

HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

A SPECTRUM OF SOLUTIONS

Senate

Labor & Commerce Committee

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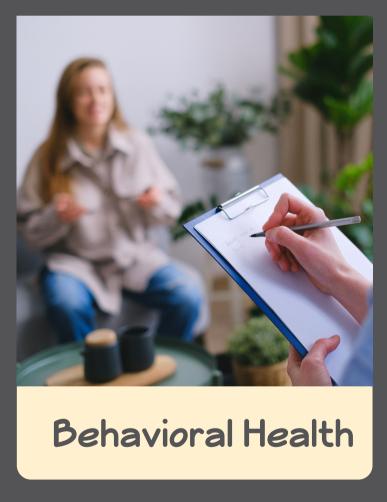
Director, Alaska AHEC Program

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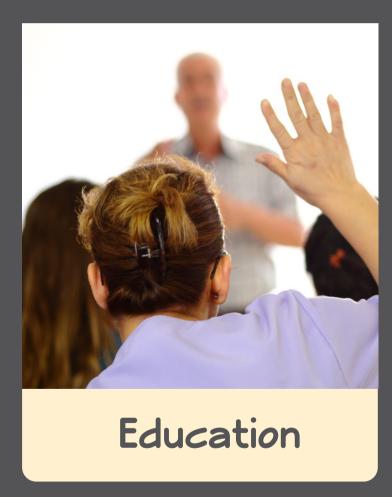


Healthcare Workforce Shortages









These shortages are exasperated in our rural communities



Impact of Workforce Shortages

- Difficulty accessing healthcare
- Long wait lists for appointments
- Increased cost of care
- Decrease in quality of care
- Closure of facilities
- Reliance on itinerant staffing
- Impaired relationships of providers and patients
- Increased reliance on emergency care
- Health inequity

A Spectrum of Solutions

PIPELINE PROGRAMMING

Health career exploration for youth in rural and underserved communities

COMMUNITY BASED LEARNING

Health professions student
exposure to practice in
rural/underserved communities

CONTINUING EDUCATION & LOAN REPAYMENT

Training, education, loan repayment and direct incentives to current providers

All solutions must be implemented simultaneously and seamlessly across sectors to make an impact

ALITTLE ABOUT ME



Rural
Communities
can be HOME
for just about
anyone!

Alaska Vans

From Bronx,
NY to
Utqiagvik,
AK



Let's Take
a Step Back:

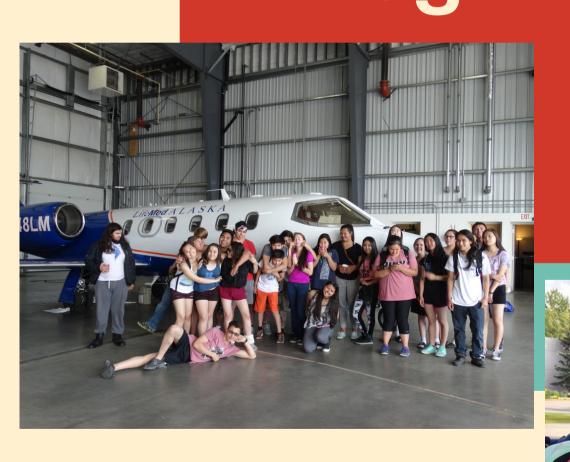


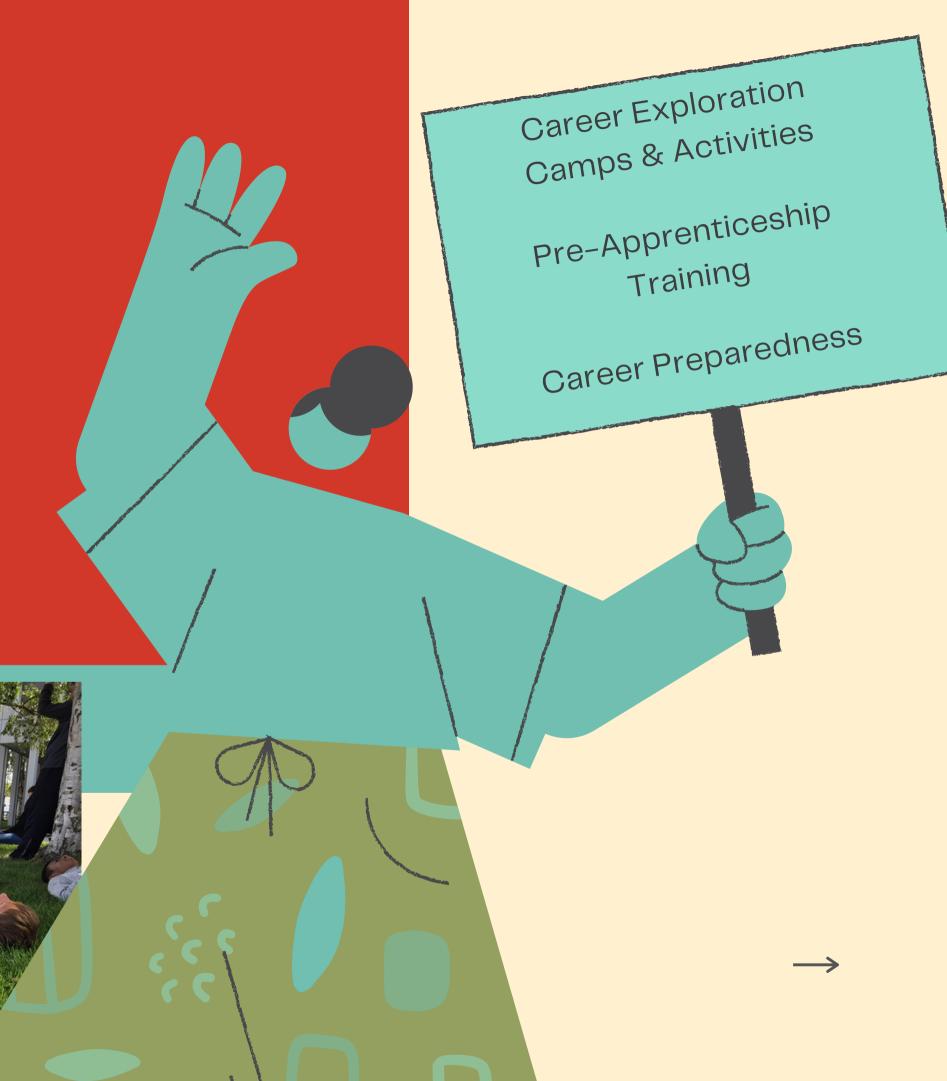
The History- Area Health Education Centers

- 1970 Carnegie Commission Report: Higher Education and the Nation's Health
- 1971 Congress enacts the Comprehensive Health Manpower Training Act (funding AHECs)
- 1972 US Department of Health, Education & Welfare awards first ever AHEC contracts in 11 states (1st Generation AHECs)
- 1978-Present: AHEC Network continues to grow

- Recommended development of AHECs to address workforce shortages and maldistribution of providers in rural/underserved communities
- Recommended federal funding for communities without academic health centers
- Goals to enhance supply, distribution & quality of healthcare in these communities
- Leverage federal, state & local resources
- Engage community connections to industry and academia
- Increase diversity in the healthcare workforce
- Improve retention of healthcare professionals in rural communities

Pipeline Programming





Community Based Learning

AHEC Scholars

- Open to all health professions students
- Two year program (some 1 year exceptions)
- 40 hours/year of extracurricular didactic training
- 40 hours/year of community experiential learning

Community Experiential Learning

• Opportunities for rural/underserved rotations or clinical experiences

Rural Immersion Institute of the North

• Opportunities for students from the Lower 48 to explore Alaska









CE & Loan Repayment

- Training webinars, conferences & events for health professionals
- Continuing Education Credit for licensure
- SHARP Loan Repayment Program



Investment in Existing Solutions

AHEC is integral to alleviating to Alaska's Healthcare Workforce Crisis!

The AHEC model can be utilized for any industry.

QUESTIONS?

COMMENTS?

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