Summary of Partnership
July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005
Caldwell County

**Library/Information**—Caldwell Memorial Hospital has been a member of the library services group (formerly known as Library Information Network (LINK) and now Health Library Information Network for Education -- HealthLINE) for many years. Caldwell Memorial Hospital has provided an annual payment of $13,584 to Northwest AHEC for library services. Attached are an overall value statement and an EXCEL chart showing what this hospital pays compared to what would have to be paid on a fee-for-service basis and the estimated cost of housing its own basic library without online resources. More information about this service can be found at the Northwest AHEC website -- [http://northwestahec.wfubmc.edu](http://northwestahec.wfubmc.edu) or by contacting Ms. Nancy Stine at (704) 210-5587.

**Continuing Education**—Northwest AHEC CE activities are marketed to healthcare professionals of Caldwell Memorial Hospital. During this past fiscal year, 199 healthcare professionals registered 602 times for CE activities.

The Nursing Management Institute (NMI), an online management curriculum for new or aspiring nurse managers, managed by Northwest AHEC reported that 72 nurses enrolled from Caldwell Memorial Hospital. NMI is just one of several online courses. More information about CE activities can be found on our website or by contacting Ms. Marie Simos at (336) 713-7721.

**Health Careers**—Northwest AHEC offers health careers awareness programs in schools for grades K-8. Local students and staff from Catawba County participated in health careers' presentations offered by Northwest AHEC:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
<th>Grade Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 19, 2004</td>
<td>Whitnel Elementary</td>
<td>Health Careers Puppet Bunch &amp; CATCH</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>Kindergarten &amp; 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8, 2004</td>
<td>Dudley Shoals Elementary</td>
<td>Health Careers Puppet Bunch &amp; CATCH</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>1st &amp; 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12, 2005</td>
<td>Granite Falls Elementary</td>
<td>Health Careers Puppet Bunch &amp; CATCH</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Caldwell County participated in the Summer Camp Med program which is a partnership between Caldwell County High School, Caldwell Memorial Hospital, and Northwest AHEC. Each partnership is offered $1,500 in support of the program which usually involves having a hospital work with the local school system to organize a one week, day camp for high school students to explore a variety of health careers. A total of 15 students participated in 20 hours of health careers exploration in Camp Med Caldwell County.

Additionally, two students from Caldwell County participated in Northwest AHECs Project SEARCH Academy (Student Education, Awareness and Recruitment for Careers in Health) which is a one week residential summer camp on the campus of Wake Forest University. Rising eighth grade students are exposed to a variety of health science presentations and observation tours. Information about other North-west AHEC youth programs can be found by going to our website and selecting the topic “Health Careers Diversity & Recruitment” or by contacting Mr. Bernard Roper at (336) 713-7714.

Northwest AHEC also offers the UNC-Chapel Hill RN Refresher Program to nurses whose licenses have lapsed. The curriculum consists of didactic learning and a clinical practicum. Students engage in their clinical practicum at a variety of hospitals in the Northwest AHEC region with which we have contracts. Caldwell Memorial Hospital is one of our RN Refresher clinical practicum sites. The number of RN Refresher students who completed the program at Caldwell Memorial Hospital this past fiscal year was three. If interested, healthcare organizations in the county may contact Ms. Sue Ratcliffe at (336) 713-7715 to learn more about these potential opportunities.
Medical/Physician Assistant Students—Many medical and physician assistant students rotate with local physicians who bring students with them to see patients in their hospital. Overnight student accommodations are available if needed for all students. Northwest AHEC’s Office of Regional Primary Care Education (ORPCE) provides administrative and financial support for these preceptors and students with their rotations in community settings. A total of 17 students have rotated in Caldwell County for a total of 61 student weeks between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005. Interested physicians should contact Ms. Angela Hodges at (336) 713-7717.

Community Health Partnerships—Northwest AHEC provides technical assistance, consultation, and training to health coalitions in the region to support their efforts for local health improvement. Many of the current coalitions which Northwest AHEC supports are members of North Carolina’s Healthy Carolinians Program. Caldwell County’s Healthy Carolinians coordinator regularly attends our Coalition Coordinators' Network meetings.

Northwest AHEC received a small grant as part of the UNC Health Initiative to be utilized with all certified Healthy Carolinians (HC) of which Caldwell County is one. Our plan was to conduct focus groups with all HC coordinators to determine their input in the design of a faculty consultation service to Healthy Carolinians partnerships from the UNC system schools. The project began in spring 2005 and will end in December 2005. One focus group was completed in FY 2004-2005. For more information about this service, go to our website: [http://northwestahec.wfubmc.edu](http://northwestahec.wfubmc.edu) or contact Ms. Anita Pulley at (336) 713-7719.