NORTHWESTAHEC
Linking Education, Practice and Communities for Better Health
35th Anniversary 1974 - 2009

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL of MEDICINE

Summary of Partnership
July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008
Rowan County Health Department

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 (twenty hours or more).

Grades K-8— A total of **776** local students and staff from Rowan County participated in **nine** health careers' presentations as follows:

Date	School	Presentation*	Number of Students
10/2/07	Woodleaf Elementary	Puppet Bunch; CATCH	113
11/2/07	Erwin Middle	Cool People, Cool Careers	293
11/8/07	Mt. Ulla Elementary	Puppet Bunch; CATCH	109
12/11/07	Faith Elementary	Puppet Bunch; CATCH	140
1/8/08	Cleveland Elementary	Puppet Bunch, CATCH	121

***** 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— Rowan County participated in the Summer Camp Med Program which was a partnership between Rowan-Salisbury Schools and Rowan Regional Medical Center (RRMC). 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 **21** students participated in **20 hours** of health careers exploration in Camp Med Rowan County. NW AHEC will make this offer again in November 2008 for a summer 2009 program.

There were no student representatives from Rowan 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. However, students from Rowan County have participated in the past and are expected to do so in the future. There were **2** student representatives from Rowan County for the summer 2008 NW 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 NW 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 Rowan County who bring students with them to see patients in their hospital. Overnight student accommodations are available if needed for all students. The NW 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 **36** students rotated in Rowan County for a total of **119** 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 Rowan County Health Department. During this past fiscal year, **10** unique RCHD healthcare professionals registered **14** times for Northwest AHEC continuing education activities. Listed below is a summary of Grand Rounds activity, accredited by the Office of Continuing Medical Education of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, conducted at RRMC. More information about CE activities can be found on our website: **northwestahec.org** or by contacting Ms. Marie Simos at (336) 713-7721.

Rowan Regional Medical Center Grand Rounds

Time of Year	Activity Type	Number of Activities	Number of Participants
Fall 2007	Grand Rounds	10	153
Spring 2008	Grand Rounds	14	240

Nursing Management Institute— The Nursing Management Institute (NMI), an online management curriculum for new or aspiring nurse managers, created and offered by Northwest AHEC in partnership with Greensboro AHEC, reported **two** enrollments from **one** unique individual from the VAMC. NMI is just one of several online courses available. More information can be found on our 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*. F**ive** attendees represented Rowan County's Healthy Carolinians group 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 Rowan County; therefore no students have enrolled in 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

RRMC has been a major partner and member of the Northwest AHEC Information and Library Services for many years. Likewise, the VAMC has been a long term member of our library services. Below are listed RRMC's and VAMC's usage of library services:

Rowan Regional MC	**7/1/04-6/30/05**	**7/1/05-6/30/06**	**7/1/06-6/30/07**	**7/1/07-6/30/08**
Document Delivery Request[1]	1075	725	947	1267
ADL[2] Registered Users	345	62	101	83
ADL Users who logged into the ADL	63	58	58	44
Total Number of ADL logins	1599	835	689	638
Number of Site Visits[3]	26OR; 3EC	2OR; 2EC	2EC	4;2EC
Number of Search Requests	160	94	125	28
Number of Consults[4]	82	49	570	742

VA Medical Center	**7/1/04-6/30/05**	**7/1/05-6/30/06**	**7/1/06-6/30/07**	**7/1/07-6/30/08**
Document Delivery Request[1]	270	463	484	437
ADL[2] Registered Users	1051	55	84	42
ADL Users who logged into the ADL	44	41	50	30
Total Number of ADL logins	667	401	542	493
Number of Site Visits[3]	2	0	0	2EC
Number of Search Requests	11	2	1	2
Number of Consults[4]	23	9	18	73

1--Materials checked out from library collection; items from library collection which have been used and reshelved; photocopies made by library staff from library collection; and documents borrowed from a library outside of the Northwest AHEC Library system.
2 -- AHEC Digital Library
3 -- Site visits are meetings with Northwest AHEC institutional members for education, administration, promotion or consult purposes which are located away from WFUSM, Catawba Valley Medical Center, Rowan Regional Medical Center, and Watauga Medical Center.
4 -- Consults include telephone, email or in person; includes number of consultations to preceptor sites; categories of assistance can range from various types of technology assists to accreditation preparation, collection development, and training library contacts.
a-OR= orientation

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.