

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Supporting
the recruitment, education,
training and retention of a diverse
health professions workforce
throughout southeast Georgia.



Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center (MCAHEC) is a community-driven, non-profit organization and through our vision, mission, values and guiding principles, we assist our communities in building and sustaining the healthcare workforce to meet the region's healthcare needs. For over 20 years, we have served 39 counties in southeast Georgia from our administrative office in Statesboro and through an affiliation agreement with Georgia Southern University. We are a part of the Georgia Statewide AHEC Network with the State Program Office housed at August University, Medical College of Georgia. We are joined by five other regional AHECs in the State, all working toward a special emphasis with the rural and underserved areas. All of our 39 counties are considered medically underserved, and 34 out of our 39 counties are considered rural. MCAHEC covers the largest region in the State. We accomplish our goals through numerous partnerships and collaborations that we have developed over the years and include healthcare providers, health professions students, academic institutions, state and federal agencies, community organizations and legislative leaders. Without our partners, we would not be able to accomplish our mission of recruiting, training and retaining students and diverse healthcare professionals in our region and the State; particularly in our rural and underserved communities. Our team and MCAHEC Board are persistent and very passionate about making a difference in the healthcare career pipeline, and with the ultimate long-term goal of improving the health of our communities within Georgia.

MCAHEC IS PLEASED TO INTRODUCE THREE NEW PROGRAMS THIS YEAR.

AHEC SCHOLARS PROGRAM (ASP)

MCAHEC launched ASP to promote interprofessional practice and education (IPE) by recruiting 18 GSU students from four departments for the 2-year program. This group is comprised of students from public health, nutrition, health informatics, and nursing. The purpose of the ASP is to give health profession students a unique opportunity to practice hands-on training, experience providing care in a rural/underserved environment, work with other health profession students, and to learn how to function as an interdisciplinary team for the best patient and community outcomes.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID (MHFA)

MCAHEC worked with the GA Statewide AHEC Network and the National Council for Behavioral Health to train 2 instructors in MHFA. As part of the AHEC Scholars Program, MHFA will be provided to all students in the program in addition to other health profession students and faculty at GSU and preceptors working with MCAHEC. MHFA is an 8-hour training program that teaches skills of how to reach out and provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and then help connect them to appropriate care.

GEORGIA STATEWIDE AHEC PRECEPTOR TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM (PTIP)

This program is to recognize and reward uncompensated community-based faculty physicians, PAs, and APRNs who provide training to MD/DO, PA and APRN students matriculating at GA academic institutions. This year the program moved from a State income tax deduction to a tax credit. Physicians can earn up to \$8,500 of tax credits each calendar year while APRNs and PAs can earn up to \$6,375 tax credits for the same time period. Credits are accrued by providing a rotation (160 hours of training per credit) with a maximum of 10 credits. In our region for the first 9 months of the calendar year, 89 preceptors donated 45,973 training hours for 260 clinical rotations to train our future healthcare providers.

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Recruiting...Training...Retaining

RECRUIT

Preparing youth and adults for careers in healthcare by expanding their views of the world of health careers and inspiring them to pursue the path of becoming healthcare professionals

TRAIN

Facilitating community-based clinical training experiences for health professions students by connecting future physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice registered nurses and other healthcare providers with our communities

RETAIN

Sustaining the healthcare workforce through continuing education programs in collaboration with our community partners

Recruit

Preparing Students for Careers in Healthcare

Jump Start Academy and Health Careers Camp

Goal: 50 Reached: 68

Inspiring and connecting with students who have a strong desire to pursue health careers



Classroom Presentations and Career Fairs

Goal: 2,500 Reached: 3,128

Sparking each student's initial interest in the wide range of health careers and expanding their view of this field



Train

Facilitating community-based clinical training experiences for health professions students

Community-based Clinical Training Rotations

Goal: 469 Reached: 723

Training future healthcare professionals



Travel and Housing | Supported Rotations

Goal: 337 Reached: 337

Supporting students during their training



Retain

Retaining Practitioners in the Community

Continuing Education Training

Goal: 400 Reached: 460

Providing continuing education through workshops/conferences and web-based programs



MAGNOLIA COASTLANDS AHEC STAFF

Valerie Embry, Continuing Education and Special Projects Coordinator
Cheryl Harper, Student Support Coordinator | Rachel Kirkland, Health Careers Coordinator
Bela Kundu, Preceptor Coordinator | Julie Metts, Staff Assistant
Jane Nester, DrPH, Executive Director

2019 Achievements

HEALTH CAREERS

Sponsored 4 intensive programs (20+ hours) for 68 students in southeast Georgia to learn about career opportunities in healthcare.

This included: a Jump Start Academy with 33 students from South Effingham High School in Effingham County, a Health Careers Camp for teens in collaboration with Oconee Fall Line Technical College in Dublin, a Physician Mentoring Program in partnership with East Georgia Regional Medical Center for 9 pre-med students from Georgia Southern University (GSU), and, 18 AHEC Scholars from GSU focusing on interprofessional practice and education.



PUBLIC HEALTH FOR YOUNG ADULTS (PHYA DAY)

Partnered with GSU Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health to offer the 10th annual PHYA DAY 2019. This resulted in 70 students and teachers from 2 counties (Effingham and Bryan) and 3 high schools (Richmond Hill High School, Effingham County High School, Effingham College and Career Academy) participating in this daylong event. Since its inception, PHYA Day has worked with 748 high school students to introduce them to careers in community health, epidemiology, environmental health and health policy administration.



ANCHOR PROGRAM

Anchor was created in 2010 in collaboration with Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM-GA), the hospitals, and the local practices in our region. In August 2018 we welcomed our 9th class of 3rd year medical students into Anchor - 7 students relocated to Warner Robins from their school campus for their 3rd year of clinical rotations. In 2018, MCAHEC launched its first "Anchor in Statesboro" with 2 PCOM-GA students through a partnership with East Georgia Regional Medical Center in Bulloch County. The program provided opportunities to connect with the community, network with medical professionals, and to experience and work in the culture of a diverse population in Warner Robins and in Statesboro. Since our inaugural class, 107 students have been enrolled in Anchor and completed clinical training in Houston, Dodge, Bleckley, Bryan, and Bulloch counties.



CLINICAL TRAINING

723 student rotations have occurred with 133 preceptors with 104,716 hours of clinical training in 22 of our 39 counties (17 counties were rural). Student disciplines included: 464 MD, 119 DO, 37 Dentist, 69 PA, and 34 others. We provided student housing in 5 locations for a total of 41 beds. We housed students for 218 rotations and provided travel stipends for 119 rotations. Overall, this presents an investment of \$211,942 in clinical training for the fiscal year.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Sponsored 9 CE/CME activities and 8 web-based trainings for 460 healthcare professionals. Healthcare professionals used the trainings to maintain licensure/certification renewal. The average evaluation score was 4.79 on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being excellent.



MCAHEC helps to facilitate training webinars for the Georgia Care Coordination Council. The Council is a steering committee for the Preventing Avoidable Readmissions Together Campaign. The vision of the Council is for every Georgian to receive the necessary tools and information that prepares and supports them to participate in their health and healthcare.

MIGRANT FARMWORKER PROGRAM

Provided multiple opportunities for 52 health professions students to experience working with migrant and seasonal farmworkers through a series of 16 farmworker outreach clinics through East Georgia Health Center, Inc., as well as 3 community health clinics through Southeast Georgia Communities Project, Inc. and Reidsville First Baptist Church on evenings and weekends. Overall, 97% of the students surveyed would recommend the migrant farmworker and community clinic experience to other students. Partner schools included: Augusta University, GSU, Mercer University, Oconee Fall Line Technical College, PCOM-GA, Southeastern Technical College, and South University. Disciplines included medicine, nursing, nutrition, pharmacy, public health, dental assisting and others.

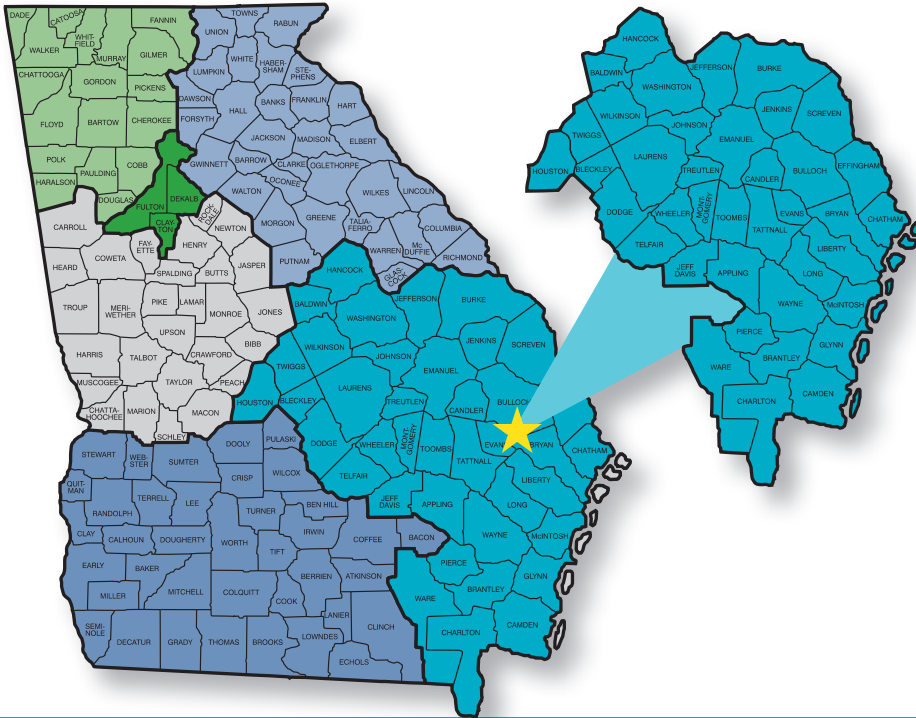




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Recruiting...Training...Retaining

We persistently track the healthcare professions students who trained in our region to determine if they have returned to practice in our communities. To date, we have identified 471 students who are practicing in 29 of our 39 counties with most of them residing in rural counties. The majority of these healthcare providers are MDs, DOs, PAs, Pharmacists, Dentists, Dental Assistants, RNs, APRNs, CRNAs, and Physical Therapists. In addition, MCAHEC brought services and education to 34 out of 39 counties (90%) this fiscal year.



COUNTIES SERVED

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Appling | Emanuel | Montgomery |
| Baldwin | Evans | Pierce |
| Bleckley | Glynn | Screven |
| Brantley | Hancock | Tattnall |
| Bryan | Houston | Telfair |
| Bulloch | Jeff Davis | Toombs |
| Burke | Jefferson | Treutlen |
| Camden | Jenkins | Twiggs |
| Candler | Johnson | Ware |
| Charlton | Laurens | Washington |
| Chatham | Liberty | Wayne |
| Dodge | Long | Wheeler |
| Effingham | McIntosh | Wilkinson |

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