WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL of MEDICINE

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

Caldwell County
Summary of Partnership
July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

HEALTH CAREERS, DIVERSITY & RECRUITMENT

- Northwest AHEC (NW AHEC) offers highly interactive 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). Activities for the current and past three fiscal years are listed below for Caldwell County:

Grades K-8—A total of **4,696** students from Caldwell participated in health careers' presentations comprised of 458 students and 6 presentations by Northwest AHEC staff and 4,238 students in the Catawba Science Center Program supported by Northwest AHEC.

Date	School	Presentation	# Students
10/28/2008	Whitnel Elementary	Puppet Bunch; CATCH	154
12/12/2008	Dudley Shoals Elementary	Puppet Bunch; CATCH	165
4/3/2009	Sawmills Elementary	Puppet Bunch; CATCH	139
		Total	**458**

- **Puppet Bunch -** designed for grades K-2; uses multi-ethnic puppets, a video, and a coloring book to teach young children about three health careers
- **CATCH** (Catch A Totally Cool Health career) - designed for grades 3-5; provides information about more than 10 health careers
- **Cool People, Cool Careers** - designed for grades 6-8; provides information about more than 10 health careers

Health Careers Awareness Programs Trend in Caldwell County

Year	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
# Schools	5	2	4	3
# Presentations	9	4	7	6
# Students	838	344	714	458

Catawba Science Center's "Health Investigators!" Science Inquiry Festival

- Northwest AHEC was the lead sponsor of the Catawba Science Center's (CSC) 2008-2009 Science Inquiry Festival.
- CSC's major outreach to schools is a hands-on program that serves about 20,000 children and teachers annually.
- A total of 11,535 students from 8 of the 17 counties within the Northwest AHEC region participated in the first in-school fair.
- **4,238** students participated from Caldwell County.

Grades 9-12—

- **NC AHEC annual Future Leaders in Health Care Conference –** an educational conference for high school students statewide to learn more about health occupations as well as learn more about post-secondary programs oriented toward careers in health. One student participated from Caldwell County.
- **Camp Med Caldwell County** – partnership between Caldwell County Public Schools and Caldwell Memorial Hospital (CMH); NW AHEC provides $1,500 in support program; 21 students participated from Caldwell County; NW AHEC makes this offer each fall for the upcoming summer.
- **Project SEARCH Academy** (Student Education, Awareness and Recruitment for Careers in Health) - a one week, residential summer camp on Wake Forest University campus during which rising eighth grade students are exposed to a variety of health science presentations, Problem-Based Learning, and take medical center tours. No students participated from Caldwell County.
- 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 or broper@wfubmc.edu

HEALTH SCIENCES STUDENT SUPPORT

- Many **medical** and **physician assistant students** rotate with local precepting physicians and accompany them to see patients where the physicians have practicing privileges.
- 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.
- Some communities use these student rotation opportunities to develop relationships with the students for potential future placement upon degree completion. Detailed student rotation information is provided on a quarterly basis to Ms. Laura Easton, CEO Caldwell Memorial Hospital.
- Physicians interested in becoming preceptors should contact Ms. Angela Hodges at (336) 713-7717 or ahodges@wfubmc.edu

Health Sciences Student Rotations in Caldwell County

	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
# Students in rotation	26	34	37	40
# Students weeks	71	103	120	134

Student week: can be 1 student for 1 week; 4 student weeks can be 1 student for 4 weeks or 4 students for 1 week each, etc.

CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

- Northwest AHEC CE activities are marketed to healthcare professionals of Caldwell County.
- More information about CE activities can be found on our website: **northwestahec.org** or by contacting Ms. Marie Simos at (336) 713-7721or msimos@wfubmc.edu

Caldwell County Healthcare Professionals' CE Activity

	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
# Unique registrants	86	129	99	118
# Registrations	406	503	279	216

Nurse Educator Institute

- The Nurse Educator Institute (NEI) is a 60-contact hour competency-based curriculum that includes four online learning modules and meets specific NCBON 2010 requirements.
- Enrolled 3 in FY09 from Caldwell Community College (CCC)
- More information can be found on our website: **northwestahec.org** or by contacting Ms. Phyllis Horton at (336) 713-7713 or phorton@wfubmc.edu

Nursing Management Institute

- Nursing Management Institute (NMI) - an online management curriculum for new or aspiring nurse managers
- Created and offered by the NW AHEC in partnership with Greensboro AHEC
- Enrolled 0 from Caldwell County in FY09
- More information can be found on our website: **northwestahec.org** or by contacting Ms. Phyllis Horton at (336) 713-7713 or phorton@wfubmc.edu

Community Health Partnerships

- NW 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 NW 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). This year's topics were: **State of the County Health (SOTCH) Reporting, Mental Health Issues in NC, and NC Public Health Academy.**
- For more information about this service, go to our website: **northwestahec.org** or contact Ms. Ellen Kesler at (704) 210-5068 or ekesler@wfubmc.edu

RN Refresher Program

- NW AHEC offers the RN Refresher Program to nurses who want to reinstate their licenses or want to update their skills.
- Curriculum consists of a didactic component and a clinical practicum.
- Students engage in their clinical practicum at a variety of hospitals in the NW AHEC region.
- Most institutions providing clinical rotations for these students use the opportunity to recruit them for employment upon program completion and having earned their RN credentials.

- Interested health care organizations should contact Ms. Kay Herr at (336) 713-7720 or kherr@wfubmc.edu

RN Refresher Clinical Practicum Placement at Caldwell Memorial Hospital

	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
# RN Refresher students	1	0	0	0

INFORMATION & LIBRARY SERVICES

- Caldwell Community College is a member of NW 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 or nstine@wfubmc.edu