The New York State AHEC System Statewide Advisory Board met on February 16 to focus on current health status, demographic and workforce data sources, and the roles that these data play in the current activities of the New York State AHEC System and member organizations of the Statewide Advisory Board.

Featured presenters included: Steven Schreiber, PhD, New York State AHEC System Eastern Region Office Director (at Albany Medical College), who provided an overview of the New York State AHEC System Data Warehouse; Diane Hauser, MPA, Institute for Urban Family Health Project Manager; and Andrew Doniger, MD, MPH, Monroe County Health Department Director, who provided insight on the use of Monroe County’s use of community data in the development of local programs.

Small group discussions by region addressed the ways in which the NYS AHEC System (at the local, regional and statewide levels) can use data to develop a health workforce that would be the most effective in addressing the needs of underserved areas and the policy/program roles of AHEC in addressing community health data needs.

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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.