Summary of Partnership
July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005
Burke County Health Department

Library/Information—Broughton Hospital and the J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center have been members of the library services group (formerly known as Library Information Network (LINK) and now Health Library and Information Network for Education -- HealthLINE) for many years. Each of these organizations has provided an annual payment of $6,368 to Northwest AHEC for library services. Attached are overall value statements and EXCEL charts showing what these two organizations pay compared to what would have to be paid on a fee-for-service basis and the estimated cost of housing their 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 Burke County Health Department. During this past fiscal year, healthcare professionals from this organization registered 21 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 170 nurses enrolled from Broughton Hospital. No enrollees have been reported from Grace Hospital (Blue Ridge HealthCare), the J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center or Valdese Hospital (Blue Ridge HealthCare). 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 Burke 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 Levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 17, 2005</td>
<td>Salem Elementary</td>
<td>Health Careers Puppet Bunch and CATCH</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 8, 2005</td>
<td>Valdese Elementary</td>
<td>Health Careers Puppet Bunch and CATCH</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>1st &amp; 4th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Burke County participated in the Summer Camp Med program which is a partnership between Burke County High School, Blue Ridge HealthCare (Grace and Valdese Hospitals), 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 18 students participated in 20 hours of health careers exploration in Camp Med Burke County. Information about other Northwest 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. Grace Hospital (a part of the Blue Ridge HealthCare System) is one of our RN Refresher clinical practicum sites where there were no RN Refresher students who completed the program this past fiscal year. 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 22 students have...
rotated in Burke County for a total of 73 student weeks for this past fiscal year. 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.

Northwest AHEC received a small grant as part of the UNC Health Initiative to be utilized with all certified Healthy Carolinians (HC) of which Burke 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 and other services and programs offered by Northwest AHEC, go to our website: [http://northwestahec.wfubmc.edu](http://northwestahec.wfubmc.edu) or contact Ms. Anita Pulley at (336) 713-7719.