

Alabama
AHEC
STATEWIDE
PROGRAM

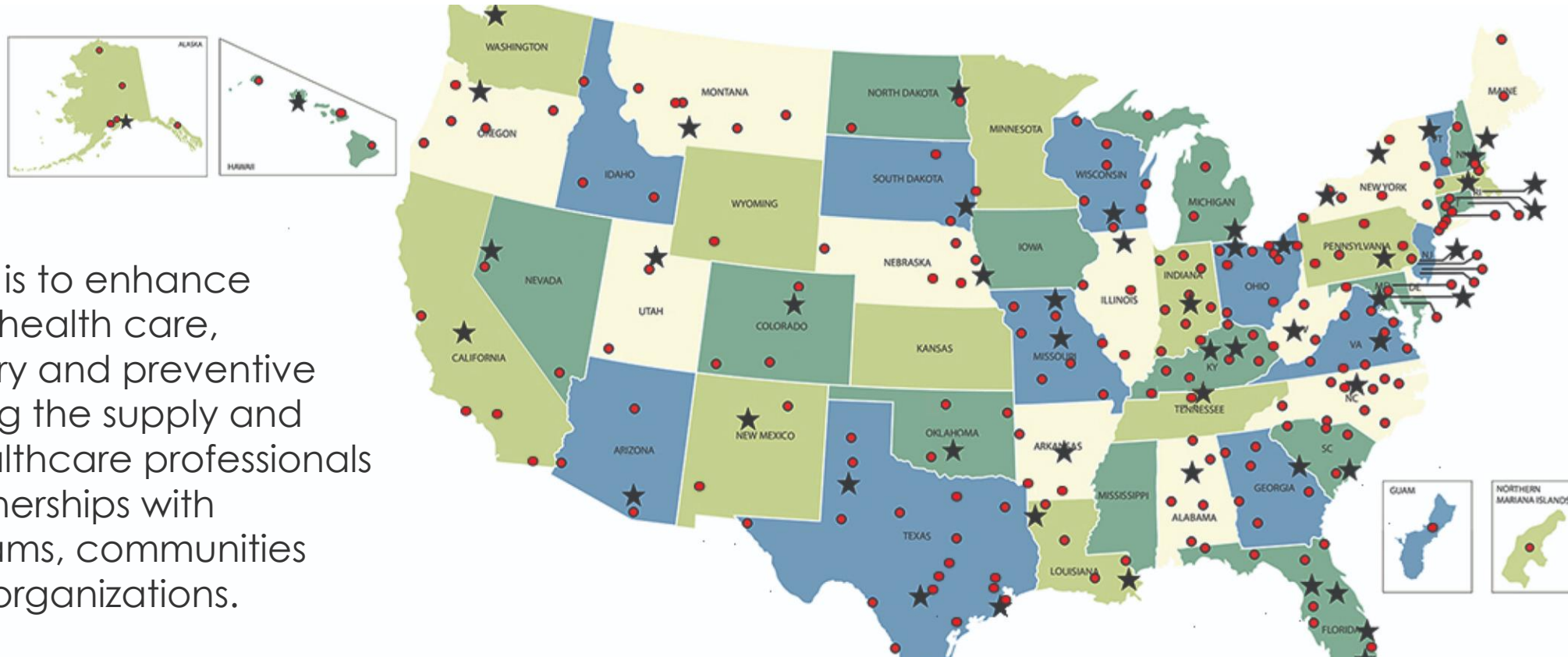
AHEC Primary Care Summit

UAB Hilton Hotel
January 25, 2024

Who are we?

Developed by Congress in 1971 to recruit, train and retain a health professions workforce committed to underserved populations and to bring the resources of academic medicine to address local community health needs.

- a network of more than 300 AHEC program offices and centers
- serve over 85% of United States counties



The AHEC mission is to enhance access to quality health care, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of healthcare professionals via strategic partnerships with academic programs, communities and professional organizations.

Who are we?

Our Mission



Influence the training of health profession students/residents towards primary care through rotations in rural and underserved Alabama communities.



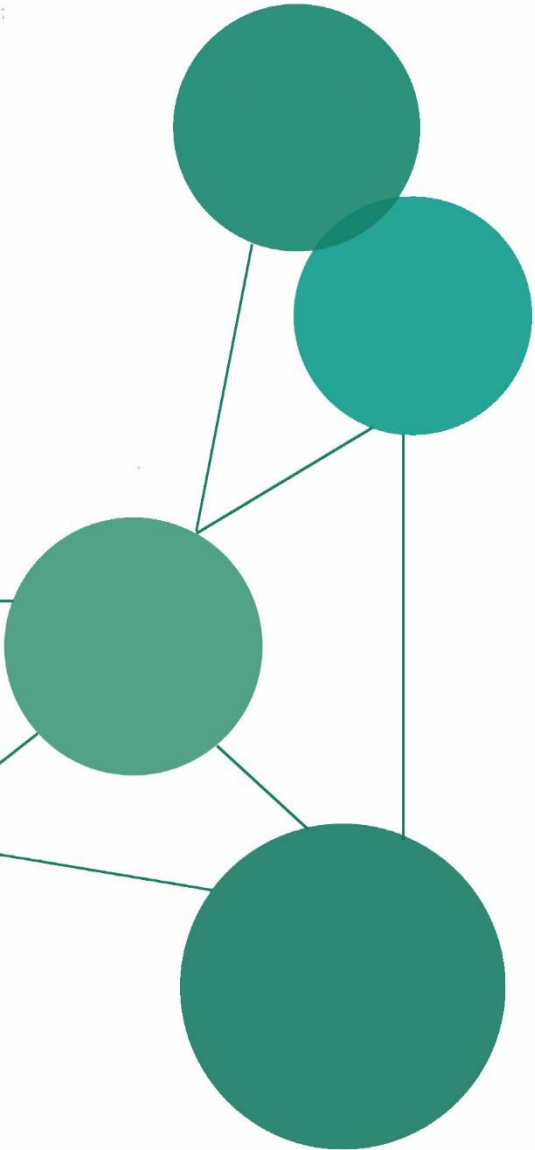
Provide continuing education and support for targeted health providers.



Implement programs, services and activities that target underrepresented minorities, rural and other disadvantaged Alabamians for careers in the health professions.



Provide innovative, collaborative, interprofessional responses to community needs.



Our Grant

- Identify opportunities for the further development of the Alabama Statewide AHEC Program that covers all 67 counties of the state *with five (5) community-based AHEC Centers*.
- Enhance the co-curricular experiences of the *AHEC Scholars Program* that prepares a diverse, culturally competent group of health professions students for recruitment into primary care and practice in rural or underserved areas of Alabama.
- Facilitate *community-based experiential training of health professions students* in rural and underserved areas of Alabama to improve workforce distribution.
- Cultivate partnerships to prepare underrepresented minority, rural, and other disadvantaged *Alabama youth for careers in the health professions*, including public health.
- Support *continuing education for practicing health professionals in Alabama on the core topic areas* of interprofessional education/team-based practice, behavioral health integration, connecting communities and supporting health professionals, virtual learning and telehealth, social determinants of health, cultural competency, practice transformation, and selected current and emerging health issues.
- Enhance and assess the *comprehensive, outcome-focused evaluation* of the Alabama Statewide AHEC Program and activities.
- Increase and strengthen partnerships with preceptors and communities to *improve workforce distribution in rural and underserved areas*. (Develop toolkit for communities.)

*Expected renewal due date in April 2027.

Recruit & Train

Educating a Workforce

Connect students to mentors and preceptors

Reach out with community health workers to provide resources for underserved and under-represented communities

Use real data to determine need and institute care models that work

Pipeline Programs

Create training and learning opportunities through health professions pipeline from 8th grade through residency and placement

AHEC Scholars

Foster partnerships with local universities, colleges, community colleges, and training programs

Certificates

Offer opportunities for workforce training to ensure the most direct path to entering the workforce.

Continuing Education

Foster lasting relationships with providers through continuing education opportunities.

Addressing Public Health Needs

CHW Training Program



Telehealth Training



Health Literacy



Opioid Crisis



Veterans Affairs



Mental Health



Issues:

- Largely rural state with tremendous health care needs
- Poor health outcomes that are not improving
- Limited numbers of health care providers in rural areas
- Lack of access to health care and a healthy workforce limits Alabama's ability to attract new business and industry

AHEC:

- Agile and reliant structure to address needs of the State
- Build upon existing relationships with schools, local government, and community partners to fill in the gaps where health and wellness are concerned.
- Apply real data to the communities we serve to identify better ways to provide access to education, care, and success.
- Embrace diversity to reach new partners and opportunities for collaboration.

Engage and Partner

Community Engagement

Partnerships & Puzzle Pieces

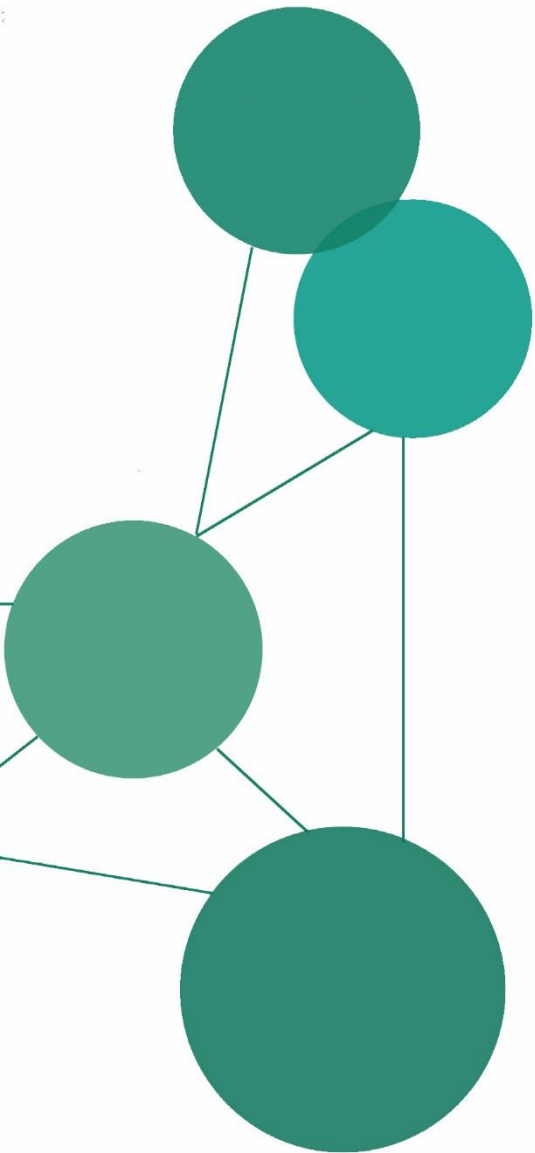
Alabama AHEC is poised to lead for the future of Alabama health care by:

- Providing access to resources in education, training, and physician placement
 - Working together with partners and legislature to guide policies and provide incentives
 - Creating opportunities for community partnerships and workforce development
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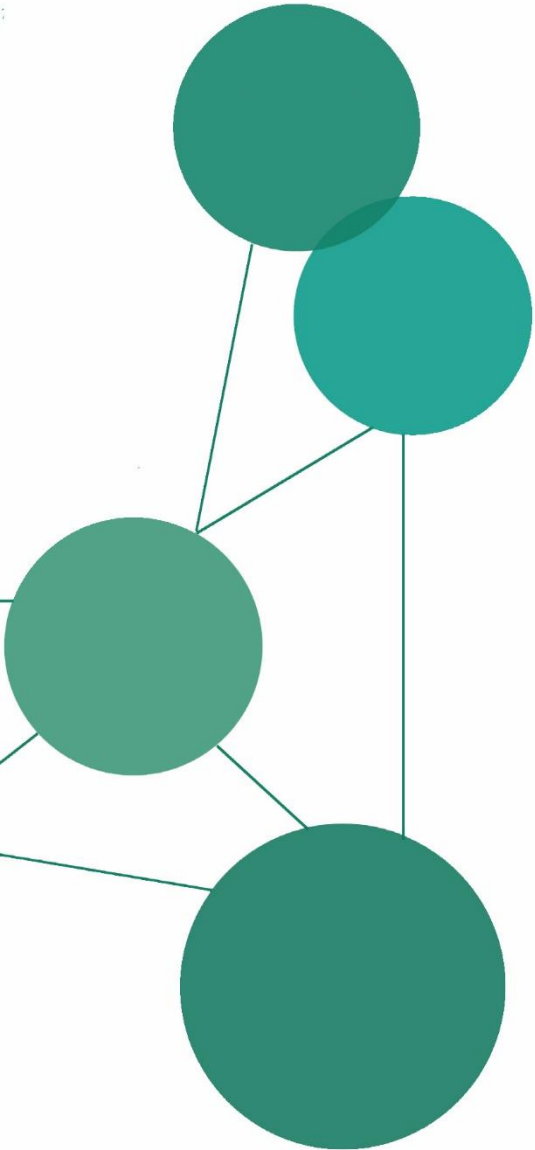
Alabama Office of Healthcare Workforce

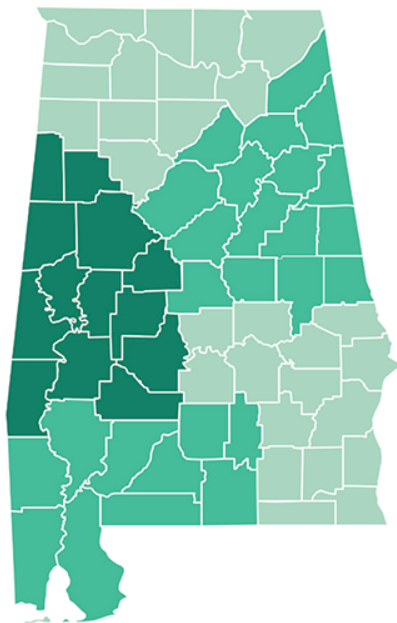
- Provides data-driven research that supports and promotes health workforce development and planning in Alabama.
- Executes research that will inform health workforce planning and policy.
- Disseminates relevant academic literature; the provision of consultation services to local, state, regional, and national policy makers on health workforce issues.
- Develops and refines analytical methods to support health workforce planning.



Alabama Preceptor Tax Incentive Program

- The AHEC Program Office shall administer the Preceptor Tax Incentive Program and certify preceptorship rotations on behalf of all eligible public and private training programs for medicine, osteopathic medicine, advanced practice nursing, and physician assistant at institutions in Alabama.
- Licensed physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, or physician assistants who provide uncompensated preceptorship training to medical students, advanced practice registered nurse students, or physician assistant students for a rotation that equals 160 hours will receive a per rotation, per year, credit allotment.





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