**UC AHEC Program Activity Report**

**April - June 2024**

**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**

Awarded the Health Collaborative’s Regional Career Exploration Committee’s grant for Cincinnati Public Schools’ Riverview Academy for a day at the College of Allied Health Sciences and UC Health; Attended two Healthcare Pathways Group meetings; Project with UC Center for Ethics and Riverview East Academy on integrating ‘moral reasoning’ in the healthcare curriculum there is on pause; Served as HOSA judges for its regional event at Grant Career Center; Attended 2 CPS Strong committee meetings; Working with Cincinnati State and the Freeman Center for IDD at UC Health on a HRSA grant proposal to create a pathway for home and community-based professionals in serving IDD patients; Attended 1 Regional Career Exploration Committee meeting; Attended Woodward ‘Sticks for Kicks’ event; Pursuing idea to create co-op/intern opportunities for UC students to serve as educators/administrators for CPS to support work-based learning; Pursuing creation of mini-mass casualty incident for high school students to familiarize them with public health/police/fire/healthcare responders; Meeting with CISE/Archdiocese of Cincinnati school personnel to discuss work-based learning/pathway programs, and working with The Workforce Council, Hamilton County Mental Health and Addiction Services Board, RBHWC and Talbert House on an OhioMHAS behavioral health workforce development grant to create awareness and train high school students in inner-city and suburban Hamilton County schools on behavioral health pathways.

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

RHIG hosted Dr. Montiel Rosenthal to discuss global health/community health care, and there is a leadership transition planned for February. The Rural Physician Training Pathways group was selected to present at the National Rural Health Conference on the data collection efforts of five Ohio medical schools.

**Behavioral Health Workforce**

Work continues on the national ECHO project; Hosted successful Higher Education Learning Collaborative event on February 23 – 85 attendees with a dozen regional colleges/universities represented and a personalized video message from Governor DeWine. Committee work continues as well.

**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. We have had interprofessional learners throughout the community train on these suits. The suits were used at the Southern Hills Summer Career Academy, an event for middle and high school students interested in healthcare careers. The new UC West Chester family medicine residents will use these suits as part of their geriatrics training. These suits and simulation exercises are available to community partners for training experiences at no cost.
* Integration of AI Into Medical Education: We are working with the Division of Geriatrics and the Office of Medical Education to enhance medical students experience working with older adults in the community through AI models that engage students in case-based learning in geriatrics.

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

**AHEC Scholars**
Cohort 5 completed their second year and Cohort 6 completed their first year of AHEC Scholars interdisciplinary programming in Spring 2024. Three students graduated in Cohort 5 and twelve students in Cohort 6 continued to Year 2.

AHEC Scholars completed events and assignments that spanned topics relating to care in rural and urban underserved communities. These are:

* + **Regional AHEC Scholars Meeting: Vital Tools for Your Future in Healthcare, March 23**
	*in-person workshop*
	This workshop focused on what multiple topic areas that AHEC Scholars should be familiar with as they move forward in training for a healthcare career of any variety. This included CPR training, public health integration, and mental health self-care specifically when in a healthcare workplace.
	+ **Santa Maria Community Services Health Fair, April 13**
	*in-person*
	Scholars volunteered at this free and open-to-the-public health fair in a variety of ways to help deliver health and wellness resources. Volunteers helped more than 25 local organizations and vendors offer free health screenings, educational materials, and information about nutrition, mental health, and financial wellness.
	+ **Oregon AHEC Spring Speaker Series: Understanding the Role of Community Health Workers, Apr 3**
	*webinar*
	This session from the Oregon AHEC Scholars program was presented by the Oregon Community Health Workers Association, and highlighted the importance of the role connecting with Community Health Workers makes in rural and underserved communities.

**Milford HOSA Partnership**

The UC AHEC and Milford HOSA Partnership has continued as planned. Milford students have continued working on their projects as they prepare for the HOSA International Leadership Conference in Houston in June.

Developments have begun in planning Year 2 of the partnership and will continue throughout the summer.

Taylor and Amanda Mosley will be presenting the partnership at the HOSA ILC in June, as part of an AHEC-HOSA panel discussion.