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 Alexander County:

Grades K-8— A total of 2,033 students from Alexander County participated in health careers’ presentations comprised of 623 students and 9 presentations by Northwest AHEC staff and 1,410 students in the Catawba Science Center Program supported by Northwest AHEC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th># Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/30/2009</td>
<td>Ellendale Elementary</td>
<td>Puppet Bunch; CATCH</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/9/2009</td>
<td>Whittenburg Elementary</td>
<td>Puppet Bunch; CATCH</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/22/2010</td>
<td>Stony Point Elementary</td>
<td>Puppet Bunch; CATCH</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2010</td>
<td>Taylorsville Elementary</td>
<td>Puppet Bunch; CATCH</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/16/2010</td>
<td>West Alexander Middle School</td>
<td>Cool People, Cool Careers</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong> 623</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **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 Alexander County

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Schools</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Presentations</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Students</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>623</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Catawba Science Center’s “Health Investigators!” Science Inquiry Festival

- Northwest AHEC was the lead sponsor of the Catawba Science Center’s (CSC) 2009-2010 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 **10,718** students from 9 of the 17 counties within the Northwest AHEC region participated in the second in-school fair.
- **1,410** students participated from Alexander 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 Alexander County in FY10.

- **Camp Med Alexander County** – Located at the Catawba Valley and Community College and Davis Regional Hospital; NW AHEC provides $1,500 in support program for each program; 11 students participated from Alexander County in Camp Med Alexander County.

- **Project SEARCH Academy** (Student Education, Awareness and Recruitment for Careers in Health) - a one week, residential summer camp on the Wake Forest University campus; *rising eighth grade students*: (1) participate in a college freshman Biology Lab taught by a WFU professor; (2) are exposed to a variety of health science presentations, (3) take a medical center tour; (4) receive high school course selection advice from a guidance counselor; and (5) are matched with a HOSA mentor for the school year. Two students participated from Alexander County.

- Information about other Northwest AHEC youth programs can be found by going to our website: [northwestahec.org](http://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.
- Physicians interested in becoming preceptors should contact Ms. Angela Hodges at (336) 713-7717 or ahodges@wfubmc.edu

#### Health Sciences Student Rotations in Alexander County

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Students in rotation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Students weeks</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Alexander County.
- More information about CE activities can be found on our website: [northwestahec.org](http://northwestahec.org) or by contacting Ms. Marie Simos at (336) 713-7721 or msimos@wfubmc.edu

#### Alexander County Healthcare Professionals’ CE Activity

<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Unique registrants</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Registrations</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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 2011 requirements.
- Enrolled 0 in Alexander County in FY10
- More information can be found on our website: [northwestahec.org](http://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 Alexander County in FY10
- 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: Tobacco Legislation, Worksite Wellness, Faith Initiatives and Community Engagement.
- For more information about this service, go to our website: northwestahec.org or contact Ms. Ellen Kesler at (336) 713-7712 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.
- There are no contracts in place in Alexander County; therefore, there were no students enrolled in the RN Refresher clinical practicum during the past fiscal year.
- Interested health care organizations should contact Ms. Kay Herr at (336) 713-7720 or kherr@wfubmc.edu

INFORMATION & LIBRARY SERVICES
- There were no institutional members of the Northwest AHEC Information and Library Services in Alexander County.
- 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