Summary of Partnership
July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007
Thomasville Medical Center

HEALTH CAREERS, DIVERSITY & RECRUITMENT
Northwest AHEC (NW AHEC) offers health careers awareness programs (30-45 minutes per program) in schools for grades K-8 and structured programs for grades 9-12 (20 hours or more).

Grade K-8— A total of 1,028 local students and staff from Davidson County participated in six health careers’ presentations as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Presentation*</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/15/06</td>
<td>Brier Creek Elementary</td>
<td>Puppet Bunch; CATCH</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/16/07</td>
<td>Charles England</td>
<td>Elementary CATCH</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/9/07</td>
<td>Davis-Townsend</td>
<td>Elementary Puppet Bunch; CATCH</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/14/07</td>
<td>Thomasville Primary</td>
<td>Puppet Bunch</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Puppet Bunch is designed for grades K-2, CATCH for grades 3-5, and Cool People, Cool Careers for grades 6-8.

Grades 9-12— Davidson County held its first Summer Camp Med program during summer 2007 which was a partnership between Davidson Community College and Lexington Memorial Hospital. Each partnership is offered $1,500 in support of the program which usually consists of a collaborative effort between the local hospital and 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 14 students participated in a total of 20 hours of health careers exploration in Camp Med Davidson County. NW AHEC will make this offer again in November 2007 for a summer 2008 program.

There were no student representatives from Davidson County during the NC AHEC annual “Future Leaders in Healthcare Conference” which was held during the fiscal year. This educational conference provides high school students from across the state, 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. Students from Davidson County have participated in the past in this educational activity and are anticipated to do in the future. There were two student representatives from Davidson County for the summer 2007 Northwest AHEC Project SEARCH Academy (Student Education, Awareness and Recruitment for Careers in Health)—a one week, residential summer camp on the campus of Wake Forest University during which 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: northwestahec.org or by contacting Mr. Bernard Roper at (336) 713-7714.

HEALTH SCIENCES STUDENT SUPPORT
Medical/Physician Assistant Students— Many medical and physician assistant students rotate with local physicians in Davidson County who bring students with them to see patients in their hospital. Overnight student accommodations are available if needed for all students. The Northwest AHEC 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 127 students have rotated in Davidson County for a total of 126 student weeks for this past fiscal year. Some communities have begun to use these student rotation opportunities to develop a community relationship with these students and begin to recruit their interest of potential placement when they have completed their formal health careers degrees. Interested physicians should contact Ms. Angela Hodges at (336) 713-7717.

CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES & SERVICES
Northwest AHEC CE activities are marketed to healthcare professionals of TMC. In FY07, 17 TMC unique staff members and affiliated physicians enrolled 25 times in Northwest AHEC continuing education activities. More information about CE activities can be found on our website: northwestahec.org or by contacting Ms. Marie Simos at (336) 713-7721.

Nursing Management Institute—The Nursing Management Institute (NMI), an online management curriculum an online management curriculum for new or aspiring nurse managers, created and offered by Northwest AHEC in partnership with Greensboro AHEC, reported no enrollments from TMC. NMI is just one of several online courses available. More information can be found at the Northwest AHEC website: northwestahec.org or by contacting Ms. Ellen Kesler at (704) 210-5068.
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. NW AHEC co-sponsors, with the Northwest Office of Healthy Carolinians Consultant, quarterly meetings of the Coalition Coordinators’ Network (CCN). Topics this past fiscal year were: Charting a New Course for Chronic Illness Care in Your Community, African-American Churches Eating Smart and Moving More, and Health Literacy. Davidson County’s Healthy Carolinians group was represented by three attendees during the CCN meetings. For more information about this service, go to our website northwestahec.org or contact Ms. Ellen Kesler at (704) 210-5068.

RN Refresher Program— Northwest AHEC also offers the RN Refresher Program to nurses who want to reinstate their license or update their skills. 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. There are no contracts with hospitals in Davidson County; therefore no students have completed the program during this past fiscal year. Most institutions providing the clinical rotations for these students use the opportunity to recruit them for employment once students have successfully completed the program and have earned their RN credentials. If interested, health care organizations should contact Ms. Kay Herr at (336) 713-7720 to learn more about potential opportunities.

INFORMATION & LIBRARY SERVICES
TMC is not a member of the Northwest AHEC Information and Library Services. More information about these services can be found at the Northwest AHEC website: northwestahec.org or by contacting Ms. Nancy Stine at (704) 210-5587.

COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Quality Improvement Initiative— Northwest AHEC has been actively involved in a major quality improvement initiative over the past year, the North Carolina Rapid Response Team Learning Collaborative. Rapid Response teams are one of the original six interventions of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement’s 100,000 Lives Campaign. The NC RRT Learning Collaborative was one of nine RRT grantees nationwide that were funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Partners included the North Carolina Hospital Association, the other NC regional AHECs, the Carolinas Center for Medical Excellence, VHA, and Premier. The goal of the collaborative was to develop, implement, and sustain rapid response teams in 50 North Carolina hospitals.

Fifty-five hospitals across the state participated in the collaborative including Thomasville Medical Center. Northwest AHEC staff provided support to the Rapid Response Team at Thomasville Medical Center. This support was provided through face-to-face meetings, conference calls, technical assistance, links to resources, and encouragement.