



New York State Area Health Education Center System

"Community partnerships placing health professionals where they are needed most"

Albany Reception

April 15, 2003

“The key to keeping New York State healthy is the New York State AHEC System.”

New York State Senator, Patricia McGee April 15, 2002



Honorable Patricia McGee, New York State Senator, and Troy Griffith, Brooklyn-Queens-Long Island AHEC program participant.

The New York State Area Health Education Center (AHEC) System showcased accomplishments and future initiatives at a breakfast reception in Albany on April 15, 2003.

Remarks from the Honorable Patricia McGee, New York State Senator, Thomas Rosenthal, MD, New York State AHEC System Director, and Troy Griffith, a student from the Brooklyn-Queens-Long Island AHEC, were a highlight of the event. The event also featured interactive displays of AHEC activities at the statewide, region, and center level.



Jaya Egan, BS, MPH, Bronx-Westchester AHEC Executive Director, Madelyn Rivera, MS, Bronx-Westchester AHEC Associate Director, Eric Arriola, Bronx-Westchester AHEC pipeline program participant, Leonel Arriola, Bronx-Westchester AHEC pipeline program participant, Honorable Suzi Oppenheimer, New York State Senator, and Anthony Garro, PhD, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Lehman College.



Honorable James Tedisco, New York State Assemblyman, and Tim Christensen, MS, Hudson-Mohawk AHEC Executive Director.



Honorable Barbara Lifton, New York State Assemblywoman, and Joanne Borfitz, Central New York AHEC Executive Director.

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.

New York State AHEC System Highlights:

Presented by Dr. Thomas Rosenthal, Director of the New York State AHEC System

Last summer, a 16-year-old Bronx student decided to become a pharmacist after participating in a Bronx-Westchester AHEC health career awareness program and his grades this year have gone from Cs to B+. A physician assistant student was offered full-time employment at a Southern Tier area health care facility following his Western New York Rural AHEC clinical placement in a medically underserved community. As a result of participating in a continuing education program sponsored by the Hudson-Mohawk AHEC, a nurse in the Capital District area is now providing better care because of a state-of-the-art understanding of pain management for cancer patients



Thomas Rosenthal, MD, New York State AHEC System Director, and the Honorable Mary Lou Rath, New York State Senator.

Six centers have been established (Western New York Rural AHEC-Batavia, Northern AHEC-Potsdam, Hudson-Mohawk AHEC-Glens Falls, Central New York AHEC-Cortland, Bronx-Westchester AHEC-Bronx and Brooklyn-Queens-Long Island AHEC-Brooklyn). In start-up phases are the Erie Niagara AHEC-Buffalo and the Catskill-Hudson AHEC-New Paltz. By the fall of 2004, the Manhattan/Staten Island AHEC will be established, bringing the New York State AHEC System to its full capacity with nine centers.

The New York State AHEC System has placed 1,450 medical students and 873 nursing and health professions students with 1,036 teachers at 882 AHEC-sponsored, community-based training sites. These students, under preceptor supervision, provided care to more than 95,000 patients.

Through career pipeline programs, 1,036 young people, ages 10-17 received exposure to health careers and health professionals. Train-the-trainer programs provided 300 home and careers teachers with a curriculum that meets NYS Learning Standards for health careers development. A total of 2,298 health professionals participated in 171 continuing education programs.



Honorable Patricia McGee, New York State Senator, speaks with Elizabeth Horner, Western New York Rural-AHEC pipeline program participant, and her brother Jacob Horner.



Honorable Clifford Crouch, New York State Assemblyman, with Joanne Borfritz, Central New York AHEC Executive Director.



Jennifer Lange, Representative for Assemblyman Sam Hoyt, Carol Brewer, PhD, RN, New York State AHEC System Director of Nursing, Ozzie Lumpkin, and his daughter, Siarra Lumpkin, Erie Niagara AHEC pipeline program participant.

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