

WCMEW

Wisconsin Council on Medical Education and Workforce

March 2022 Newsletter

WISCONSIN AHEC ACTIVITIES

Liz Bush, Wisconsin Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) State Program Director, shared information on AHEC's various programs throughout the state. Below is a brief summary, categorized by learners at various stages in their educational experience:

High School Learner

- [HOSA - Wisconsin Future Health Professionals](#) – is a program that serves high school students through the post-secondary/collegiate level and is primarily managed by the Department of Public Instruction in collaboration with Wisconsin AHEC. Wisconsin HOSA has 90 chapters in high schools throughout Wisconsin to develop leadership and technical health occupation skill competencies. Program activities include regional and statewide conferences and competitive events.
- [Future Physicians Day](#) – AHEC, in partnership with the Medical College of Wisconsin North Central Campus, holds a one-day event for high-school juniors and seniors that provides a preview into medical school and physician careers.
- [Health Careers Summer Camps](#) – AHEC partners with Upward Bound to offer a day camp focused on career exploration for students in the Upward Bound Program. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves: high school students from low-income families; and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. AHEC also offers a ["The Pulse" camp in St. Croix county](#) that offers healthcare exploration experiences over 4-days.
- [Youth Health Service Corps](#) – offers students hands-on experiences in community health in the Milwaukee area

Pre-Professional College Learner

- [AHEC Scholars](#) – Wisconsin AHEC Scholars is a two-year program designed to enhance and broaden a student's healthcare training. Each year AHEC Scholars participate in a combination of didactic and community-based experiential training in a Wisconsin rural community and/or with underserved populations. AHEC serves over 210 health professions students each year in a broad range of disciplines.
- [UW Madison MD students](#) – AHEC helps students to create projects for their Community Health Engagement Project (CHEP) as part of their Clinical and Preventative Care Rotation
- [Pre-Med students](#) – the AHEC [Advocates in Medicine Pathway Program](#) in partnership with



the MCW North Central campus.

- [Community Health Internship Program](#) – Wisconsin AHEC’s CHIP enables college students who have an interest in community health, public health and population health to work full time (40 hours per week) with local health departments, tribal health centers, community health centers and community service organizations throughout Wisconsin for an eight-week summer internship.

Practicing Health Professionals

- *Provider Workshops* – the current program focuses on provider resiliency.
- [Community Health Worker](#) –an accredited program emphasizing health promotion and maintenance, chronic disease prevention and self-care management at the community level.

A copy of AHEC’s 2021 Annual Impact one-pager can be found [here](#). It provides an overview of the programming AHEC offers and their target learner audiences – ranging from grades 9-12, pre-professional college, to practicing health care professional. AHEC’s homepage also has a short video that highlights their activities: <https://ahec.wisc.edu/>.

UW CIPE SCHOLARSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

The Scholarship Subcommittee of the UW Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education met on March 2 to discuss a potential joint UW CIPE and WCMEW initiative to ascertain the nature and extent of interprofessional training activities in Wisconsin’s healthcare education system.

Both UW CIPE and WCMEW have an interest in gathering more information on clinical IPE, and are planning to create a survey document to be sent to schools, programs, and clinical training sites. Further developments on this initiative will be reported in future newsletters.

DHS RURAL HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has announced openings for three grant programs.

- [Graduate Medical Education Development Grants](#)

[These grants](#) are designed to assist rural hospitals and groups of rural hospitals in developing accredited GME programs in a range of medical specialties needed in rural communities. Grants may also be used to establish new fellowship programs or to develop rural tracks.

Applications due date: April 22, 2022

- [Advanced Practice Clinician \(APC\) Training Grants](#)

[These grants](#) are designed to create and support new clinical training opportunities for physician

assistants (PAs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) in rural Wisconsin. APRNs include nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, clinical nurse specialists or certified registered nurse anesthetists. The goal of the grant is to expand the use of PAs and APRNs to increase access to health care in rural areas.

Application due date: May 6, 2022

- [Allied Health Professional \(AHP\) Education and Training Grants](#)

[These grants](#) are for consortia between hospitals, clinics, health systems and educational providers to establish education and training programs for allied health professionals. The goal of the grant is to increase the availability of quality education and training opportunities for critical allied health positions in rural areas of the state.

Application due date: May 6, 2022

WORKFORCE IN THE NEWS

[Hospital staffing shortages lead to fierce competition between healthcare employers](#) – Wisconsin Public Radio

Citing dangerous situations for patients due to understaffing, a recent lawsuit prevented healthcare workers from starting new jobs at a different hospital. The Director of Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative speaks about how these staff shortages are affecting rural hospitals.

[The future of telemedicine: purpose-built, integrated platforms](#) – Healthcare IT News

Propelled into mainstream use by the COVID-19 pandemic, telemedicine is becoming standard practice for many healthcare providers. According to David Ernst, MD, president of telemedicine innovator EPOWERdoc, these solutions will transform access to care and continue to drive more cost-effective delivery models, particularly at the EMS and emergency medicine level.