NORTHWESTAHEC

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY SCHOOL of MEDICINE

Alexander County Health Department
Summary of Partnership
July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

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.

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

- **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

Year	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
# Schools	5	4	2	5
# Presentations	9	8	4	9
# Students	798	456	189	623

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** 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

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
# Students in rotation	4	2	4	2
# Students weeks	12	6	13	5

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 Health Department (ACHD).
- 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

ACHD Healthcare Professionals' CE Activity

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
# Unique registrants	7	7	10	3
# Registrations	13	13	13	6

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 0 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

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 in 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.
- No contracts are in place in Alexander County; therefore, no students were enrolled in the RN Refresher program 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 members of NW 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