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

Library/Information—Davis Regional Medical Center, Iredell Memorial Hospital, and Lake Norman Regional Medical 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. Davis Regional Medical Center, Iredell Memorial Hospital, and Lake Norman Regional Medical Center have provided annual payments of $10,037, $10,437, and $10,992, respectively to Northwest AHEC for library services. Attached are overall value statements and EXCEL charts showing what these medical centers pay compared to what would have to be paid on a fee-for-service basis and the estimated cost of housing their own basic libraries without online resources. More information about this service can be found at the Northwest AHEC website -- 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 Iredell County Health Department. During this past fiscal year, healthcare professionals from this organization registered 18 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 one nurse enrolled from Davis Regional Medical Center, four enrolled from Iredell Memorial Hospital, and seven enrolled from Lake Norman Regional Medical Center. NMI is just one of several online courses available. More information about CE activities can be found on our website or by contacting Ms. Marie Simos at (336) 713-7721.

Health Careers— Northwes...
Additionally, one student from Iredell County participated in the NC AHECs annual “Future Leaders in Healthcare Conference” held in Greensboro last year. This educational conference provides high school students who are interested in health careers, an opportunity to learn more about health occupations while also learning more about the post-secondary programs oriented toward careers in health. Two students from Iredell 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 Northwest AHEC youth programs can be found by going to our website and selecting the topic “Health Careers Diversity & Recruitment” or contact Mr. Bernard Roper at (336) 713-7714.

Northwest AHEC also offers an 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. Iredell Memorial Hospital and Lake Norman Regional Medical Center are two of our RN Refresher clinical practicum sites. During the past fiscal year, no students completed the program at Iredell Memorial Hospital while one student completed the program at Lake Norman Regional Medical Center. 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 51 students have rotated in Iredell County for a total of 147 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. Iredell County’s Healthy Carolinians coordinator has attended the Coalition Coordinators Network meeting. The current project with Iredell County has been focused on consulting and meeting facilitation in the start up phase of their Healthy Carolinians task force, review of bylaws, and consulting with the coordinator on issues involved in starting a coalition. For more information about this service, go to our website: http://northwestahec.wfubmc.edu or contact Ms. Anita Pulley at (336) 713-7719.