

EASTERN AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

Part of the North Carolina AHEC Program



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The Eastern Area Health Education Center is one of nine AHECs in the North Carolina AHEC Program that link North Carolina's four academic health science centers, community hospitals and health agencies. Eastern AHEC's primary university affiliation is with East Carolina University.

The mission of the NC AHEC Program is to meet the state's health and health workforce needs by providing educational programs in partnership with academic institutions, health care agencies, and other organizations committed to improving the health of the people of North Carolina.

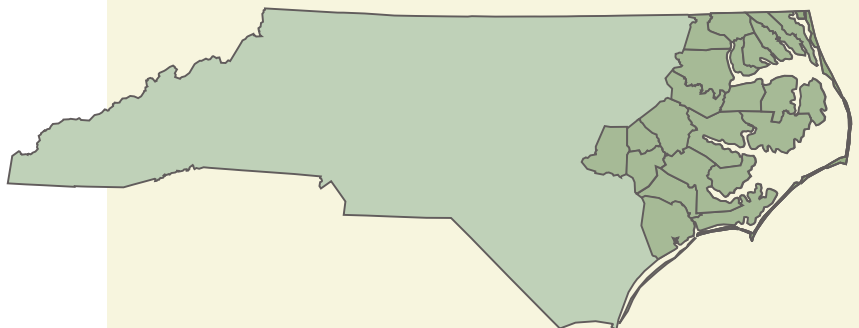
AHEC educational programs and information services are targeted toward:

- Improving the distribution and retention of health care providers, with special emphasis on primary care and prevention.
- Increasing the representation of minorities and disadvantaged populations in all health care disciplines.
- Enhancing the quality of care and improving health care outcomes.
- Addressing the health care needs of underserved communities and populations.

Eastern AHEC is an independent non-profit organization. Partnerships and collaborations are an integral part of its culture and are vital to the success of its mission. Eastern AHEC collaborates extensively with regional universities, community colleges, hospitals, health departments, mental health agencies, health care providers and many others to serve the needs of the region.

Counties Served

Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Greene, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, Washington and Wayne.



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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2007-2008 ACADEMIC YEAR

Continuing education for health care professionals

- 1,442 regional and on-site programs in Allied Health, Dentistry, Library Information Resources, Medicine, Mental Health, Nursing, Pharmacy and Public Health
- 34,614 people attended these programs
 - 1,060 were CME regional and on-site programs, offering 1,202 hours of Category 1 credit to 22,126 participants, the majority were physicians practicing in the region
 - Allied and Public Health provided 87 programs for 2,365 participants
 - Mental Health provided 88 programs to 4,128 participants
 - Nursing provided 168 programs to 5,084 participants offering 881 hours of CNE credit
 - Pharmacy provided 18 programs to 636 participants
 - Dental Health offered 21 programs to 388 dental professionals

Community-based student experiences

- Allied Health
 - Supported 890.1 student months of clinical education in Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Respiratory Therapy, Radiology Technology, Medical Laboratory Technology, and Nutrition and Hospitality Management
- Nursing
 - Supported 1,313.2 student months of undergraduate and 370.7 student months of graduate clinical rotations and 78.4 student months in the Alternate Entry Program
- Pharmacy
 - Coordinated 85 student months of clinical rotations for PharmD students
- Office of Regional Primary Care Education (ORPCE)
 - Facilitated 328.47 months of student placements for medical, nurse practitioner, nurse midwifery and physician assistant students at 134 teaching sites
 - Provided housing for 266.75 student months in 14 EAHEC housing sites

Library Outreach Services

- Completed 911 transactions involving the delivery of journal articles/books, reference assistance, and formal instructional sessions

Residency Training

Eastern AHEC supported 45 residents completing training in Family Medicine, Pediatrics, General Internal Medicine, OB/GYN, Surgery and 33 Psychiatric Medicine residents (General Psychiatry, Internal/Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent).

Community collaborations

- Collaborated with Heart Disease/Stroke Prevention Program creating the Eastern NC Regional Stroke Network developing a regional continuum of care
- Collaborated with Healthy Carolinians partnerships
- Collaborated with the Pitt County Substance Abuse Coalition to offer prevention/intervention training for mental health, health care and community providers

Workforce development and training

- Collaborated with ECU Brody School of Medicine to offer the 9th Annual NC AHEC Future Leaders in Healthcare Conference focused on technology in healthcare and exposed over 250 high school students to ECU's health sciences schools and departments
- 62 middle school students attended Camp FOCUS, a summer science enrichment experience, in partnership with Pitt County Schools
- 15 pharmacy preceptors from the region attended "Training Pharmacy Preceptors" program
- 194 RN Refresher students enrolled since 1990
- First AHEC grant for Human Patient Simulation was awarded to ECU College of Nursing to partner with Pitt Community College and supported student and faculty clinical simulation training
- Collaborated with the Eastern Carolina Fall Prevention Taskforce and the Carolina Geriatric Education Center to raise health professional awareness and screening skills when working with seniors at risk for falling
- Collaborated with the NC Center for Child and Family Health on the special needs of children and domestic violence. Provided four 1-day pilot programs reaching 250 participants.
- Offered as a statewide effort special trainings to assist mental health, primary care and healthcare practitioners in "Working with Veterans of Iraq, Afghanistan, and their Families"
- Workshop to assist in passing the LCSW examination
- Rural Health Scholars Internship and Workforce Development Initiative continues

Special or New Initiatives

- Office of CME offering consultation and support for performance improvement initiatives in 20-25 ambulatory practices. CME credit is available.
- Perinatal Outreach Education and Training continues
- An Audience Response System with handheld wireless keypads was used during 15 presentations to engage participants and immediately display results