The mission of the AHEC System is to enhance the quality of and access to health care, improve health care outcomes and address health workforce needs of medically underserved communities and populations by establishing partnerships between the institutions that train health professionals and the communities that need them most.

Strategies for Our Future

The “Strategies for Our Future” April meeting of the New York State AHEC System Advisory Board featured panelists Henry Pohl, MD, Vice Dean for Academic Administration, Albany Medical College; Julie Peacock, MA, Dean, Applied Sciences, Broome Community College; Rosalind Wilson, CSW, MSSW, Program Director, Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health; Patricia Hodgins, RN, BS, MS, Supervisor, Career and Technical Education and Health Occupations Education, New York State Education Department; and Joseph E. Bernat, DDS, MS, Associate Dean for Hospital and External Affairs, School of Dental Medicine, University at Buffalo.

Panelists were asked to address the question, “How can the New York State AHEC System dovetail with the interests, needs, goals and objectives of the Advisory Board member organizations?” Among the issues discussed were: statewide health care outcomes, statewide education program development to meet health workforce needs, secondary school preparation for health professions training, collaborations with existing programs, articulation agreements to streamline career ladders/pathways, mentorships and summer enrichment programs. These issues along with the other suggestions from the meeting will be summarized for use by the New York State AHEC System at the center, regional and statewide levels.