended Health Careers Programs
- **1,979** practice support encounters with 143 practices across the 16 counties of WNC
- **8,819** library service interactions
- **900+** medical, dental and pharmacy residents and fellows have graduated from MAHEC's GME programs since its start in 1974.

Regional Highlights: **NORTHWEST**



Wake Forest University
School of Medicine

NORTHWEST AHEC

PART OF NC AHEC



A'nya Buckner, one of the outstanding Northwest AHEC Scholars and a senior pre-med student at Winston-Salem State University (WSSU), was selected to participate in Blue Origin's historic all-female space mission. The group's research project, involving plant biology, was included on board and launched into space. The project was part of a collaboration between WSSU and Blue Origin's nonprofit, Club for the Future, which aims to inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and explorers.

"This experience means everything to me... I'm looking forward to applying what I've learned from my labs and lectures to real-world research — and seeing our seedlings in space." – A'nya Buckner

Northwest AHEC maintained a strong enrollment in the RN Refresher Program with 39 students enrolled at any given time. The program's three-year average enrollment of 37 students demonstrates its ongoing impact and commitment to nursing workforce development.



PIEDMONT AHEC

PART OF NC AHEC

Piedmont AHEC proudly celebrated the graduation of 27 dedicated AHEC Scholars. This cohort attended the 2nd Annual Statewide Emerging Leaders in Health Care Conference in Charlotte, where they engaged in simulation labs and dynamic sessions.

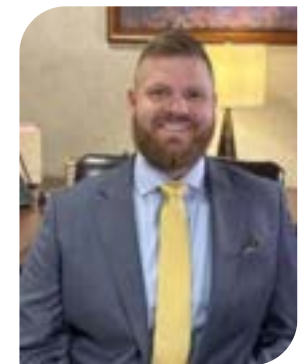


The Pathways program continued to inspire early interest in healthcare careers through the Teen Health Club and the Stop the Bleed certification.

Amber Wilkins, Continuing Professional Development Coordinator for Piedmont AHEC, continued her "What Do I Say?" sessions, which provide a safe space for people navigating the reality of loss. The program, now in its 20th year, helps people find their voice in life's most difficult moments.

In collaboration with Cone Health, Piedmont AHEC's Psychiatry Residency Program celebrated its inaugural graduating class. Notably, 50% of these new psychiatrists have chosen to remain in the Piedmont region to practice.

Piedmont AHEC accomplished a milestone achievement with the graduation of Dr. Bailey Sanford, the first graduate of the UNC FIRST program within the Cone Health Family Medicine Residency. Dr. Sanford pursued medicine to help close healthcare gaps in underserved areas. Dr. Sanford will continue serving the Piedmont area at UNC Family Medicine in Rockingham County.



Regional Highlights: **SOUTH EAST**



SEAHEC

PART OF NC AHEC

SEAHEC's Continuing Professional Development team collaborated with Novant Health to design and deliver a large conference focused on educating the current healthcare workforce specializing in cardiovascular and cerebrovascular medicine. SEAHEC's team worked with the planning committee, medical director, and medical education technology team to livestream a patient procedure in which a self-expanding braided mesh was implanted at the base of a brain aneurysm to promote clotting and prevent further blood flow.

While the neurosurgeon performed the surgery in the operating room, SEAHEC's medical director was on-site at the conference, providing real-time explanations of the procedure's steps and the critical clinical decisions involved, offering learners an interactive experience.

SEAHEC's Region Health Talent Alliance Collaborative hosted the Inaugural Eastern North Carolina Regional Apprenticeship Accelerator Workshop. The event brought together representatives from five counties to explore opportunities for launching healthcare apprenticeships within their organizations. Apprenticeships enable more high school students to graduate with healthcare credentials and transition into advanced training at community colleges, ultimately supporting the growth of our region's next generation of healthcare professionals.



SOUTH PIEDMONT AHEC

PART OF NC AHEC



South Piedmont's Health Careers Program reached 1,061 students representing every county in our region. Inspiring testimonials were captured on our Health Careers Impact webpage at <https://www.southpiedmontahec.org/workforce-di/health-careers-impact>. In addition, a quarterly Health Careers newsletter was launched, reaching over 3,000 high school students and teachers across the region.



South Piedmont AHEC led the RN Refresher Program, expanding re-entry pathways for nurses across North Carolina. The team spearheaded the transition of the NC AHEC RN Refresher Theory Course from UNC Digital and Lifelong Learning (DLL) to the Docebo platform and reduced the course registration fee by \$325, from \$1,000 to \$675, enhancing accessibility and learner experience, which yielded an increase in registrations.

South Piedmont AHEC delivered over 86 accredited activities, encompassing 1,130 sessions and engaging more than 21,000 learners.

Regional Highlights: **SOUTHERN REGIONAL**



SOUTHERN REGIONAL AHEC

PART OF NC AHEC

The AHEC Scholars Program recruited 27 scholars across Cohorts 6 (14 scholars) and 7 (13 scholars), with enhanced recruitment through strategic outreach to educational and healthcare partners.

Southern Regional AHEC continued to build connections through Integrated Care Month – residents provided hands-on care to underserved populations at:

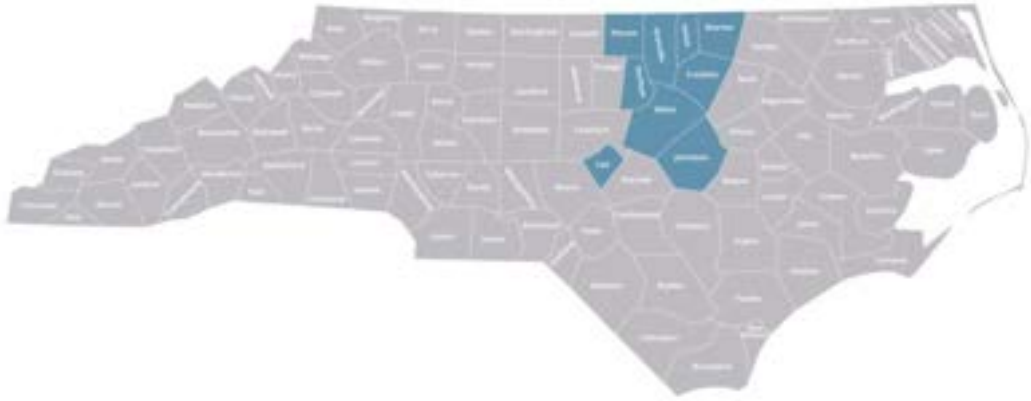
- The Care Clinic – Free healthcare for uninsured individuals
- Better Health – Diabetes management for uninsured and underinsured patients
- Operation Inasmuch – Care for individuals experiencing homelessness

This community-based model strengthened clinical competency while reinforcing social accountability.

Southern Regional AHEC provided practice support to 217 healthcare practices through 2,134 encounters and successfully completed the third year of the Practice Management Academy, training 293+ practice managers and engaging 575 community members statewide.

Workforce development efforts produced strong retention outcomes. Of the 8 physicians completing the Duke/Southern Regional AHEC Family Medicine Residency Program, 7 will practice in North Carolina, and 3 of those 7 will remain within the Southern Regional AHEC service region, supporting local access to care.

- ➔ The Community Training Center, recognized by the American Heart Association as a High-Quality Training Center, ranks among the top 9% nationwide.
- ➔ The Collaborative Care Model (CoCM) education was enhanced with a progressive virtual catalog, an annual statewide best practices conference, and personalized training learning paths.



WAKE AHEC

PART OF NC AHEC

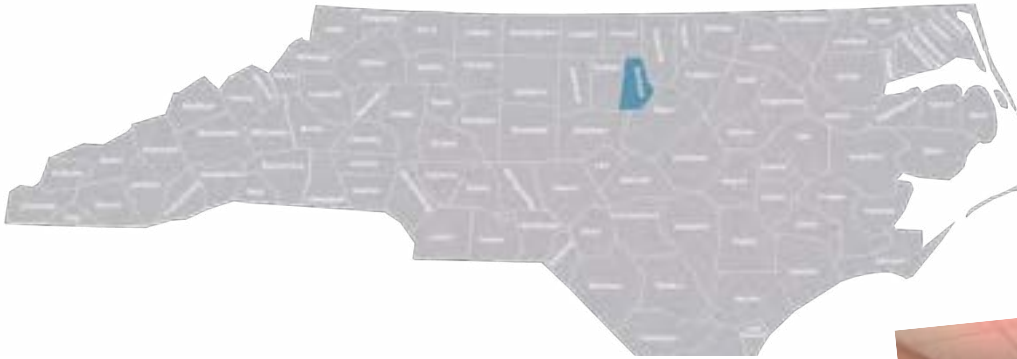
Wake AHEC participated in statewide committees to give input on revised reporting tools for the RN Refresher Program (Tableau and Smartsheet) as well as a statewide survey for Clinical Site Development projects. Two new clinical site development projects from North Carolina Central University (NCCU) and UNC-CH School of Nursing (UNC-CH SON)/NCCU were awarded for their innovative proposals using Mobile Health unit and simulation/VR in rural clinical sites.



Working with the Capital Area Workforce Development Board, funding has been set aside to support RN Refreshers (RNR) from Wake AHEC rural counties and UNC-CH SON rural counties in completing the RNR Course, renew their Nursing licenses, and return to the Nursing workforce.

Wake AHEC organized two live, in-person Mini Medical School camps on Vance-Granville Community College campuses in Franklin and Granville Counties. A third live experience will be offered in 2026, due to the popularity of the event!



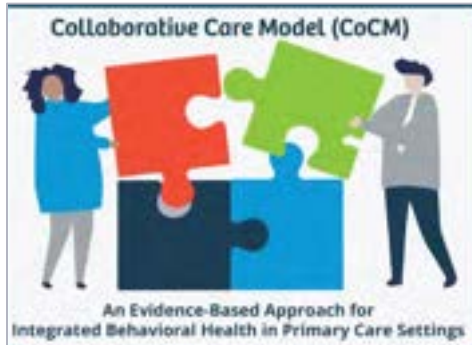


DUKE AHEC

PART OF NC AHEC

Pathways Program Highlights

- More than 200 Hillside High School students participated in the **2025 Duke AHEC Careers in Health Care Exploration Expo**.
- Expansion of the **Duke AHEC Saturday Academy** for the City of Medicine Academy (limited to 25 students per session).
- Established one-day radiological observation partnership with Duke Radiology to for City of Medicine students.



NC AHEC has had a key leadership role in the spread of the Collaborative Care Model (CoCM) – an evidence-based, highly structured consultation model that provides expert

screening, psychiatric consultation, and brief therapy for patients with mild to moderate psychiatric conditions in primary care. Duke AHEC partnered with Southern Regional AHEC and other stakeholders to create a comprehensive curriculum to teach primary care practices about the model. This partnership and spread of the model in NC have played a key role in filling gaps in care in NC.



Duke AHEC Pathways program continued its partnerships with the City of Medicine Academy, as well as area high schools, and continued to partner with other area career exploration efforts locally and across the state. In 2025, Duke AHEC continued collaborating with health professionals to introduce area high school students to the diverse career opportunities in healthcare. Preparation is underway to expand the Duke AHEC Saturday Academy program to include additional professions and to develop additional partnerships across the state.

SERVICE LINES

HEALTH CAREERS

Inspiring and preparing tomorrow's healthcare professionals across North Carolina.

Health Careers helps students to become interested in health occupations through enrichment activities and education programs in high school and in college.

PATHWAYS

Our Health Careers Pathway programming enhances the geographic distribution and quality of health care providers across North Carolina by creating initiatives that expose pre-college youth to various health care professions. We engage and offer exploration opportunities to students, parents, educators, and community members to increase awareness of health care careers.

AHEC SCHOLARS

By collaborating with school systems, health care agencies, and community organizations, we help pre-college students develop the necessary skills for pursuing careers in health care. Once health science students reach university, our AHEC Scholars program offers the opportunity to join a multidisciplinary team of health professionals committed to community service and the transformation of health care in North Carolina.

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Pathways event locations and the number of events in FY2025.

STATEWIDE





STUDENT SERVICES

Supporting health professions' students and training health professions' faculty and preceptors.

To help meet North Carolina's health and workforce needs, our Student Services team supports health sciences students from colleges and universities statewide, along with the faculty and practicing health care professionals who serve as preceptors. Strong partnerships among students, educators, and clinical preceptors are essential for high-quality community-based education.

STATEWIDE



NC AHEC provided **52,208** nights of housing for students from more than **18** colleges or universities doing **1,402** rotations in **42** counties across North Carolina.

Our regional AHECs work closely with local stakeholders on both the education and service sides to streamline clinical onboarding and expand training opportunities. We also provide short-term lodging for students completing community-based rotations, with a focus on supporting placements in rural areas.

Map of locations of housing used for student rotations during FY2025, in both rural and urban areas.



NC AHEC is committed to helping more nurses return to the field through our **Registered Nurse (RN) Refresher Program**. Successes include:

- 215 RN Refresher students successfully completed the program according to their licensure needs.
- 140 licenses were reinstated due to the RN Refresher Program.
- 79% of RN Refresher students who pursued employment as RNs, and responded to follow-up reported working as RNs after completing the program.

NC AHEC also offered **1,061** Clinical Precepting Online Series courses for clinical preceptors who work with students, residents, or other advanced learners who are completing academic or program requirements in a clinical environment.

With funding from the NC legislature and thanks to collaboration with our partners, we completed a study on community preceptors and launched five interprofessional teaching hubs.

<https://www.ncahec.net/news/interprofessional-teaching-hubs-selected/>

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Innovating GME and supporting essential rural residency programs.

TRAIN

Since the NC AHEC Program was launched, we have consistently promoted innovation in **Graduate Medical Education (GME)**. We support, and in two regional AHECs operate, residency programs for primary and community care, including family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, general surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, and more.

STATEWIDE



NC AHEC financially supported **429** residents with Southern Regional and Mountain AHECs both sponsoring residencies in their respective regions.



Of the 429 residents, **54%** remained in NC -- a higher rate compared to non AHEC-supported residents.

We are drivers of graduate medical education reform and expansion.

The distribution and retention of primary care physicians begin with robust support for Graduate Medical Education. NC AHEC leads the way in reforming and expanding graduate medical education, training the next generation of providers through our community-based residency programs.

Drs. Courtney Caruthers and Hannah Hulshult were selected as the first residents in our Rural Family Medicine Residency Program located within the Black River Health Services clinic, in Pender County. At this site, the team provides comprehensive management of chronic illnesses, including congestive heart failure and diabetes, as well as delivering a full range of preventive gynecological services. Serving patients in this setting will build a foundation in this community, and encourage these providers to hopefully continue to practice here or another rural area once they complete their training.

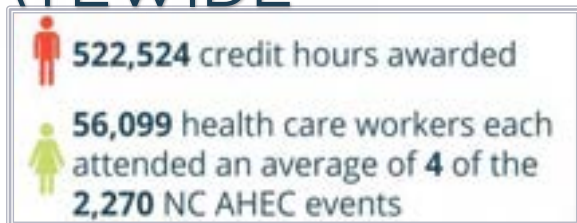


Together, they are building trust in our rural areas by meeting patients where they are, ensuring they are heard, and addressing public health needs.

Meeting the evolving education and training needs of health professionals.

In the fast-evolving health care industry, we address the dynamic education and training needs of health professionals. Our Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programs offer essential training and education to help professionals meet state licensure and specialty certifications, and stay updated on new research, technologies, and innovations.

STATEWIDE



Piedmont AHEC CPD, through participation with the NC Center on the Workforce for Health, launched the Direct Care Worker Series—a four-part initiative supporting personal care aides and other direct care workers—which engaged 138 participants, including administrators, policymakers, and practitioners. They also delivered a two-part series addressing workplace culture and workforce challenges for 200 attendees.

Wake AHEC CPD provided two intensive hands-on trainings to 63 rehab professionals that included content aligned with the goals of the Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program grant. The CME team awarded CME credit to over 9,000 physicians and 8,400 to other healthcare professionals which resulted in 1,743 hours of clinical educational content.

South East AHEC CPD collaborated with Novant Health to livestream a patient procedure in which a self-expanding braided mesh was implanted at the base of a brain aneurysm to promote clotting and prevent further blood flow. With real-time explanations of the procedure, learners got an interactive educational experience.

Mountain AHEC CPD programs for health and human service professionals included 800 events with over 30,000 participants. The Simulation Center produced over 500 programs for more than 14,000 participants.

In their commitment to trauma education, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) awareness, and substance use disorder treatment, recovery, and prevention, **Area L AHEC's** CPD planned and delivered four Recovery Coach Academy training courses and four Trauma & Resilience 101 courses. Additionally, 88 staff members at Camp Willow Run received ACEs education to support every summer camper.

In collaboration with Appalachian Institute for Health and Wellness, **Northwest AHEC** CPD hosted 200 health care professionals, advocates, and caregivers for the 2025 Aging Well Conference — a two-day event dedicated to improving the quality of care for older adults.

In partnership with Fayetteville State University, **Southern Regional AHEC** CPD held the 2nd Annual SANE Symposium which equips Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) to deliver high-quality, trauma-informed care to survivors, while remaining engaged and prepared at their patient's bedside.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

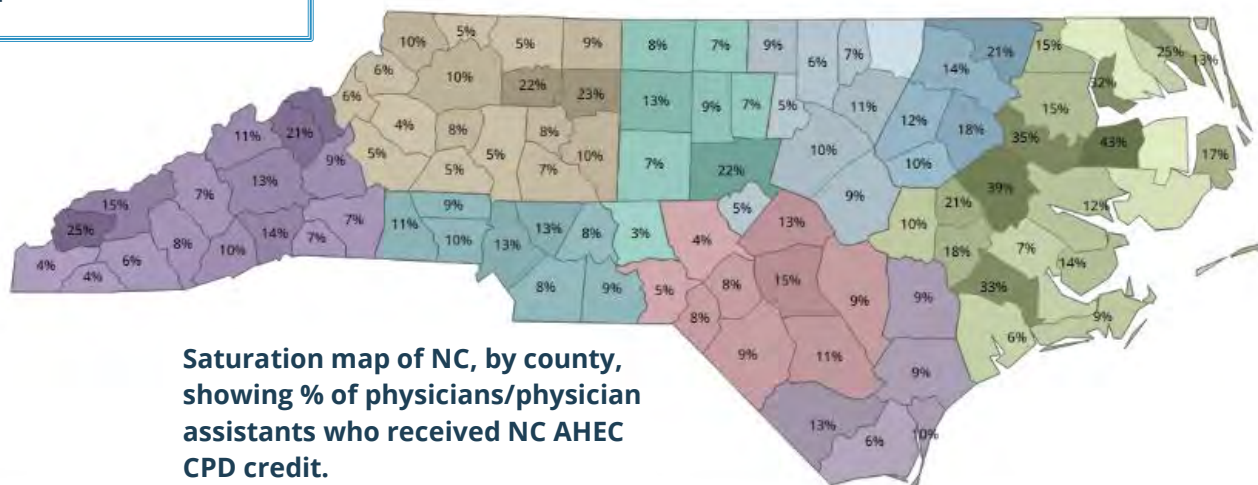
South Piedmont AHEC launched a successful partnership with Hanger Clinic to host the nationally recognized Amputee Walking School. This program provided advanced training for physical therapists and individuals with limb loss, focusing on prosthetic use, mobility, and fitness. Led by Todd Schaffhauser and Dr. Curtis Wainman, the event drew strong participation and received excellent feedback. This growing partnership continues to deliver meaningful outcomes for both clinicians and community members.

NC AHEC partnered with NC DHHS to support **92** practices to implement Collaborative Care, **87** sites to deploy Tailored Care Management, **511** individuals to participate in the Practice Managers Academy and **400** Community Health Workers to improve their skills.

We reach health care professionals in all 100 North Carolina counties with our regional and online CPD programs. Visit the NC AHEC statewide [online course catalog](#) to find live programming events near you and online courses available anywhere, anytime.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Wake AHEC received top recognition from the Southern States CME Collaborative (SSCC) Accreditation Review Committee (ARC) and was awarded Accreditation with Commendation for a period of six years. The new accreditation term will expire on June 20, 2031, and no progress report will be required. Wake AHEC was found to be in compliance with all core accreditation criteria, standards for Integrity and Independence of Accredited CE, and SSCC policies. Additionally, Wake AHEC demonstrated compliance with eight commendation criteria one of which included a criterion under the domain of “Achieves Outcomes”. Wake AHEC was the first North Carolina State Medical Society accredited provider to be granted Accreditation with Commendation under the new commendation criteria.



PRACTICE SUPPORT

Navigating the ever-changing landscape of health care. Moving clinical evidence into practice.

Through expert coaching, peer learning collaboratives, a Practice Manager Academy, and hands-on support, Practice Support coaches help practices adapt to new payment models, integrate behavioral health, and deliver patient-centered care. Our services promote sustainability, quality improvement, and alignment with NC Medicaid goals. Although we are adjusting our work in response to recent funding reductions, we remain committed to this important work and are grateful for the on-going and new partnerships that drive its success.

STATEWIDE

Southern Regional AHEC launched The Practice Management Academy in September 2022 and now includes 511 members. Its flagship offering is the Practice Manager Boot Camp, a practical course designed to give new and aspiring practice managers a comprehensive overview of practice management. The Boot Camp completed its third cycle in May 2025 and offers thirty-six one-hour sessions organized into modules by topic.

The program has supported over 1,000 practices across all 100 counties through 20,000+ encounters, maintaining a close to 100% satisfaction rate. We offer tailored assistance in areas such as quality improvement, practice management, Collaborative Care Model, Advanced Medical Home Tier support, Health Information Technology optimization, and Medicaid managed care assistance. Our focus is on independent primary care, FQHCs, rural health clinics, and local health departments with primary care services.

Practice Support is here to help practices navigate through a time of great transition in health care.

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

Providing vital knowledge support for North Carolina health care professionals.

Libraries are a core part of the education and support services that AHEC provides to North Carolina. Each of the nine AHEC locations has access to library staff prepared to meet the unique needs of health care providers in their counties.

In addition to this support, the **AHEC Digital Library (ADL)** ensures that all providers in the state have access to high-quality health information. The ADL is your portal to AHEC library services and information, ensuring that all health professionals in the state have high-quality health information readily available with access to free tools and materials. Additional evidence-based resources are available through paid subscription.



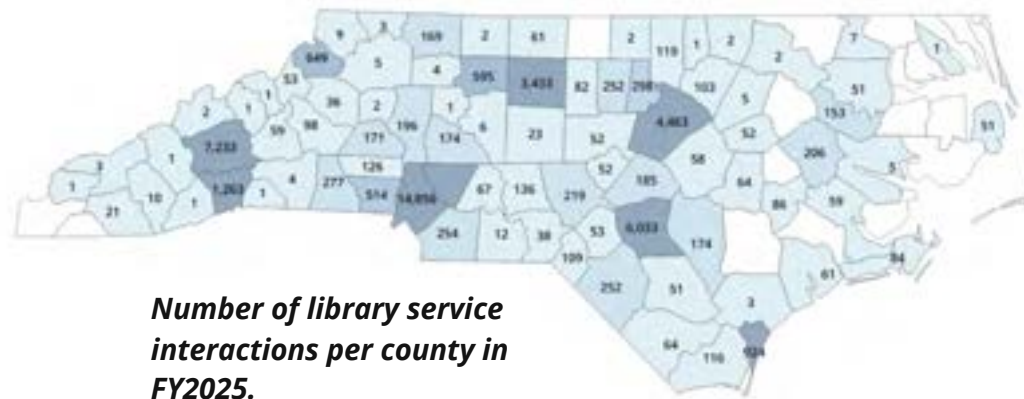
Surveyed health care workers (n=276) who received library services reported multiple benefits from the interaction. They reported the services contributed to:

- their patient care (77%),
- their own professional development (54%),
- health research (43%)

STATEWIDE

NC AHEC provided over **50,000** library services to health care workers from **83** counties, including performing literature searches, lending documents, and answering reference questions.

Piedmont AHEC's survey feedback highlighted the library's impact: 71% of users reported that services supported decision-making or evidence-based practice, while 55% noted a direct impact on patient-centered care. Comments such as "These articles are perfect" and "The library staff has helped me immensely" reflect the lasting value of these efforts.



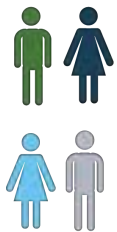
NC CENTER ON THE WORKFORCE FOR HEALTH

Building alignment and persistence in regional and statewide health workforce planning.

The **Center on the Workforce for Health** seeks to identify solutions, share best practices, and monitor progress in addressing North Carolina's persistent workforce maldistribution and shortages. While other organizations focus on specific professions, geographies, or institutions, the Center provides a forum for a broad and inclusive approach to health workforce development.

The Center leads three workstreams: (1) the NC Health Talent Alliance, which organizes regional health workforce efforts, (2) the Caregiving Workforce Strategic Leadership Council, which coordinates action on priority health workforce needs among state agencies, and (3) a new workstream focused on the nursing workforce to operationalize the Center's role as state nursing workforce center.

STATEWIDE



The NC Center on the Workforce for Health, a recent addition to NC AHEC, supported **7** AHEC regions to prepare or operationalize regional employer-led collaboratives to define and respond to local health workforce priorities, coordinated the state agency efforts to align health workforce initiatives, and is now recognized as the state's nursing workforce center.

South Piedmont AHEC successfully onboarded a new Regional Workforce Development Project Manager who launched a regional workforce development focused newsletter reaching over 800 employers, educators, and stakeholders.

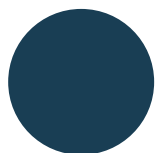
Southeast AHEC hosted the Inaugural Eastern North Carolina Regional Apprenticeship Accelerator Workshop, bringing together representatives from five counties—including local K–12 schools, community colleges, universities, and healthcare employers. The event offered practical guidance, case studies, and step-by-step planning to empower each team to take immediate action in implementing apprenticeship programs. This approach will enable more K–12 students to graduate with healthcare credentials and smoothly transition into tuition-free advanced training at community colleges.

Piedmont AHEC conducted an initial assessment confirming workforce shortages and strong stakeholder interest, which led to the formation of a Regional Advisory Council and an Employer Collaborative of 20 engaged healthcare employers.

Northwest AHEC Talent Pipeline Management (TPM) Initiative launched an employer collaborative group and engaged 27 employers, educators and other stakeholders.

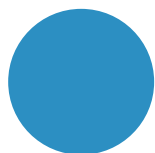
NC AHEC DIRECTORY

The NC AHEC program consists of the NC AHEC program office, based in Chapel Hill, a network of nine regional AHECs that collectively reach all 100 North Carolina counties, and the Duke AHEC program. Find the North Carolina AHEC location that serves your region by the alphabetical list below.



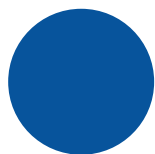
NC AHEC PROGRAM

Hugh Tilson, JD, MPH, Executive Director
145 N. Medical Drive, CB 7165
The University of North Carolina at Chapel
Hill Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7165
919-966-2461 | ncahec.net



AREA L AHEC

Debby Futrell, PharmD, President & CEO
PO Drawer 7368
Rocky Mount, NC 27804-0368
252-972-6958 | arealahec.org



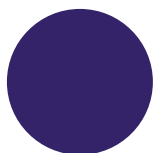
DUKE AHEC PROGRAM

Marvin Swartz, MD, Director
Duke University Medical Center
Box 3173
Durham, NC 27710
919-684-8676 | dukeahec.mc.duke.edu



EASTERN AHEC

Lorrie Basnight, MD, Executive Director
2600 West Arlington Blvd.
Greenville, NC 27835-7224
252-744-5221 | easternahec.net



MAHEC

Francisco Castelblanco, DNP, RN, Director
121 Hendersonville Rd.
Asheville, NC 28803-2868
828-257-4400 | mahec.net



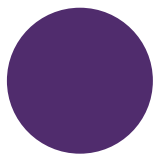
NORTHWEST AHEC

Michael Lischke, EdD, MPH, The Richard
Janeway, MD Distinguished Director
Wake Forest University Health Sciences
Medical Center Blvd.
Winston-Salem, NC 27157-3311
336-713-7700
WakeHealth.edu/Northwest-AHEC



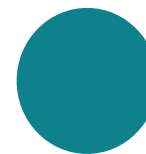
PIEDMONT AHEC

Terry Lynn, Director
Moses Cone Health System
1200 N. Elm St.
Greensboro, NC 27401-1020
336-832-8025 | piedmontahec.org



SEAHEC

Joseph Pino, MD, Executive Director
2511 Delaney Ave.
Wilmington, NC 28403-6003
910-343-0161 | seahec.net



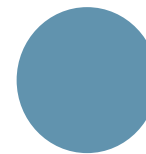
SOUTH PIEDMONT AHEC

Joann L. Spaleta, FACHE, Executive Director
PO Box 32861
Charlotte, NC 28232-2861
704-512-6523 | southpiedmontahec.org



SOUTHERN REGIONAL AHEC

Sushma Kapoor, MD, President & CEO
1601 Owen Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28304-3425
910-323-1152 | southernregionalahec.org



WAKE AHEC

Johny Perry III, MD, Executive Director
3024 New Bern Ave. Suite 301
Raleigh, NC 27610-1255
919-350-8547 | wakeahec.org

NC AHEC

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