



SC Area Health Education Consortium

FY 2022-23 Budget Hearing | January 25, 2022

Agency Attendees

Ann Lefebvre, MSW, CPHQ

Executive Director

lefebvre@musc.edu | 843-792-3449

Ali McMenamin, MA

Director of Communications

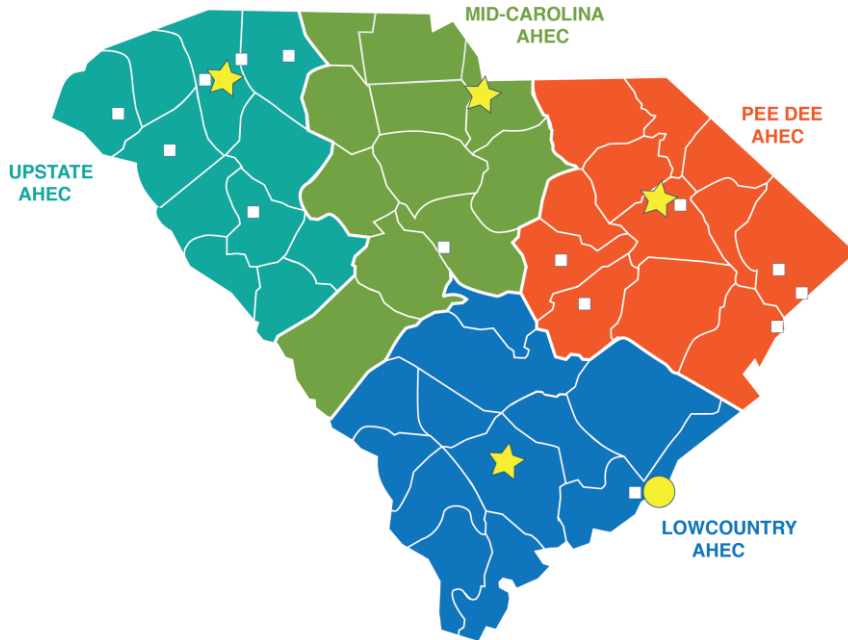
mcmenami@musc.edu | 843-792-4981

Paula Jones, MBA

Director of Health Careers Program

jonespa@musc.edu | 843-792-4443

South Carolina AHEC System



4 regional centers ★
serve the entire state

1 program office ●
housed at MUSC

14 family medicine □
residency programs

Last
Fiscal
Year

9,183

Individuals served
statewide

267,332

Contact hours of
programming delivered

Program Areas



Health Careers Pipeline Program

Supports diverse high school and college students on their paths to becoming healthcare professionals, building a future healthcare workforce that is representative of the communities it serves.



Recruitment & Retention Program

Provides financial incentives to healthcare professionals who practice in rural and underserved areas to improve the distribution of providers statewide.



Health Professions Student Program

Provides community-based training experiences, exposing students to the opportunities of working in rural and underserved areas of South Carolina.



Continuing Professional Development

Enhances clinical skills, addresses ongoing and emerging health trends and helps professionals maintain their licensure and certifications.



Graduate Medical Education

Works collaboratively with all of the family medicine residency programs in the state to facilitate recruitment for high-quality training in family medicine in South Carolina.



SC Office for Healthcare Workforce

Analyzes data and provides policy-relevant information about the healthcare workforce in South Carolina.

FY21 AHEC Program Highlights



Continuing Professional Development

- 10,093 registrations from health professionals in medically-underserved communities
- 4,967 registrations from health professionals in rural communities
- 79,394 total contact hours of training and education



Recruitment & Retention Programs

- Rural Incentive Grant Program:
 - 91* providers active in the Rural Incentive Grant Program, practicing in 36 counties
 - Including 27 new providers funded in FY21
(11 Physicians, 13 Nurse Practitioners, 2 Physician Assistants, 1 Certified Nurse Midwife)
- Rural Dentist Loan Repayment
 - 6 new dentists funded in FY21: 5 dentists and 1 MUSC dental faculty

**provider count as of close of FY21, subject to change.*

FY21 AHEC Program Highlights



Graduate Medical Education

- 280 residents training in SC Family Medicine Residency Programs
- Provide support for national recruitment, Family Medicine Interest Day, and resident training in pharmacotherapy



SC Office for Healthcare Workforce

- Analyzes data and provides policy-relevant information about the healthcare workforce in South Carolina
- New publications:
 - A Snapshot of Health Workforce Diversity in South Carolina
 - The Registered Nurse Workforce in South Carolina - 2018
 - *Coming Soon: 2021 Health Professions Data Book*

COVID-19 Expenditures

\$95,455 CARES Act funding assigned to AHEC by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA/HHS)

Amount	Date Received	Date Required to be Spent	Relief Bill or Fed. Grant Title	Summary of Need/Use	Spent	Remaining
\$95,455	5/1/2020	4/30/2021	Area Health Education Centers Program COVID	Assigned to AHEC by HRSA to provide trainings about and promote the use of telehealth in response to COVID-19 and to provide trainings to healthcare professionals and students related to COVID-19	\$95,351.28	\$103.72

Budget Requests

South Carolina AHEC has no:

- Non-recurring requests
- Capital requests
- Proviso requests

Recurring Budget Requests

Priority 1

Health Careers Pipeline Program

\$670,000

Priority 2

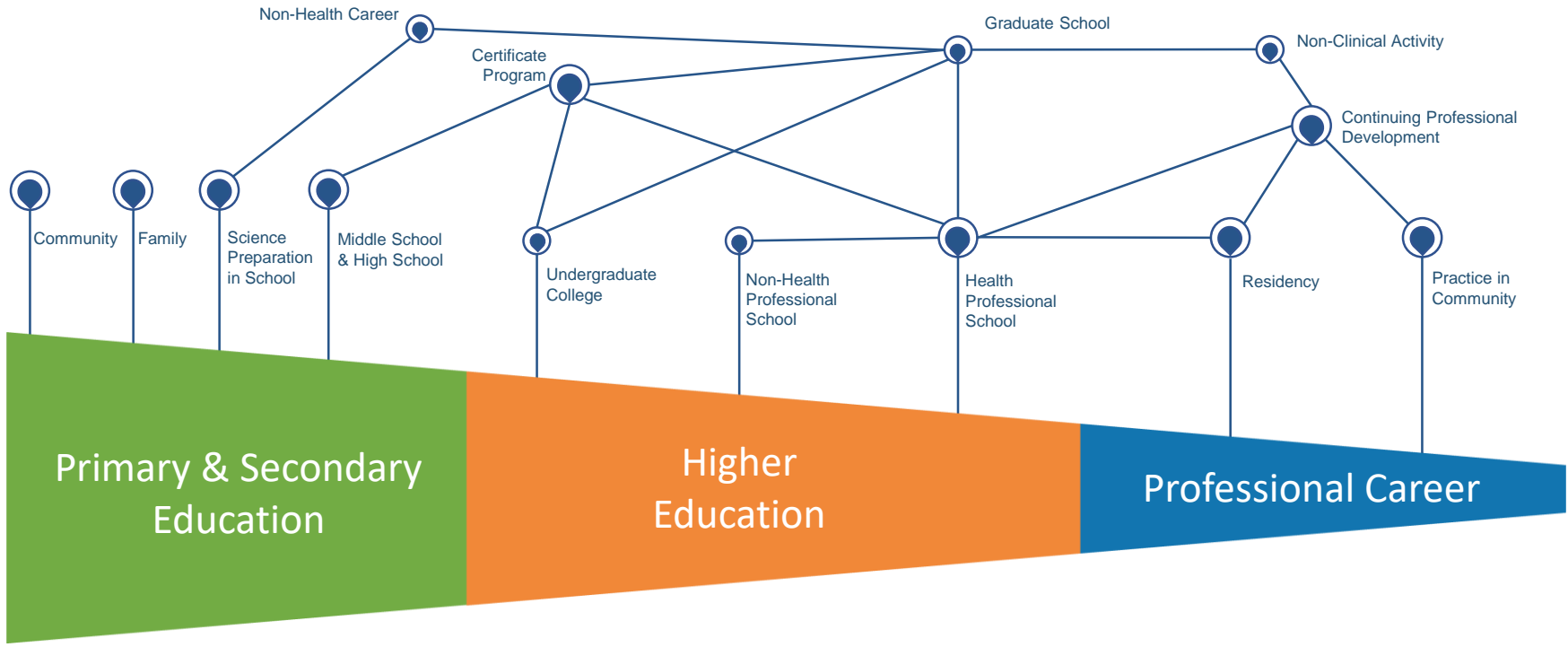
Rural Clinical Student Placement Support

\$320,000

Health Careers Pipeline Program

Budget Request Priority 1: \$670,000

Healthcare Workforce Pipeline



Graphic Credit: North Carolina AHEC

The Case for a Diverse Workforce

“ By building a more diverse health workforce, the United States would improve access and improve outcomes in underserved communities and for high-need populations.”

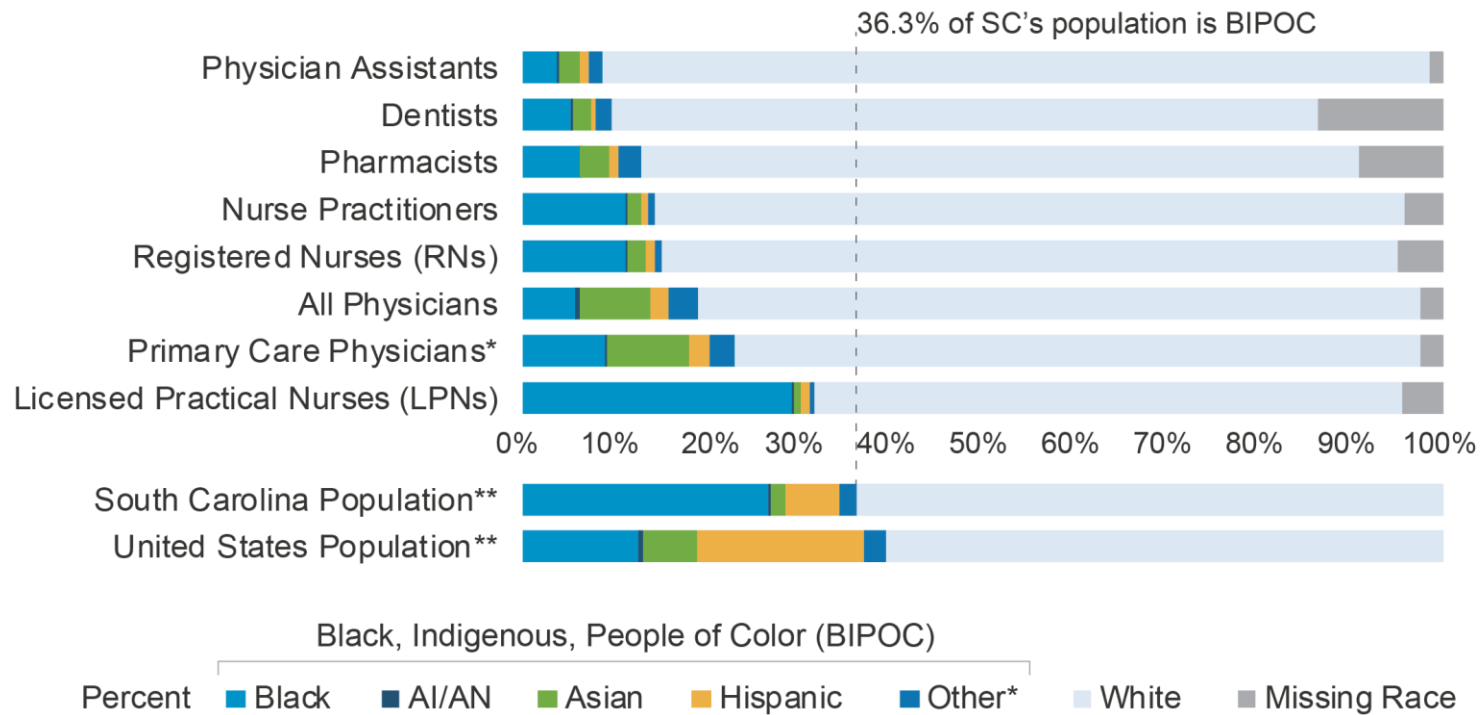
Toyese Oyeyemi, MPH, CHES

George Washington University Today, Retrieved from <https://gwtoday.gwu.edu/new-study-finds-severe-lack-diversity-health-care-workforce>
Co-author: Estimation and Comparison of Current and Future Racial/Ethnic Representation in the US Health Care Workforce, *Health Policy*, March 31, 2021.

Healthcare Workforce Diversity

Communities are better served by a workforce that reflects the diverse range of their populations.

Racial Diversity of Selected Licensed Health Professionals – South Carolina 2017-2019



A Snapshot of Health Workforce Diversity in South Carolina | 2021

See brief for full data explanations and data for other professions. Available at <https://www.scahec.net/scohw/reports/135>



The Healthcare Workforce

Physical Therapy Assistant Medical Imaging Technologist Cardiopulmonary Technologist
Psycho-Educational Specialist Medical Lab Technician Medical Technologist Radiologic Technician
Occupational Therapy Assistant Victim Advocate Dental Hygienist Clinical Laboratory Technician
Nuclear Medicine Technologist Nurse Educator Nursing Assistant Marriage And Family Therapist
Dietary Manager Dental Assistant Maintenance Staff Community Health Worker Speech Pathologist
Registered Nurse Certified Nursing Assistant Pharmacist Ophthalmic Med Tech
Rehabilitation Audiologist Public Health Nurse Administrator Housekeeping Staff Clinical Laboratory Technologist
Prosthetist Orthotist Medical Records OB/Gyn Psychiatrist Nurse Technician Physical Therapist
Clinical Perfusionist Health Administration Physician Physician Assistant Occupational Therapist
Cytotechnologist Dentist Health Information Surgeon Administrative Assistant Electrocardiograph Tech
Sonographer Pharmacy Tech EMT Pediatrician Paramedic Home Health Aide
Athletic Trainer Chiropractor Anesthesiologist Podiatrist Phlebotomist
Histologic Tech Foodservice Worker Nurse Anesthetist Dental Public Health Psychologist
Patient Care Technician Social Worker Licensed Practical Nurse Nurse Midwife Dietetic Technician
Speech Therapist Nurse Practitioner Long Term Care Facility Admin Dietitian Counselor Recreation Therapist
Massage Therapist Researcher Case Manager Nutritionist Electroencephalograph Tech
Chaplain Community Health Education Specialist
Radiation Therapy Tech Medical Assistant Advanced Practice Nurse Surgical Tech Respiratory Therapy Tech
Respiratory Therapist

AHEC Health Careers Program



- Support diverse high school and early college students from rural and disadvantaged parts of the state on their paths to becoming healthcare professionals
- Building a future healthcare workforce that will reflect the diverse range of communities it serves in South Carolina

Last
Fiscal
Year

52%

**HCP Students Identified as Black,
Indigenous and/or People of Color***

*Percent of total students for whom race/ethnicity data was available/provided

46%

**HCP Students from
Rural Areas**

HCP is Workforce Development



Job Exposure

- Expose students to new career possibilities
- Meet and shadow practicing professionals
- Position students for employment opportunities

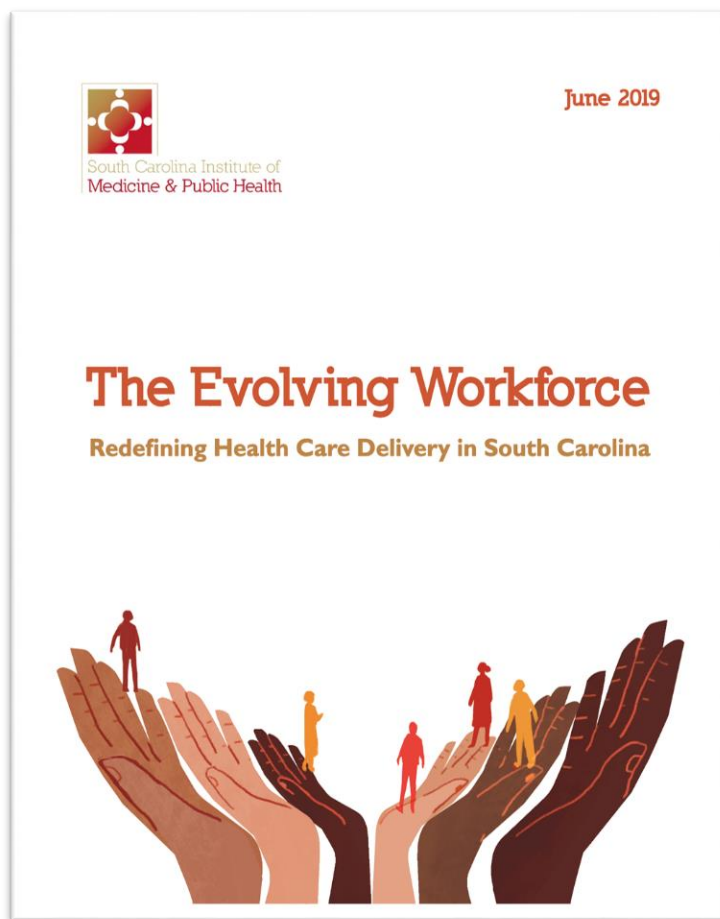
Career Preparation

- Prepare students for what is needed to pursue career
- Hands-on experience in labs, skills & job training
 - CNA, Pharm Tech, CPR training

Academic Support

- Visits to colleges/universities
- Learn about academic requirements & financial aid
- Meet with admissions representatives & selection committees
- Standardized test preparation

Health Workforce Taskforce Recommendations



Training and Educating Health and Human Service Providers

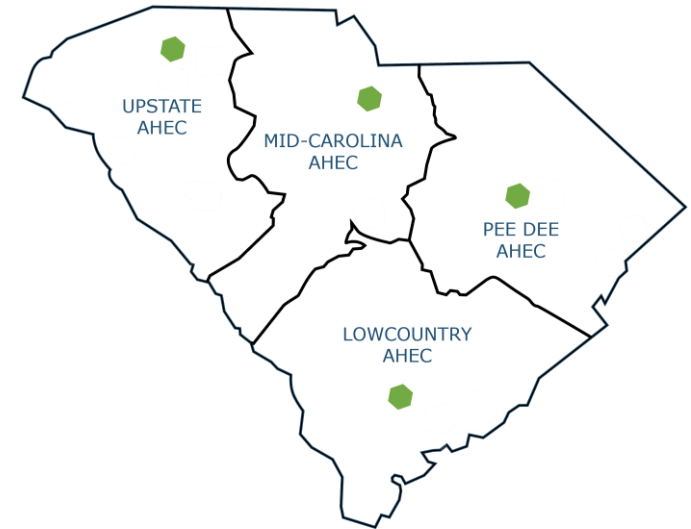
The Taskforce encourages the State Legislature to consider expanding funding for AHEC's Health Careers Programs, the Arnold School of Public Health's Community Health Workers Institute (CHWI) at the University of South Carolina and other programs that support health and human service providers.

Recommendation B-2, Action Step 1

Increased Funding = Increased Impact

\$400,000 in personnel* expenses to hire at regional AHEC centers increases:

- Programming in more schools
- Support to students across the state
- Collaboration with more community partners
- Bridging the gap for students between high schools and rural, regional hospitals



\$270,000 for funds for programmatic use will provide:

- More standardized test preparation (\$170,000)
- More workshops and certifications, materials for skills labs and hands-on experiences (\$100,000)

**Personnel hired at contracted regional centers are not state employees/FTEs*



Success Story: Health Careers Program

“The Health Careers Program offered by SC AHEC has been an awesome experience for me this year . . . I have gained an abundance of information that has been very beneficial in preparing me to reach my career goals . . . I am confident that the skills and knowledge gained through the Health Careers Program will allow me to excel academically and professionally as I embark upon my journey towards my career in healthcare. I highly recommend anyone interested in a career in healthcare to join and actively participate in the Health Careers Program.”

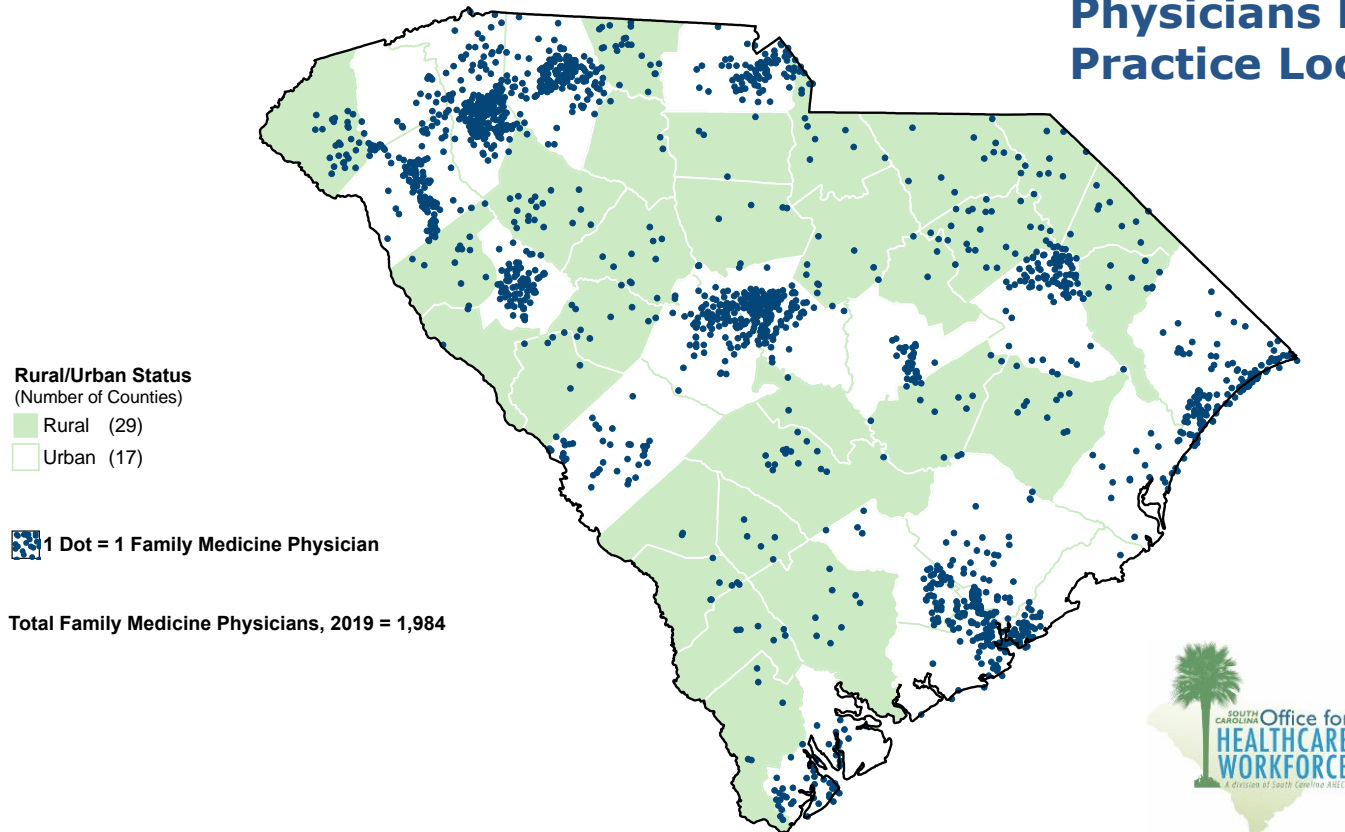
Shekinah W., Student from Orangeburg

Rural Clinical Student Placement Support

Budget Request Priority 2: \$320,000

Healthcare Workforce Distribution

Family Medicine Physicians by Primary Practice Location, 2019



This information is based on all physicians with a primary specialty of family medicine that have an active license to practice and a primary practice location in a nonfederal setting in South Carolina as of 9/1/2019. Counts are based on self-reported primary practice location and include residents-in-training. Dots are randomly scattered within the zip code area and may not represent the actual street address of the practice.

Source: South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce, SC AHEC, with data collected by the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation and obtained from the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural/2010-urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on the 2010 Census counts.



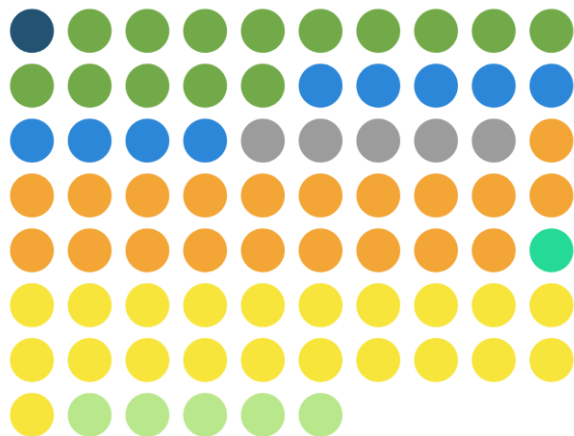
Rural Training Supports Rural Practice

Evidence shows when health professions students are exposed to training experiences in rural/underserved areas during their education, they are more likely to ultimately practice in a rural/underserved area.

SC AHEC Scholars

Prepares students for interprofessional primary care practice and service to rural and underserved populations.

Third Cohort of AHEC Scholars



- Dental (1)
- Medicine (14)
- Nurse Practitioner (9)
- Occupational Therapy (5)
- Pharmacy (20)
- Physical Therapy (1)
- Physician Assistant (21)
- Social Work (5)

To date:

125 Students Enrolled

8 Disciplines

6 Educational Institutions

88%

of Scholars say they are likely to practice in a rural area

95%

of Scholars say they are likely to practice in an underserved area



AHEC Health Professions Student Programs

Expose students to the opportunities of working in rural and underserved areas of South Carolina



Facilitating student placements in rural/underserved communities



Recruiting preceptors and clinical teaching sites



Assisting students with housing in rural communities



Orienting students to communities



Linking students to community-based projects



Facilitating interprofessional education activities



Providing logistical and technology support to practices

HPS Program in the last fiscal year:

353

Preceptors

214

Community-Based
Training Sites

930 Student training
placements



59% in a rural setting



43% in a medically
underserved setting

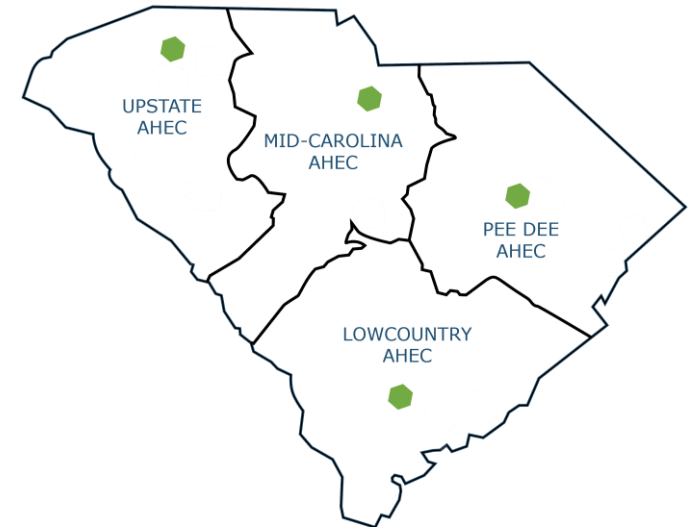


52% in a primary care
setting

Increased Funding = Increased Capacity

\$280,000 in personnel* expenses to hire at regional AHEC centers increases:

- Support for student placements
- Ability to reduce administrative burden from teaching sites
- Capacity to meet increased demand for student placements and rotation support



\$40,000 for funds for programmatic use will provide:

- Rural rotation support resources - including additional housing capacity for students on rural rotations in the Mid-Carolina and Pee Dee regions

**Personnel hired at contracted regional centers are not state employees/FTEs*

Success Story: Rural Rotations



“From actively participating in the care of a diverse patient population, to helping with weekly COVID vaccination outreach, the AHEC Rural Family Medicine Rotation was an immersive educational experience for me. In the rural setting, students are able to appreciate the broad scope of practice afforded to family medicine physicians, who serve as urgent and longitudinal care providers, diagnosticians, counselors, coordinators, community leaders, and educators. The value of learning from a rural primary care provider cannot be overstated, nor can their importance to their communities.”

Layne W., MUSC Medical Student

Questions?

*South Carolina AHEC builds and supports the healthcare workforce
South Carolina needs for every community to have access to
diverse, high-quality, patient-focused care.*

www.scahec.net