



# DUKE AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER (AHEC): HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT TO IMPROVE PATIENT CARE

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## DukeHealth

## MISSION AND VISION

Lead the transformation of healthcare education and services in North Carolina by partnering with the other NC AHECs to improve patient care and outcomes.

Connect clinical experts from Duke with regional AHECs throughout the state to support the continuing education needs of healthcare professionals, particularly those in underserved areas of the state.

Provide support and collaboration for student clinical rotations at primary care sites.

Implement health careers programs for high school and middle school students interested in health careers.

## GOALS OF DUKE AHEC

Partner to meet the health and workforce needs of North Carolina.

Provide Duke faculty with the opportunity to collaborate with the other AHECs to implement interventions and studies in underserved regions.

Deliver educational programs and services.

Support community-based clinical training rotations for primary care residents, medical students, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners.

Provide mentorship, educational programs, and health careers summer camps targeted to middle and high school students interested in pursuing a career in healthcare.

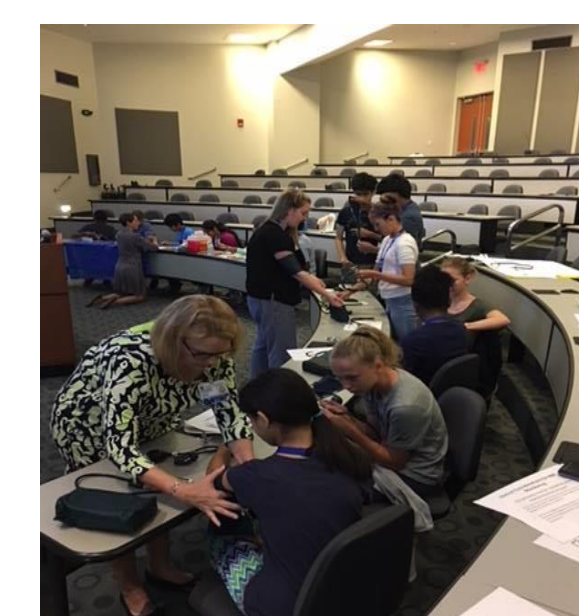
## INTERVENTIONS

Each year, thousands of healthcare professionals participate in a wide range of continuing education offerings made possible by Duke AHEC.

Educational delivery methods include live conferences, webinars, and blended learning methods.

Health professions trainees are afforded the opportunity to rotate through AHEC primary care clinical sites gaining essential experience.

Numerous high school and middle school students are exposed to healthcare professionals who offer their knowledge and expertise to help these students seek an appropriate career path in healthcare.



## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Duke AHEC offers Continuing Professional Development for Nursing, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Allied Health Professions, in partnership primarily with Southern Regional AHEC and the other state AHECs, on a wide range of clinical and professional topics.

Interprofessional topics including teamwork, communication, simulation, quality improvement, diversity, and leadership.

Clinical topics including stroke, diabetes, wound care, mental health, cardiology, opioid management, pediatrics, and neurology.



## SUMMARY & LESSONS LEARNED

Since its inception in the 1970s, Duke AHEC has supported numerous expert clinicians to share their knowledge with others in NC, thereby providing many opportunities for Duke faculty to develop and enhance their teaching portfolios.

As interprofessional education at the pre-professional level continues to grow, it will also grow for those working in the clinical setting.

Duke AHEC is in prime position to support and enhance both Duke faculty development and interprofessional educational delivery, which will ultimately contribute to improved patient care.



## REFERENCES

Institute of Medicine (2015). Measuring the Impact of Interprofessional Education on Collaborative Practice and Patient Outcomes. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

Interprofessional Education Collaborative (2016). Core competencies for interprofessional collaborative practice. 2016 update. Washington, DC: IPEC

