

2009 – 2010 Accomplishments

Health Workforce Development - Health Careers Pipeline

- Provided careers information to 17,660 career-decision makers from 305 schools, 89% from under-represented minorities and disadvantaged populations.
- Launching THECB research project to encourage Hispanic and African American students into health careers through year-round engagement including peer mentoring, job shadowing, junior health educator training, parent academies, and counselor education. Targeting over 514 students, 318 significant adults, 60 school districts, and 20 counties.
- Provided 123 enrichment projects to better prepare 3426 students, 77% from under-represented minorities and disadvantaged populations, for health professions education programs.
- Engaged over 1100 teachers/counselors/administrators and parents in these activities.

Health Workforce Development - Community-Based Education

- Recruited and/or maintained 818 community-based training sites and a pool of 1300 community faculty, primarily physicians, for student clinical training.
- Placed 640 health professions students in 853 clinical rotations for 14 disciplines from 300 campus partners. Of these, 312 students were placed in designated underserved sites. Approximately 12% of the training in community sites involved service-learning projects.
- Continued development and maintenance of a dynamic website to aid student selection of community training sites and the Public Health-Ambulatory Community Selective for fourth year medical students.
- Recruited, trained, and state certified over 100 community health workers and CHW instructors in the Hurricane Ike storm track counties. Creation of a database to document community outcomes, creation of website as central CHW resource, and documentation of the project and need for CHWs for the community and key stakeholders. Liaising with DOL to develop a community health worker apprenticeship of 2200 hours.

Health Workforce Development - Practice Recruitment and Retention

- Provided training for 2436 participants in continuing education programs including a joint project with the East Texas Geriatric Education Center in geriatric health literacy that has been ongoing and recently refunded for 5 years.
- Provided Clinic Management Technical Assistance (CMTA) to 6 selected FQHC and CHC organizations under contract with the state primary care office. This ongoing initiative was built on our experience in providing management consultations to almost 50 physician practices that resulted in an average potential increase in revenue of \$75,000, a critical economic impact on vulnerable practices caring for underserved populations.
- Finishing the third and 'Recovery' years of the **AHEC Professional Corps (APC)** with 138 members receiving educational awards of \$4750 and providing thousands of hours of community service including after hours clinics, health education, and community health improvement projects. Members report they have benefited personally and professionally from participation.
- Identified over 1100 (cumulative) health professionals added to our region after an "AHEC Touch."

Community Health Support – Health Literacy

- Increased health education programming in 8 target areas identified as national priorities by the NAO through 635 programs/projects to 68,415 participants.
- Maintained programs addressing community health issues such as access to care, patient safety, dental health, childhood obesity, geriatric sensitivity, tobacco cessation, behavioral health, veterans' health, cancer awareness, and health information technology.

Community Health Support – Community Health Systems

- Expanded capacity for conducting community assessment and community development activities including the adoption of **IMPLAN**, an economic impact analysis software that demonstrates the economic impact of adding physicians and other healthcare workers to rural/underserved communities. Partnered with the Texas Department of Rural Affairs to produce and present 53 Healthcare and Economic Development reports for 53 rural and medically underserved counties. Met with leaders in 13 designated communities to collaborate with them on the full implementation of the **AHEC Retention and Recruitment Community Model (ARRC)**.
- Initiated 224 community health system support projects, such as, a structured process designed to involve community members in developing ways to improve local health care delivery systems and community health status.

Organization Infrastructure

- Maintained 9 operational centers to service an area of 111 counties with an estimated population of over 17 million. (as a state, would be 5th by population and 10th by area!)
- Partnered with communities and academic collaborators, including all 8 of the state's health science centers/schools of medicine and over 3,000 organizations and institutions.
- Every dollar in state funds invested in AHEC is leveraged to secure additional \$2 through federal, private, and local funds that would not be available without state support. Additionally, every AHEC state funded dollar attracts another \$2.50 from contributions of in-kind goods and services.