



East Texas Area Health Education Center (AHEC) 1997-1998 Accomplishments

Health Careers Promotion

- Provided careers information to 17,981 career-decision makers, 93% from underrepresented minorities and disadvantaged populations.
- Provided 24 enrichment projects with 300 hours of programming to better prepare 562 underrepresented minorities and disadvantaged students for health professions education programs.
- Worked with 638 primary and secondary schools to facilitate health career awareness, through classroom, peer, teacher, and counselor support activities and informational materials.
- Developed and co-sponsored “best practices” workshop for admissions staff, East Texas AHEC staff, and others to address enrollment and practice disparities in response to the Hopwood decision to eliminate race as a factor in admissions policies.

Community-Based Education

- Recruited and/or maintained 588 community-based training sites and 704 preceptors, primarily physicians, for student clinical training.
- Placed 1407 health professions students for 159,728 training hours for 19 schools and 14 disciplines.
- Supported the utilization of 50 laptop computers for student use and 30 desktop computers for teaching practice sites in community settings to enhance information resources

Recruitment and Retention Support

- Offered 314 Continuing Education (CE) programs totaling 1,121 course hours including 929 accredited hours to 5,860 participants.
- Increased partnership activity in placement and retention projects, including 8 new projects.
- Co-sponsored satellite programming throughout the region.
- Expanded and maintained learning resource materials and dissemination of information for community health professionals.

Community Health

- Expanded capacity for conducting community assessment and community development activities.
- Developed new programs addressing community health issues such as the ‘Life Connections’ emergency assistance for elders project.
- Facilitated the implementation of a regional community interactive video network for health education connecting 6 rural communities.

Developing Organization Infrastructure

- Established 3 new centers in north central Texas to almost double the service area (to total 111 counties, 13 million population). Maintained 5 operational centers.
- Developed two Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund grant proposals with multiple community and academic partners. Each awarded \$1million.
- Expanded partnerships with communities and academic collaborators including 6 of the State’s 8 health science centers/schools of medicine.
- Implemented plan for developing a statewide East Texas AHEC/HETC organization.
- Facilitated further development of the Gulf Coast Consortium for Community-based Education, members include 3 schools of medicine and East Texas AHEC.