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Congress Restores Funding to AHEC

Mary J. Sienkiewicz, MBA,
NYS AHEC System Deputy Director

The fiscal year 2006 federal appropriations process concluded when the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Conference Report was approved by the House of Representatives (December 14) and the Senate (December 21) and signed into law by the President (December 30).

Preceding this action, a Labor-HHS Appropriations Conference Report (that reduced Area Health Education Center (AHEC) funding by 93% from current levels and would have virtually eliminated the AHEC Program nationally) was defeated by the House of Representatives in November. Thankfully,

the second appropriations conference report that was ultimately approved included level funding for the AHEC Program, minus a one percent across-the-board cut in all domestic funding (exceptions: Veteran's and Defense funds).

We are grateful that AHEC was among a few programs selected for restored funding in fiscal year 2006. It is reassuring to see, even during challenging fiscal times, that AHEC's value to the nation's health care safety net is recognized as are AHEC's contributions to addressing access to quality health care, improving the diversity of the health care workforce, and recruiting and retaining health care professionals in medically underserved areas. Thank you to AHEC constituents from New York and across the country who demonstrated broad-based community support for AHEC initiatives.

Community Members Join to Celebrate R-AHEC's Thiel Center Grand Opening

Kenneth Oakley, PhD, FACHE, R-AHEC CEO



Assemblyman Dan Burling (left) leads the ribbon cutting for the Thiel Hospitality House and Learning Center.

After almost five years of planning and one year of active development, the Western New York Rural Area Health Education Center (R-AHEC) formally

unveiled its new Warsaw facility to the public on October 18th. Ten federal, state, and local dignitaries joined another 65 community well-wishers at the organization's ribbon cutting and opening reception.

Known as the Thiel Hospitality House and Learning Center, the new Warsaw complex is a multi-purpose mini-campus. It will serve as the R-AHEC's central office seeking to promote health workforce development, and it will serve numerous other purposes as well. First and foremost, it will support the local community's health related emergency housing needs, both personal and professional. Further, it will support visiting health professions students with their extended housing requirements while affording both them and area health professionals with access to a state-of-the-art

See *Thiel Center* continued on page 7

Patient Gifts

**Thomas C. Rosenthal, MD,
NYS AHEC System Director**



Thomas C. Rosenthal, MD

When asked to present a luncheon discussion during National Primary Care Week, I chose to ramble through a box of gifts patients have

given me over the years. My goal was to demonstrate the importance of relationships to quality health care.

First was Steven, a 17-year-old high school quarterback who had been admitted through the emergency room the night before with an alcohol overdose. By morning, with the exception of some nausea, he had recovered. As I went into the room to clear his discharge, I noticed his mother was sitting on one side of the bed, his father on the other. I sensed, or felt, sadness and even a bit of anger in the room. I examined Steven and declared him fit to go

home. Then I shared with the family the feelings I was perceiving in the room. I discovered that the parents had just recently separated, this was Steven's first experience with alcohol, and there was no family history of alcoholism. I then spent approximately 10 minutes reviewing the process of divorce and its effect on how we feel about ourselves and our relationships. I referred the family for counseling, and the parents did divorce. One year later Steven's mother brought in a half-empty whiskey bottle that Steven had given her upon getting home from the hospital that day. She described an intense but constructive discussion that she, Steven, and Steven's father had in the kitchen over breakfast that morning one year ago.

My next gift was from Jessica, a 66-year-old woman with a three-year history of metastatic breast cancer who was now in the terminal phase. She had chosen to move in with her son and daughter-in-law, who were patients of mine and living in the village where I practiced. Jessica's grandfather had been a general practitioner in Buffalo many years ago and her memory of him was encapsulated in a medical textbook of his that she now had. Jessica's death process was prolonged and I made many home visits, answered many questions about dying, and worked intensely to keep Jessica as symptom-free as possible. One Monday

morning just as a medical student was joining me to begin a six-week rotation in my office, my pager went off. The family informed me that Jessica had passed away. A few minutes later, the student and I were in the home and Jessica's 9-year-old grandson related how that morning Grandma had called him up to her room, hugged him, and said goodbye. It was only afterward that he realized that she seemed stronger than she had in weeks, even though she was within the hour her last breath escaped her. Before I left the home that morning I was handed Jessica's grandfather's textbook with an inscription from Jessica hoping I would accept it as a token of her appreciation. At 10 o'clock that night, with a now fatigued medical student standing at my side, we delivered a 7 lb. 11 oz. baby girl whose cry was immediate and strong. Through their happy tears, and unaware of how my day had begun, the parents announced their baby's name was to be Jessica.

The last story I'll relate involves a tremendously courageous and highly decorated firefighter. Joel, a 45-year-old from the inner city, entered a burning building on the suspicion there may have been a child trapped inside. He was on the second floor when the building collapsed, and he found himself in the basement with his oxy-

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Erie Niagara Student Reflects on Experience at the Elmwood Health Center

**Lanita Carpenter, Erie Niagara AHEC Student, East High School AP Biology Student
with Akram Bhatti, ENAHEC Erie County Program Coordinator**

As program coordinator at Erie Niagara AHEC it is a pleasure to see first hand when a student's interest becomes sparked as a result of an AHEC experience. These experiences are invaluable and their impact incalculable upon the student deciding to become a health practitioner. Lanita Carpenter reflects below upon her experiences at a recent Medical Academy of Science and Health (MASH) Camp.

Our class field trip to the Elmwood Health Center was an unforgettable experience. The whole atmosphere of the place was amazing. There were great speakers, fun icebreakers and presentations, plus a great lunch. There

were five stations: Physical Therapy, Speech Pathology, Social Work and Counseling Services, Occupational Therapy and Nursing and Medical Services. At each station the presenter described the field, how to become a practitioner in the field, and finally the salaries we could earn once we entered the field.

The first station we observed was Physical Therapy and the speaker told us what physical therapists do and how they help their patient get back on track. He showed us an instrument that is used to measure pressure. People who have to use wheelchairs or sit in one most of the time have a lot of pressure on their backside and this instrument is needed to ease pressure upon the

patient. After showing us the instrument we were allowed to step on the instrument and test pressure in our foot. The second observation was the Social Work and Counseling Services. I found this station interesting because we had a chance to talk about ourselves. Our speaker told us about the type of work that she does and type of problems that are associated with counseling, like grief and loss and other issues that people come to counseling to work out. It was an emotional experience for a few people in the group because of the things happening in their lives. For instance, one of the 7th graders has a dog that is soon going to die and he started to get upset thinking about it. It showed how you can use counseling to help be at ease with the situation.

See Elmwood Health Center continued on page 7

Connecting Students to Careers, Professionals to Communities, and Communities to Better Health

**Mary J. Sienkiewicz, MBA,
NYS AHEC System Deputy Director**

The September 21, 2005 New York State AHEC System Advisory Board meeting held in Albany focused on “Recruiting Minorities into Health Professions Education Programs.”

The agenda included presentations: Introduction to the Connection between Health Disparities and Minority Health Providers—Wilma Waithe, PhD, RD, CDN, Director of Office of Minority Health, New York State Department of Health; Status of Minorities in Health Professions Programs: Current Data and Future Projections—Diane Hauser, MPA, Institute for Urban Family Health; Minority Recruitment Initiatives—Jo Wiederhorn, MSW, Executive Director, Associated Medical Schools of New York; and School of Health

Professions Perspective—Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PA-C, Dean, College of Health Related Professions, SUNY Downstate Medical Center.

The “Student Perspective: Putting a Face to the Numbers” panel featured Albany Medical College first year students Herminia Amezwa, Veronica Gonzalez and Ruth Morgan, and second year student, Afari Dwamena as moderated by Assie Bishop, EdS, Assistant Dean for Student and Minority Affairs, Albany Medical College. The students addressed 1) the preparation that enabled them to consider a career in medicine, 2) assistance that would be helpful in the admissions process, and 3) the climate of admissions offices and

schools toward under represented minorities.

Small group discussions followed regarding the role for AHEC in minority recruitment and enrollment into health professions programs. The suggestions from the small groups will be further developed by the New York State AHEC System to meet community needs. A follow up meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2006 to further focus on recruitment and retention issues.



Left to right: Mary Craig, Herminia Amezwa, Ruth Morgan, Afari Dwamena, Veronica Gonzalez, and Assie Bishop, EdS.

NYS AHEC System Celebrates National Primary Care Week

**Denise McGuigan, MEd,
NYS AHEC System Education Specialist**

National Primary Care Week is an event celebrated at health professions schools nationwide to introduce health professions students to the importance of community-responsive primary care and to encourage their collaboration as members of future health care teams. The New York State AHEC System sponsored many statewide events, including:

Statewide Office – University at Buffalo, School of Medicine & Biomedical Science and community events:

- “Gifts my Patients Have Given Me,” a lecture for medical students presented by Dr. Thomas Rosenthal.
- “Smoking Cessation, Strategies to Help Patients Quit Smoking,” a lecture for

medical and health professions students presented by Dr. Martin Mahoney.

- “What Medical Students Need to Know About Applying for a Residency Program,” a workshop for medical students presented by Dr. Diana Pratt and Dr. Richard Blondell.
- Hands-on injection workshop for first year medical students. The American Medical Student Association provided funding for this workshop.
- An interdisciplinary group of health professions students held a Community Service Health Fair in Wyoming County, providing information and free screenings to people in the community.

Central Region Office – Upstate Medical College and community events:

- Dr. Eva Gregory provided a luncheon

talk for medical students on primary care provided to the Onondaga Nation.

- Dr. James Greenwald provided a luncheon talk for medical students on Rural Medicine.
- Medical students provided a panel presentation to high school students at the New Visions luncheon co-sponsored by the CNYAHEC.
- “Dinner With A Doc,” an evening dinner attended by 50 medical students and 20 family physicians. Students mingled with physicians and listened to the physicians share stories about their practices and how they chose family medicine as a specialty.

Eastern Region Office – Albany Medical College events for medical students:

- “Sex 101 - How to take a Sexual History,”

See *Primary Care Week* continued on back page

AHEC Executives Featured at Coordinated Care of Western New York's 25th Anniversary Celebration

Jane Munro, MS HCM,
R-AHEC Center Director

When Coordinated Care of Western New York celebrated its 25th anniversary with a daylong professional workshop and evening awards reception, two of the NYS AHEC System's senior executives were granted significant attention.

Richard Merchant, Executive Director of the Northern AHEC in Canton, was featured as one of the day's key presenters. Participating in a workshop entitled "Measure Up! Innovations in Healthcare Workforce Recruitment & Retention," Mr. Merchant offered attendees a look into the future with his seminar *Effective Strategies for Building the Healthcare Workforce Pipeline*. He demonstrated a web-based career exploration and workforce development tool already developed and soon to be available

throughout most of upstate New York, myhealthcareer.org.

Later in the evening, Kenneth Oakley, CEO of the Rural Area Health Education Center located in Batavia and Warsaw, was honored at Coordinated Care's Awards ceremony. Dr. Oakley was granted a lifetime achievement award for "...his passion to provide quality health care access/delivery and health care professionals to Western New York's underserved rural populations, as well as his innovations in health care workforce development, critical to meeting the long term care needs of the aging and disabled in our rural communities."

Coordinated Care is a regional resource whose mission is "To provide individuals, health care providers, employers and governmental entities with long term



Left to right: Kenneth Oakley, PhD, FACHE, R-AHEC CEO, Irene Revelas, CEO of Coordinated Care, and Richard Merchant, MA, N/AHEC Executive Director, at Coordinated Care's 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Statler Towers in downtown Buffalo.

care information, referral, education, programs, and program management." Congratulations to Richard Merchant and Kenneth Oakley for the recognition they received from Coordinated Care, and congratulations to Coordinated Care for their 25 years of essential service to all of Western New York.

Nursing News

Carol Brewer, PhD, RN,
NYS AHEC System Nursing Director

The 2004 National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses Preliminary Findings report was released in December 2005 (available at <http://bhpr.brsa.gov>). This quadrennial survey is the major way we track the supply of nurses. There are some interesting developments. The proportion of unemployed nurses went down 1.5% (although the number stayed almost the same), part-time nurses increased to 24.8% from 23.2% in 2000 (or 96,415 RNs) and the proportion of FT RNs stayed almost the same at 58.3%, although the number increased by 119,914 RNs. The estimated number of nurses employed in nursing increased by 10%. Overall, the estimated number of RNs increased by 213,000 RNs or

7.9% compared to the 5.2% increase from 1996 to 2000. Thus the supply of nursing has definitely been responding to the shortage that began about 2000. Particularly telling evidence for this response is that real inflation adjusted earnings increased from 2000 by 12.8%, and is the "first significant upturn since 1988." Historically, the pattern has been for RN earnings to rise in response to a shortage. This response was last seen from 1988 to 1992, but the very flat earnings since then flattened those gains until this survey. Earnings increases and programs such as AHEC draw in nurses at least temporarily. Now that this data is available, we will expect to see new estimates by the Bureau of Labor Statistics revising estimates of the depth of future shortages. These estimates will give us a sense of whether in fact we are gaining on the shortage or just trading water. Unfortunately, the demand for health care does not stand still while we increase the supply of nurses. It is only

the balance of these two factors that determines a shortage.

In New York State, the total number of nurses is estimated at 212,309, with 80.9% employed, and 57.9% employed full-time, 23% part-time and a ratio of 906 RNs per 100,000 population (the range is 590 to 2000). In 2000 the proportion was 843. More specific state level information will be available when the full report is released.

Other information indicates we are not doing enough to attract a different mix of nurses. The average age again increased by a year to 46.8 years (the average age of faculty with doctorates was 55.7), and the proportion working in hospital declined by almost 3%. Gender and ethnicity proportions did not change. The implication is that AHEC can make a difference here by continuing to focus on ways to increase minorities and men in nursing.

Community Collaborations at Work in Central New York

CNYAHEC support HealthQuest, a week-long resident camp for students

**Terry Gefell, MEd, CHES,
CNYAHEC Director of Development & Communications**

Developing community collaborations to support local health initiatives is a priority for the Central New York Area Health Education Center (CNYAHEC).

Joanne Race Borfitz, Executive Director of CNYAHEC, recognized early on that strong local partnerships would be needed to sustain and grow its pipeline programs for young people. “Connecting education to providers with the support of local business is key to success,” states Borfitz. CNYAHEC has forged strong community collaborations with local health care facilities, health professions schools, and the private sector which each independently support the common goal of alleviating the health professional shortage.

Since 2002, CNYAHEC has offered health careers exploration camps throughout its 14-county region. The number of camps has grown from four in 2002 to 14 in 2005, with a six-fold increase in the number of youth introduced to health careers since the inception of camps only four years ago. With the growing number of camps and expanded outreach to youth, it was imperative that CNYAHEC

secure funding to keep the camps alive. In 2005, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield came on board as a proud sponsor of CNYAHEC’s health careers exploration camps through its *Caring for Community* initiative.

David Klein, Chief Executive Officer for Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, supports this newly-developed partnership reaching Central New York. “Our Caring for Community initiatives are multiple-year, multiple-partner collaborative projects that meet identified community needs. It made perfect sense to work together with CNYAHEC to support our common goal of an adequate health care workforce. Toward that end, this project seeks to interest students in health care careers - not only for their own professional development, but also to ensure that there will be nurses, doctors and other providers of health care to take care of our rapidly aging population,” explains Klein.

Through the *Caring for Community* initiative, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield and

in grades 10 and 11 hosted at Ithaca College. Steven Siconolfi, PhD, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance, underscores the value of partnerships in developing long-term solutions to regional problems. “Partnerships between community organizations, like CNYAHEC, businesses like Excellus, and educational institutions, like Ithaca College, provide a community service that will help reduce current and projected shortages in the health workforce,” states Siconolfi.

Without community collaboration, many

See Collaborations continued on page 7



With the support of CNYAHEC and Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, Oneida Healthcare Center, located in rural Madison County, hosted 20 students during its first year of M.A.S.H. Camp in 2005.

Bronx-Westchester AHEC Medical Student Speaks About the Community Health Experience

**Madelyn Rivera, MS,
BWAHEC Executive Director**

This summer the New York Metropolitan Region AHECs collaborated with the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine (NYCOM) to provide community based and health related learning opportunities for students ending their first year in medical school. Leah Franek reflects on her experience with us below.

Q: How has working in a community health care setting added value to your internship experience?

A: The most valuable part of my summer internship with the Bronx-Westchester AHEC was working for a public health organization, Bronx Healthy Hearts. Like other community health projects they have huge goals that they work towards tirelessly, knowing even the smallest change is helping. It reshaped my understanding of the health needs of underserved areas, and where “big” medicine from

insurance companies is failing.

Q: How has hearing about community health topics during the didactics strengthened your learning experience?

A: Weekly didactics heightened my awareness of community health topics, gave us tools to address these issues as a community member or professional, as well as inspired us with success stories of how it is truly possible to make a difference.

See Community Health continued on page 7

Northern AHEC's Community Partnerships

**Richard Merchant, MA,
NAHEC Executive Director**

Partnerships make prosperity more shining and lessens adversity by dividing and sharing it.

— Cicero, 44 B.C.

As Jane Addams, the social activist at the turn of the last century once said: “Social advance depends as much upon the process through which it is secured as upon the result itself.” It is through the process of engaging in our communities and developing relationships that natural partnerships became forged, and shared goals, the “real end,” began to unveil themselves.

Through a focus on our communities, the goals initially outlined to achieve NAHEC's mission evolved accordingly into *shared community goals* that would serve to achieve NAHEC's mission—and, in turn, serve to achieve the missions of our community partners.

Recently, NAHEC entered into formalized partnership with Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield Utica Region, Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield Central Region, the Northern New York Community Foundation, the North Country Workforce Investment Board, Kinney Drugs, and Champlain

Valley Physician's Hospital to roll-out a health care workforce recruitment and development system. The project is centered around NAHEC's database-driven website, www.myhealthcareer.org, and directly connects students, job-seekers and incumbent workers with educational institutions and health care employers in the region. The components of the project involve outreach, assessment and training, and recruitment sub-sites embedded within www.myhealthcareer.org.

The Northern New York Community Foundation is supporting NAHEC's health care career exploration outreach program into area junior and senior high schools. These series of presentations involve student access to www.myhealthcareer.org with which they register and explore over 130 health care careers. Once students are registered, they can obtain current, regional health care career information, explore training and professions options, assess and build their foundational skills, and engage with local educational/training institutions and health care employers.

The North Country Workforce Investment Board, Kinney Drugs, and Champlain Valley Physician's Hospital are supporting foundational skill assessments through funding of a large number of skill assessment accounts. The foundational skill assessments

are completed on NAHEC's website through its Learning Management System, KeyTrain®. KeyTrain® is a Level One Publisher for American College Testing, Inc. (ACT) and provides not only WorkKeys®-derived foundational skill assessments, but skill training to the specific areas with which a student or worker requires development related to their career of choice.

Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield Utica Region and Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield Central Region are supporting the development of recruitment sub-sites for 35 educational/training institutions and health care employers in the region. A recruitment sub-site is, in essence, a shared website between NAHEC and any given education or employer community partner.

The health care workforce recruitment and development system project is the result of years of community partnership development. Thoughtfully designed and carefully executed, the project represents exceeding value to students, job-seekers and incumbent workers in northern New York. Most importantly, it re-designs the collective methods by which we define our communities, and the manner in which we communicate to achieve missions of individual and institutional origin.

HM AHEC Partners with ARHN & COFAMH to Bring Geriatric Mental Health Training to Health Care Providers

**Lottie M. Jameson, MS,
HM AHEC Program Coordinator**

A well-trained health care workforce is one of the goals of Hudson Mohawk Area Health Education Center (HM AHEC). To that end, HM AHEC collaborated with the Adirondack Rural Health Network (ARHN) and the Coalition for the Advancement of Mental Health (COFAMH) to bring a national speaker, Dr. William Cone, from southern California, to our area for two daylong trainings. The trainings, *Understanding Older*

Minds: Issues in Geriatric Health Care, were presented in Lake George on Monday, October 24, 2005 and the following day in Lake Placid. The trainings were packed with information including: Normal Aging—the aging body, senses and personality; Medical Problems—pain, strokes, substance abuse, sexual problems, sleep and medications; Delirium, Delusion and Psychoses—including schizophrenia and bipolar disorder; Depression, Anxiety and Suicide—the problem, barriers to diagnosis and treatment, and treatments and interventions; The Aging Brain – myths of memory and the memory process; Dementias—risk factors, types of

dementia, Parkinson's and Huntington's, and prevention and treatment. Attendees learned how to assess the mental and emotional status of elderly clients, to differentiate between depression and dementia, and to describe treatments and interventions for behavioral and emotional difficulties.

Over 185 people attended the training in Lake George and another 125 in Lake Placid. The goal of the training was to build capacity in the workforce so that “people taking care of people” have the skills and

See *Geriatric Training* continued on page 7

Thiel Center

(continued from front page)

distance education and a learning center complete with computer lab.

The Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo has been a major contributor to the new Thiel Center, both in terms of project guidance and financial support. The Foundation oversees the Thiel Trust, a trust established by William Thiel with the specific intent “to meet the health needs of the residents of Wyoming County.” Gail Johnstone, President of the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, stated, “This is one man’s vision, his dream, coming true. William Thiel would be so happy, so proud, of this accomplishment.”

Patient Gifts

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gen tank torn away. Fortunately he found his oxygen mask and was quickly rescued. However he was haunted by a nightmare and found himself drinking heavily each evening to get to sleep. His nightmare consisted of a struggle to find a face mask. I related what I had learned about dreams from a study of African communities and offered him an old face mask I had in the office. I suggested that he could gain control over the nightmare by keeping the face mask close at hand and, whether asleep or awake, when his thoughts went to the collapse of that building that he could grab the face mask and gain control over his nightmare. He returned three days later claiming he was back in control, but he asked to keep the face mask. He returned to work and continues to be active in the Buffalo Fire Department. Almost two years later while cleaning out his workshop he came across that face mask I had lent him long ago. He cleaned it up and offered it to me as a token of his appreciation for helping him remain an active productive citizen.

These stories represent only a few items in my box of gifts; however they highlight the importance of a comprehensive biological-psychological-social approach and individualized health care. They exemplify the interface between high tech and high touch.

Geriatric Training

(continued from page 6)

tools they need to provide quality care to their patients. The job of “taking care of people” may become even more challenging as the population of 65 and older is projected to double between 2010 and 2030, with only an 8% increase in the overall labor force (www.hanys.org/newsletters/focus/focus.cfm, Summer 2005).

HM AHEC will continue to work with providers in its service area to bring high quality trainings “right to their door,” to further improve their work environment and the workforce readiness of health care agencies and facilities.

Elmwood Health Center

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The third station of the five we observed was Nursing and Medical Services. In this observation we actually got to go into a couple of offices and observe nurses doing their jobs. It was especially cool for me because this is now my new desired profession. I enjoy helping others and nurses do just that.

In conclusion, my field trip to Elmwood Health Center was an unforgettable experience that I will always remember. It even made me change my whole career path. I learned a lot about careers in health care and maybe one day I’ll have one.

Community Health

(continued from page 5)

Q: Why should current (and future) health professionals care about working with, or in, communities to promote health?

A: Health professionals have a duty to promote health, and healthy living just as much as they do to treat those already sick. They should serve as leaders and role models for health initiatives outside of private hospitals and practices, because without their presence in public health efforts, a whole lot of communities

Collaboration

(continued from page 5)

facilities in the central New York region would have difficulty hosting camps. “The support and coordination provided through this partnership made it easy for us to add MASH Camp to our complement of career exploration programming. Our first camp was a big hit with the students and staff,” states Mike Healy, Director of Community Relations and Camp Coordinator at Oneida Healthcare Center located in Madison County.

Fiscal support is not the only ingredient in the recipe for success. Health careers exploration camps would not happen without the tremendous in-kind contribution of staff time, space, and supplies provided by the local facilities that host camps. In central New York CNYAHEC is pleased to have an extensive network of partners including A.L. Lee Memorial Hospital, Arnot Ogden Medical Center, Auburn Memorial Hospital, Cayuga Medical Center, Chenango Memorial Hospital, Community General Hospital, Community Memorial Hospital, Cortland Memorial Hospital, Ithaca College, Oneida Healthcare Center, Oswego Hospital, Schuyler Hospital, SUNY Upstate Medical University, and United Health Services Hospitals.

CNYAHEC values the resources brought to the table by each of its community-based partners. Together, community by community, we are working to grow tomorrow’s health professionals.

would fall between the cracks.

Q: What specific diseases or conditions have you learned more about preventing, managing, or treating as a result of your summer experience?

A: One of the issues we addressed specifically is obesity, the diseases it predisposes to and the best places to start interventions. For example, Bronx Healthy Hearts is working simultaneously in elementary schools, restaurants, and bodegas (grocery stores) to provide greater access to nutritious foods while limiting the unhealthy options.

Primary Care Week

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- a lecture presented by Dr. Peter Forman, Family Medicine Predoctoral Director.
- “Institute of Medicine Facts on the Uninsured,” a lecture presented by a panel of several local representatives.
- Hands-on suturing workshop for medical students taught by several Family Medicine residents.
- “The GNY Exam,” a workshop for medical students taught by Dr. Forman and Family Medicine residents..
- “Why Should I Consider Family Medicine as a Career?” a lecture presented by Dr. Forman.
- Primary Care Panel with representatives from Family Medicine, Pediatrics and Internal medicine including Drs. Forman, Lisa Bevilacqua, and Dan Brown, all Family Practitioners, Dr. Al Steinman, Internal Medicine, and Dr. John Bevilacqua, Pediatrics.
- “International Medical Experiences,” presentation by several medical students who have participated in such experiences.
- Provided an opportunity for 44 medical students to attend the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA.

New York State Area Health Education Center (AHEC) System

Statewide Office

Director: Thomas C. Rosenthal, MD

Associate Director: L. Thomas Wolff, MD Deputy Director: Mary J. Sienkiewicz, MBA
Medical Director: John Brewer, MD Nursing Director: Carol Brewer, PhD, RN
Evaluation Director: Linda Kahn, PhD Education Specialist: Denise McGuigan, MEd
Project Manager: Andrea Nikischer, MS Administrative Assistant: Sondra Showers

Central Region

Medical Director: L. Thomas Wolff, MD
Regional Director: Peter G. Beatty, PhD

Department of Family Medicine
SUNY, Upstate Medical University
475 Irving Avenue, Suite 200
Syracuse, NY 13210
(315) 464-7027

Northern AHEC

Executive Director: Richard K. Merchant, MA
105 Main Street
Canton, NY 13617
(315) 379-7701
www.careersinhealth.org

Central New York AHEC

Executive Director: Joanne Borfritz
10 Kennedy Parkway
Cortland, NY 13045
(607) 756-1090
www.cnyahec.org

Western New York Rural AHEC

CEO: Kenneth L. Oakley, PhD, FACHE
20 Duncan Street
Warsaw, NY 14569
(585) 786-6275
www.r-ahec.org

Eastern Region

Medical School Liaison: Mary F. Smith, PhD
Regional Director: Steven Schreiber, PhD

Department of Family and
Community Medicine
Albany Medical College
Bolton Hall (MC127) 405 Myrtle Avenue
Albany, NY 12208
(518) 262-9902

Hudson Mohawk AHEC

Executive Director: Alice Farrell, MSPA
One Broad Street Plaza
Glens Falls, NY 12801
(518) 480-2432
www.HMAHEC.org

Catskill Hudson AHEC

Executive Director:
Kathryn R. Reed, CMPE
598 Route 299
Highland, NY 12528
(845) 883-7260
www.catskillhudsonahec.org

Erie Niagara AHEC

Executive Director: Mary Craig
355 Linwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 881-8220

New York Metropolitan Region

Medical Director: Neil Calman, MD
Regional Director: Maxine Golub, MPH
The Institute for Urban Family Health
16 E. 16th Street
New York, NY 10003
(212) 633-0800

Bronx-Westchester AHEC

Executive Director:
Madelyn Rivera, MS
930 Grand Concourse
Suite 1A
Bronx, NY 10451
(718) 590-1110

Brooklyn-Queens-Long Island AHEC

Executive Director: Gabrielle Kersaint, MSPH
408 Jay Street, Suite 400
Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 797-1558
www.bqliahec.org

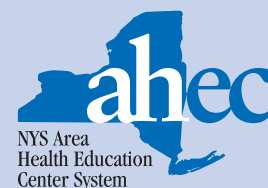
Manhattan-Staten Island AHEC

Executive Director: Mary J. Mitchell, MPA
43 Central Park North
Suite 1A
New York, NY 10026
(212) 534-2432

New York State AHEC System Statewide Office
University at Buffalo
Department of Family Medicine
462 Grider Street • Buffalo, NY 14215
Phone: 716.898.4699
Fax: 716.898.3536
www.ahec.buffalo.edu

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Contact the editor via e-mail:
an23@acsu.buffalo.edu
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