

Appalachian Regional Healthcare System
(Blowing Rock Hospital, Cannon Memorial Hospital and Watauga Medical Center)
Summary of Partnership
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

HEALTH CAREERS, DIVERSITY & RECRUITMENT

- Northwest 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 **Avery** and **Watauga** Counties:

Grades K-8— A total of **551** students from **Avery** and **Watauga** Counties participated in **11** health careers' presentations by Northwest AHEC staff.

| Avery County | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 9/14/2010 | Avery Middle School | Choice or Chance | 101 |
| 10/6/2010 | Crossnore Elementary | Puppet Bunch, CATCH | 142 |
| 10/7/2010 | Riverside Elementary | Puppet Bunch, CATCH | 42 |
| 10/12/2010 | Freedom Trail Elementary | Puppet Bunch, CATCH | 96 |
| 3/25/2011 | Cranberry Middle School | Choice or Chance | 65 |
| Watauga County | | | |
| 9/28/2010 | Cove Creek Elementary | Puppet Bunch, CATCH, Choice or Chance | 105 |
| Total | | | 551 |

- 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
- Choice or Chance** - designed for grades 6-8; provides information about more than 10 health careers
- Two, Four, Six, or More** - a newly developed program tailored to high school students to introduce them to health careers.

Health Careers Awareness Programs Trend in Avery and Watauga Counties

| Year | 2007-2008 | 2008-2009 | 2009-2010 | 2010-2011 |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| # Schools | 6 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| # Presentations | 11 | 8 | 5 | 11 |
| # Students | 529 | 288 | 221 | 551 |

- Due to budget reductions, revisioning, and staff attrition, the preceding Northwest AHEC awareness programs offered in the schools is discontinued as of June 30, 2011. A strategic review of awareness programs, their funding and role within the overall mission of Northwest AHEC will be conducted during the next 18-24 months.

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

- Northwest AHEC was a major sponsor of the Catawba Science Center's (CSC) 2010-2011 Science Program implemented on site as opposed to an outreach activity conducted in individual schools.
- Three programs were presented and were entitled, *Attack of the Bloodsuckers*, *Bloodsuckers* and *Microcosm: an Adventure Within*.
- These major onsite/outreach programs are "hands-on" programs that engage more than **19,000** children.
- Northwest AHEC counties impacted by CSC programs: **Alexander, Ashe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Forsyth, Iredell, Surry and Wilkes**.

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. **No** students participated from Avery or Watauga Counties in FY11.
- **Camp Med Avery and Watauga Counties – Camp Med Avery County** was hosted at Avery County High School where **14** students participated. **Camp Med Watauga County** was hosted by Watauga Medical Center Northwest where **12** students participated. Northwest AHEC provides \$1,500 in support program for each program and 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 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. **No** students participated from **Avery or Watauga** Counties.
- 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@WakeHealth.edu

HEALTH SCIENCE STUDENT SUPPORT

Medical/Physician Assistant Students

- 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 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.
- 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@WakeHealth.edu

Health Sciences Student Rotations in Avery and Watauga Counties

| | 2007-2008 | 2008-2009 | 2009-2010 | 2010-2011 |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| # Students in rotation | 33 | 50 | 41 | 37 |
| # Students weeks | 94 | 147 | 125 | 114 |

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 **Appalachian Regional Healthcare System**.
- More information about CE activities can be found on our website: **northwestahec.org** or by contacting Ms. Marie Simos at (336) 713-7721 or msimos@WakeHealth.edu

Appalachian Regional Healthcare System Healthcare Professionals' CE Activity

| | 2007-2008 | 2008-2009 | 2009-2010 | 2010-2011 |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| # Unique registrants | 120 | 138 | 155 | 96 |
| # Registrations | 372 | 409 | 125 | 197 |

- Listed below is a summary of Grand Rounds activity, accredited by the Office of Continuing Medical Education of Wake Forest School of Medicine, conducted at Watauga Medical Center.

| Time of Year | Type | Number of Activities | Number of Participants |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Fall 2010 | Cancer Conference | 5 | 41 |
| Spring 2011 | Cancer Conference | 5 | 40 |
| Fall 2010 | Medical Society Meeting | 3 | 80 |
| Spring 2011 | Medical Society Meeting | 6 | 243 |
| Total | | 19 | 404 |

Nursing Management Institute

- Nursing Management Institute (NMI) - an online management curriculum for new or aspiring nurse managers
- Created and offered by the Northwest AHEC in partnership with Greensboro AHEC
- Enrolled **none** from **Avery** County and **64** from **Watauga** County in FY11 from **Watauga Medical Center**.

- More information can be found on our website: northwestahec.org or by contacting Ms. Phyllis Horton at (336) 713-7713 or phorton@WakeHealth.edu

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
- Northwest AHEC co-sponsors, with the Northwest Office of Healthy Carolinians Consultant, quarterly meetings of the Coalition Coordinators' Network (CCN). This year’s topics were: **physical activity and nutrition, health disparities, mental health and substance abuse issues and community health assessments.**
- For more information about this service, go to our website: northwestahec.org or contact Ms. Ellen Kesler at (336) 713-7712 or ekesler@WakeHealth.edu

RN Refresher Program

- Northwest 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 Northwest 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 Avery County; therefore, there were no clinical placements. Watauga Medical Center was a clinical site for this fiscal year.
- Interested health care organizations should contact Ms. Kay Herr at (336) 713-7720 or kherr@WakeHealth.edu

RN Refresher Clinical Practicum Placements in Watauga County

| | 2007-2008 | 2008-2009 | 2009-2010 | 2010-2011 |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| # RN Refresher students | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 |

Quality Improvement/Regional Extension Center

- As a federally-designated “Regional Extension Center,” the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers Program (NC AHEC) provides individualized, on-site electronic health record (EHR) consulting tailored to fit a primary care practice’s specific needs at no charge.
- REC consultants are able to assist practices by assessing and redesigning the practice’s office systems, identifying and enhancing workflows, and selecting a certified EHR system that fits the practice.
- REC consultants also provide support by helping the practice to achieve “meaningful use” as defined by state and federal standards.
- In FY11, a total of **399** practices were enrolled and of those, **3** are from **Avery** and **6** are from **Watauga**. The practices are:

Avery County

| |
|---------------------------------------|
| Charles E. Baker, MD, PA |
| Clark Family Medicine |
| Mountain Laurel Internal Medicine, PA |

Watauga County

| |
|---|
| Appalachian Regional Medical Associates |
| Blowing Rock Medical Clinic, PA |
| Blue Ridge Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine, Inc |
| Marshall C. Murry, MD |
| Primedical Healthcare, PA |
| Robert C. Snyder, MD |

- For more information about how Northwest AHEC’s Regional Extension Center can help you, contact Mr. Chris Jones at (336) 713-7039 or cjones@WakeHealth.edu or please go to www.ncahecrec.net

Quality Improvement/Improving Performance in Practice (IPIP)

- Northwest AHEC has been involved in the Improving Performance in Practice (IPIP) program for several years. IPIP is a collaborative effort of the NC AHEC program, Community Care of North Carolina, the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians, and the Carolinas Center for Medical Excellence.

- The primary purpose of IPIP is to close the quality gaps in asthma, diabetes, and hypertension care at the primary care level. This is accomplished through a series of practice redesign strategies to improve efficiency and implement best clinical practices facilitated by a Quality Improvement Consultant.
- The IPIP program was under-enrolled in FY11. Participation in this project declined from 15 practices in FY10 to only 1 practice submitting quality data in FY11. The Quality Improvement staff has developed detailed improvement plans and it is anticipated that our numbers will increase in FY12 as more practices implement EHR software and aspire to become designated as Patient Centered Medical Home.
- There were no practices enrolled in Watauga County.
- Those interested in learning more about the IPIP program should contact Mr. Chris Jones at (336) 713-7039 or cjones@WakeHealth.edu.

INFORMATION & LIBRARY SERVICES

- Appalachian Regional Healthcare System 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@WakeHealth.edu

| | 7/1/07-6/30/08 | 7/1/08-6/30/09 | 7/1/09- 6/30/10 | 7/1/09- 6/30/10 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Document Delivery Request ¹ | 777 | 812 | 935 | 944 |
| ADL ² Registered Users | 118 | 85 | 123 | 196 |
| ADL Users who logged into the ADL | 49 | 55 | 37 | 60 |
| Total Number of ADL logins | 905 | 741 | 701 | 769 |
| Number of Site Visits ³ | 10; 1OR; 1EC | 5EC | 30; 4 OR; 3EC | 14; 14EC |
| Number of Search Requests | 43 | 80 | 99 | 60 |
| Number of Consults ⁴ | 324 | 494 | 891 | 657 |

1--Materials checked out from library collection; items from library collection which have been used and re-shelved; 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; include 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.

OR = orientation

EC = educational class

FY11 Search Request Details

- Total of 60 requests with the major categories being: 19% (17) research, 18% (16) patient care, 8% (7) education, 7% (6) patient care/administration and 6% (5) patient care/ policy.

| Topic | Type |
|---|------------------|
| Muscle wasting with the use of statins | Research |
| Muscle wasting with the use of statins | Research |
| anaphylaxis and sulfa drugs | patient care |
| ace inhibitors and angioedema | patient care |
| eye wick cocktail for preoperative instillation of eye medications | pt care / policy |
| intraoperative use of BSS vs. BSS Plus eye solutions for cataract cases | pt care / policy |
| eye wick cocktail for preoperative instillation of eye medications | pt care / policy |
| intraoperative use of BSS vs. BSS Plus eye solutions for cataract cases | pt care / policy |
| photography of wound care in acute care settings | pt care/adm |
| deep tissue injury pressure ulcerations and evolution of these ulcers | pt care / policy |
| photography of wound care in acute care settings | pt care/adm |
| improve blood glucose control in our critical patients receiving TPN | pt care/adm |
| MI CarePath info | pt care/adm |
| improve blood glucose control in our critical patients receiving TPN | pt care/adm |
| MI CarePath info | pt care/adm |

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| celebrex and colon cancer | research |
| celebrex and colon cancer | research |
| ethics / hx cases of turning off a pacemaker | research |
| ethics / hx cases of turning off a pacemaker | research |
| Injury Risk Assessment Tool | research |
| altitude and resp distress syndrome | patient care |
| guideline for transfer of preterm labor | patient care |
| outcomes COPD pt & daily therapy | research |
| time it takes for sulfamethoxazole to enter the blood stream after an oral dose | patient care |
| drug-induced itching | patient care |
| Plavix use prior to hip fracture surgery | Patient Care/research |
| Arthroscopic treatment of Baker (popliteal) cyst | Patient Care |
| distal femoral nonunion | Patient Care |
| Critical Thinking in nurses - most current articles | Research |
| Nursing Competency - most current articles | Research |
| Preceptorship enabling model | Research |
| ethical dilemmas in home health/home care | Education |
| standards of practice or best practices for caring for an infant with central lines | Patient Care |
| copper poisoning/acid water/copper pipes/not Wilson disease | Patient Care/research |
| EMR Implementation and Governance Structure | Research |
| AORN recommendations for NPO requirements before surgery | Policy |
| guidelines for evaluation and treatment of UTIs | Patient Care/research |
| oral dose sulfamethoazole/absorption time | patient care |
| SBAR | admin/ed |
| ethical situations in small hospitals | education |
| eligibility/MU for practitioners and hospitals | adm |
| Non-surgical use of Cardiac Catheterizations | Research |
| Non-surgical use of Cardiac Catheterizations | Research |
| Cardiology Service & EPS literature - operational and financial models; for MSO & PSO financial models. | Research |
| clinical implications of low CD8-CD57 lymphocyte count | Research |
| review articles for total knee replacement results in nonagenarians | Patient Care |
| the latest on post cardiac arrest hypothermia | Patient Care/Education |
| multiple myeloma diagnosis/treatment | Patient Care |
| maggot removal from wounds - not maggot therapy for debridement | Patient Care/Education |
| treatment standards for anaphylactic reactions | Education |
| Sister Callista Roy's Adaptation Model | Research |
| How to teach the Braden Scal to nursing staff | Education |
| total knee replacement in patients who have secondary or steroid Induced avn or osteonecrosis | Patient Care |
| Trichobezoars | Patient Care |
| most recent transfusion guidelines | Education |
| Review Churg Strauss Syndrome | Patient Care |
| SCD-HeFt study info | Policy/hospital services |
| Glutius maximus flap / Leo Whiteside | Patient Care |
| Fracture healing and NSAIDS | Patient Care/Education |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Multimodal analgesic regimen for patients undergoing major orthopedic surgery | Education |
|---|-----------|