

Alabama
AHEC

STATEWIDE PROGRAM



The **NAO Biennial Conference**, held on June 27-30, 2023, provided a valuable platform for the **Alabama Statewide AHEC** to connect with professionals, educators, and fellow scholars from nationwide AHEC programs. In Salt Lake City, Utah, this networking opportunity facilitated knowledge-sharing, collaboration, and relationship-building within the vibrant AHEC community.

Throughout the conference, attendees benefited from diverse educational sessions, workshops, and keynote presentations focusing on improving healthcare outcomes.

The Alabama Statewide AHEC Program Office was honored to present an impactful "Your World is Not THE World" breakout session. The Program Office drew inspiration from the successful AHEC Scholars Day event held in January at the renowned Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. Led by Dr. Becky Reamey and Earl Johnson of the Statewide Program Office, the session provided attendees with a comprehensive understanding of different biases and their relevance in healthcare.

Through open dialogue and shared experiences, participants understood the importance of providing unbiased patient care. By acknowledging biases and actively working towards overcoming them, healthcare providers can enhance the quality of care and reduce disparities in healthcare outcomes.

We look forward to implementing what we learned at the conference and eagerly anticipate the next NAO Biennial Conference. Our commitment to advancing healthcare education and improving patient outcomes remains steadfast!

Any AHEC stakeholders are invited to join the conference.
Save the date for June 17-20, 2025 in Lexington, KY.

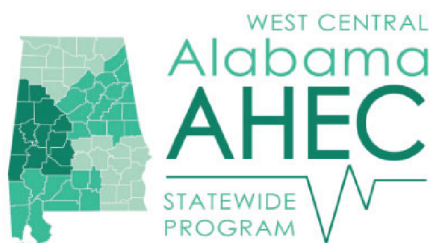


Alabama Preceptor Tax Incentive Program

It is with great excitement that we announce that the **Alabama Preceptor Tax Incentive Program (PTIP) Bill** was passed by the house and senate on the last day of the 2023 legislative session! The PTIP Bill will be sponsored and operated by the **Alabama Statewide AHEC Program Office**. The Alabama Preceptor Tax Incentive Program bill addresses the need for students and training programs in the health professions, including medicine, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, optometrists, and dentists, to have access to community-based training opportunities. Eligible qualified health professionals who provide community-based unpaid clinical preceptorships for health professions students will receive a tax credit under the Alabama Preceptor Tax Incentive Program. It is our hope that this initiative will widen access to healthcare in Alabama and strengthen the most underserved communities.

Look out for updates on the implementation of this new, exciting bill!

[Read the Bill](#)



West Central Alabama AHEC Awarded \$1.2M Rural Health Network Development Grant

Congratulations to **West Central Alabama AHEC** on being awarded a \$1.2M Rural Health Network Development Grant! The grant will further expand its Southwest Alabama Healthcare Collaborative (SAHC) with their current community partners to launch the Goldenrod Outreach (GO) Initiative. This four-year project aims to expand access to, coordinate and improve the quality of essential healthcare services and enhance healthcare delivery in the southwest Alabama counties of Choctaw, Clarke, Escambia, Marengo, Monroe, and Sumter.

The GO Initiative will support a coordinated community-based approach involving multi-sectoral interventions to increase services for prevention, treatment, and long-term management among those at risk for diabetes and heart disease.

The funds provided through this program are not used for direct delivery of services but aim to improve healthcare providers and community capacity for care while aiming to reduce social, economic, and environmental barriers to better health for individuals.

The 2023-2027 Rural Health Network Development Grant Project: The Goldenrod Outreach (GO) Initiative is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$1.2M with 0 % financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

West Central Alabama AHEC awarded \$450,000 Delta Region Authority, Delta Workforce Grant Program

Another big congratulations to **West Central Alabama AHEC**! In coordination with partners across Hale, Marengo, and Perry Counties, WCAAHEC has been awarded \$450,000 for the Longleaf Outreach Project. The innovative project aims to increase the healthcare workforce pipeline in rural Alabama through community-based workforce development. The Longleaf Outreach Project will intertwine aspects of the strong structures of the West Central Alabama AHEC's **Health Professions Academy (HPA)** and **Community Health Worker (CHW)** programs to create the HPA 2.0 program and will provide immediate employability and workforce development to seniors and individuals not enrolled in secondary education ages 17+ by equipping them with community knowledge and understanding of barriers to mental and behavioral health services in our area, including social determinants of health, **Youth Mental Health First Aid** and community service opportunities. HPA 2.0 will also train participants to become Community Health Workers (CHWs) to increase behavioral health support for individuals at risk and diagnosed with **SUD/OD** and other behavioral health conditions as identified during the project.

Training & Grant Opportunities



Training Program

Region IV Public Health & Primary Care (PHPC) Leadership Institute 2023-2024 Fellows

When: 8-month experience beginning October 19, 2023 - May 9, 2024. **The deadline to apply is August 4, 2023**

Where: 7 virtual sessions & 1 in-person retreat

Cost: There is no fee to participate. The Region IV PHTC will cover travel costs (e.g., transportation to/from Atlanta, hotel, meals) for the in-person Retreat Nov 1 – Nov 3, 2023.

About: This leadership program for emerging primary and public healthcare leaders from local, state and tribal government health departments. Emerging Leaders from Region IV will collaboratively explore issues in leadership practices and principles including cultural competency, managing conflict, decision making, and collaborative leadership. Each participant will assess their leadership strengths and identify an adaptive leadership challenge to focus on during the Institute. Participants will engage in exercises using case studies and will have opportunities to apply and share with others what they have learned.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Webinar

Hospital at Home for Rural Communities

When: August 8, 2023, at 11:00 am CST

Where: Zoom

About: The pandemic-driven surge in telehealth has revolutionized healthcare by enabling remote access to medical services from virtually anywhere. The concept of hospital-at-home has rapidly evolved, transcending traditional house calls to embrace a hybrid telehealth approach that combines in-person care with the safety and convenience of round-the-clock virtual access to a dedicated healthcare team within the confines of one's residence. This innovative care delivery model not only enhances patient accessibility to high-quality healthcare but has also demonstrated potential in reducing expenses, improving outcomes, and enhancing overall patient experience. While predominantly implemented in urban areas, this webinar will delve into the untapped benefits rural communities can derive from adopting this care delivery model, featuring esteemed speakers [Dr. Margaret Paulson](#) from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science and [Maren Nordenberg](#) from the Mayo Clinic Health System.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Virtual Event

2023 National Maternal Health Innovation Symposium

When: August 9-10, 2023

Where: Zoom

About: The 4th annual National Maternal Health Innovation Symposium, organized by the [Maternal Health Learning and Innovation Center](#) (MHLIC), is set to take place. The event will feature various breakout sessions, including discussions on crucial topics such as preventing pregnancy-associated deaths by addressing injury and violence, creating a maternal health equity toolkit for hospitals with community and patient engagement, assessing the current state of postpartum Medicaid coverage, and exploring multi-level strategies to achieve perinatal equity specifically for Black women and birthing individuals.

For the full list of virtual sessions, [visit the website](#) and flip through the agenda for August 9 and 10.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Webinar

Accelerating Black and Brown Diversity in Healthcare Leadership

When: August 23, 2023, at 11:00 am to 12:00 pm CST

Where: Zoom

About: Join leaders from the [National Association of Health Services Executives](#), the [National Association of Latino Healthcare Executives](#), and the [Institute for Diversity and Health Equity](#) for a panel discussion on accelerating black and brown diversity in healthcare leadership. During this webinar, the first in a series, our panelists will discuss obstacles these communities face in professional growth and development and provide strategies for advancing workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion in healthcare. They will offer different perspectives to drive innovation in health equity and answer questions.

[Learn More & Register](#)



Announcements & Calls to Action



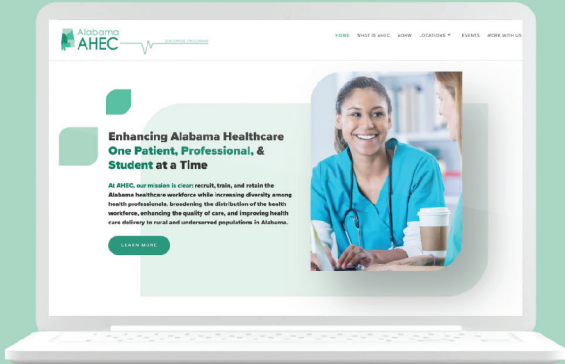
URGE YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO SUPPORT AHEC FUNDING!

Urge your U.S House Representative and two Senators to support federal funding for the AHEC Program at \$67 million for Fiscal Year 2024!

[Act Now](#)

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

alahec.org



Visit Our New Website

About Alabama Statewide AHEC



The Alabama Statewide Area Health Education Center is dedicated to recruiting, training, and retaining the Alabama healthcare workforce while increasing diversity among health professionals, broadening the distribution of the health workforce, enhancing the quality of care, and improving health care delivery to rural and underserved populations in Alabama.

The Alabama Statewide Area Health Education Center is funded in part by the **Health Resources and Services Administration**, the federal agency charged with training health professionals and improving health care for people who are geographically isolated, economically disadvantaged or medically vulnerable. The contents of this website are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

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