Forsyth County Department of Public Health
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 **Forsyth** County:

Grades K-8— A total of **1,941** students from **Forsyth** County participated in **13** health careers' presentations by Northwest AHEC staff.

Date	School	Presentation	# Students
11/10/2010	Union Cross Elementary	Puppet Bunch, CATCH	266
11/12/2010	Kennedy Learning Center	Choice or Chance	129
11/19/2010	Marvin Ward Elementary	Puppet Bunch, CATCH	231
1/24/2011	Friendship Elementary	Puppet Bunch, CATCH	178
2/21/2011	Whitaker Elementary	Puppet Bunch, CATCH	207
4/8/2011	Hanes Middle School	Choice or Chance	420
4/13/2011	Southwest Elementary-Clemmons	Puppet Bunch, CATCH	330
4/14/2011	Walkertown Middle School	Choice or Chance	180
		Total	**1,941**

- **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 Forsyth County

Year	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
# Schools	12	8	9	8
# Presentations	18	12	12	13
# Students	1,995	1,469	1,804	1,941

- 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 partner 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. **Six** students participated from Forsyth County in FY11.
- **Camp Med Forsyth County --** Hosted by Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, **21** students participated from **Forsyth** County. 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 & tenth grade students:*** (1) participate in a college freshman Biology Lab (rising 8th graders/ Chemistry Lab (rising 10th graders) 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. **Six** students participated from **Forsyth** 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@WakeHealth.edu

HEALTH SCIENCE STUDENT SUPPORT

Precpetor to Clinical Teaching Associate Program

- Northwest AHEC, in collaboration with Forsyth Technical Community College and Winston-Salem State University, has provided training for clinical adjunct nursing school instructors since 2003.
- Forsyth Medical Center of Novant Health and North Carolina Baptist Hospitals have played an integral role in providing nurses who are eligible for the program and for supporting these nurses in their workplaces as they strive to continually improve the quality of patient care.

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 Science Student Rotations in Forsyth County

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
# Students in rotation	287	290	283	266
# Students weeks	1,125	899	855	840

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 ACTVITIES & SERVICES

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

Forsyth County Department of Public Health Healthcare Professionals' CE Activity

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
# Unique registrants	69	42	53	55
# Registrations	122	65	121	114

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 **11** from **Forsyth** County in FY11**from Daymark Recovery Services and FMC-Butner.**
- 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 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. Forsyth Medical Center and Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center were clinical sites for six and 15 students, respectively.
- Interested health care organizations should contact Ms. Kay Herr at (336) 713-7720 or kherr@WakeHealth.edu

RN Refresher Clinical Practicum Placements in Forsyth County

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
# RN Refresher students	27	21	17	21

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, **12** are from Forsyth. The practices are:

Ardmore Family Practice, PA	Lyndhurst Gynecologic Associates
Brookview Hills Internal Medicine	Lyndhurst Urogynecology Center
ClubHaven Family Practice	Physicians Eldercare
Cornerstone pediatric Associates of Kernersville	Physicians Home Visits
Evergreen Health Promotion	Total Family Care
Ford, Simpson, Lively Winston-Salem	Winston-Salem & Kernersville Pediatrics

- 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 Forsyth 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

- There are no institutional members of the Northwest AHEC Information and Library Services in Forsyth County.
- More information about these services can be found at the Northwest AHEC website: **northwestahec.org** or by contacting Ms. Nancy Stine at (336) 713-8479 or nstine@WakeHealth.edu