

# CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

## Empowering East Alabama: ECAAHEC-RAM Partnership Delivers Vital Dental Care to Underserved Communities

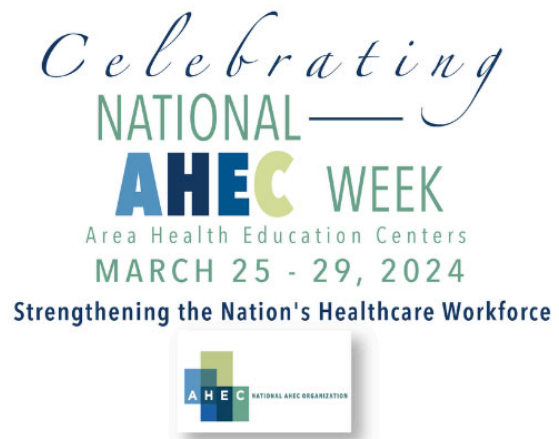


East Central Alabama AHEC (ECAAHEC) and Rural Area Medical (RAM) recently teamed up to offer crucial dental services to East Alabama families. Held at the East Gadsden Walmart on February 24-25, the Pop-Up clinic saw 29 local volunteers, including dentists and dental specialists, providing care.

Over two days, 67 adults and children received services valued at over \$30,000, including

cleanings, fillings, and extractions. This event addressed significant barriers to dental care faced by many in the area, including financial constraints and limited access to providers.

The collaboration highlights the importance of initiatives like RAM, which bring free, high-quality care directly to underserved communities. By addressing healthcare disparities and empowering individuals to prioritize their health, partnerships like ECAAHEC-RAM contribute to building healthier communities.



## National AHEC Week (March 25-29)

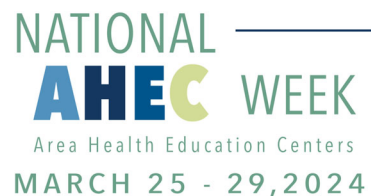
NAO Public Policy Committee would like to announce that National AHEC Week will be March 25 – March 29.

AHECs have received substantial increases in federal funding over the last few years, and our ongoing success with our public policy efforts is a direct result of our strong grassroots advocacy. Fostering relationships and educating members of Congress (and their staffs) on the amazing work of the AHECs across the country is an important component of our AHEC work.

Members of Congress want to hear from their constituents, the people they represent. That's why we've designated a full week of action in which AHECs across the country are encouraged to contact their legislators. We have focused our efforts on supporting your advocacy efforts through providing short, concise training videos and easy-to-use messaging.

Please find the following updates to enhance our efforts around National AHEC Week:

- We have invited some members of Congress to make a proclamation declaring National AHEC Week. We encourage you to ask your state legislators (or even local government officials) to do the same. [HERE](#) is a sample proclamation.
- Documents that will be helpful to you as you prepare for your advocacy discussions include NAO Public Policy's [Advocacy Toolkit](#), the [NAO CORE Data Flyer](#), and this [Action Alert](#).
- The 2024 National AHEC Week [social media images](#) are for your use to share widely on your social media channels. NAO will be sharing content every day of the week, and you are encouraged to do the



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Healthcare Workforce

same – tell your stories about students, preceptors, successes, etc.  
We'll be using these hashtags: #AHECWeek2024 and #NationalAHEC

- Feel free to adapt this national [PRESS RELEASE](#) to your state and/or AHEC.

Let's keep our momentum going by making National AHEC Week a success!

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### **North Alabama AHEC's Lamont Dupree Joins Alabama Rural Health Association Board**



Lamont Dupree, the Executive Director of [North Alabama AHEC](#), has been appointed as a member of the Board of Directors for the [Alabama Rural Health Association](#), underscoring his significant influence in healthcare leadership. With his extensive background in healthcare education and community outreach, Dupree is poised to bring valuable insights and strategic direction to the board, amplifying efforts to improve healthcare outcomes for rural populations in Alabama. His commitment to serving underserved communities and driving positive change makes him a valuable addition to the leadership of the [Alabama Rural Health Association](#). Congratulations, Lamont!

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# Learning Opportunities

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**March AHEC Scholars Webinar**

**Population Health Research - EDP Formula**

**When:** Friday, March 29, 2024, 12 pm - 1 pm  
**Where:** Zoom

### About This Event

Join Dr. Chip Tucker, [East Central Alabama AHEC](#) Scholars Coordinator, for a webinar on Population Health Research - EDP Formula. Discover how to use the EDP Formula to craft focused study questions, essential for impactful healthcare research. Register now to gain valuable insights and enhance your skills in population health research.



Registration

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## Resourcefulness in Rural Healthcare

**When:** Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 12 pm - 1 pm  
**Where:** Ryals Public Health Building, 407  
1665 University Blvd, Birmingham, AL 35233

### About This Event

Join the Lister Hill Center for Health Policy's last Lunch and Learn event of the semester! Explore **"Resourcefulness in Rural Healthcare: Optimizing Patient Assistance Programs for Better Health Outcomes in Rural Areas"** featuring Dr. Olusunmisola Oyesiku.

Dr. Oyesiku, also known as "Dr. O" or "Sunmi," is a Board-Certified Family Medicine Physician and Women's Health specialist. She serves as a Primary Care Provider, Mobile Contraception Clinic Coordinator, and Chief Medical Officer at Rural Health Medical Program Inc. in Selma, Alabama.



Registration

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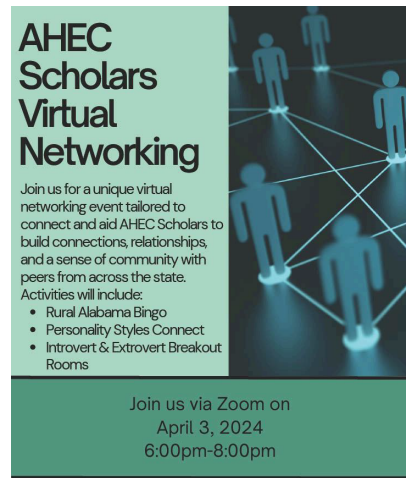
## AHEC Scholars Spring Virtual Networking

**When:** Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 6 pm - 8 pm

**Where:** Zoom

### About This Event

Join us for a unique virtual networking event tailored to connect and aid AHEC Scholars to build connections, relationships, and sense of community with peers from across the state. From fun, engaging activities to networking lounges that are crafted to support your individual personalities. We believe that by coming together, we can empower each other to make a lasting impact on the future of healthcare in Alabama.



**AHEC  
Scholars  
Virtual  
Networking**

Join us for a unique virtual networking event tailored to connect and aid AHEC Scholars to build connections, relationships, and a sense of community with peers from across the state. Activities will include:

- Rural Alabama Bingo
- Personality Styles Connect
- Introvert & Extrovert Breakout Rooms

Join us via Zoom on  
April 3, 2024  
6:00pm-8:00pm

Register  
[www.alahec.org/  
upcoming-events/](http://www.alahec.org/upcoming-events/)



Registration

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## Volunteer Opportunity

### Sports Physicals for Birmingham City Schools

#### About This Event

The [UAB Department of Family and Community Medicine](#) is calling on volunteers to help with sports physicals for the Birmingham City Schools. They need physicians, students, nurses, ATs CMAs, staff and anyone who can lend a hand. Lunch and beverages will be provided for those who sign up.

#### Dates and Locations (9 am to 3 pm)

Tuesday, April 2nd - Huffman High School  
Thursday, April 4th - Bessemer City High School  
Tuesday, April 9th - Wenonah High School  
Tuesday, April 23rd - Ramsay High School  
Wednesday, April 24th - Carver High School  
Thursday, April 25th - Jackson-Olin High School

Any questions, email Calvin Spellman at [cspellman@uabmc.edu](mailto:cspellman@uabmc.edu)

Registration

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## Continuing Education (CE) Webinar

## Beyond the Basics – Cleaning & Disinfection to Mitigate the Spread of Infectious Diseases including MDROs for Healthcare Facilities

**When:** Thursday, April 11, 12 pm - 1 pm

**Where:** Zoom

### About This Event

This webinar is designed to help the infection preventionist take their cleaning and disinfection program to the next level. Webinar participants will learn about the pros and cons of different methods for evaluation of cleaning and disinfection practices, impact of how disinfectants are applied to surfaces, and the pros and cons of supplemental strategies for enhancing disinfection. This webinar is presented by the Alabama Regional Center for Infection Prevention and Control and cosponsored by the Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety, and the Alabama Statewide Area Health Education Centers (AHEC).

*The Deep South Center for OH&S is an approved provider of continuing education units for nurses by the AL Board of Nursing (Provider ABNP0420 Expiration Date 12/22/2025) and has awarded this program 1.2 ABN CEUs. All other professionals awarded .1 CEUs, SW awarded 1.0 CEUs.*

Registration

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## 2024 MASA Annual Conference

**When:** Thursday - Saturday, April 11-13, 2024

**Where:** Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa Montgomery, AL

### About This Event

The Medical Association of the State of Alabama's (MASA) Annual Session is an opportunity for anyone on their physician journey. Whether you're an experienced physician or just embarking on your medical training, the Annual Session offers a platform for obtaining Continuing Medical Education (CME), networking with peers, and engaging in the official affairs of the Association. This event highlights two distinguished lectures: the Jerome Cochran, MD, Lecture and the Ellann McCrory, MD Leadership Lecture.

Registration

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## April AHEC Webinar

**When:** Friday, April 26, 2024, 12 pm - 2 pm

**Where:** Zoom

**About This Event**

Friday, April 26th, from 12 pm - 2 pm, attendees will have the opportunity to receive **QPR training** and a **certificate** upon completion. Mental health advocates created QPR — question, persuade and refer — which uses evidence-based training to teach the everyday person how to recognize whether someone is in crisis. Angela Sullivan, Ph.D., board president of the Alabama Suicide Prevention and Resources Coalition and assistant professor in the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health, breaks down QPR and how individuals can use it to help others.



Open to everyone!

Registration

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### Healthcare Conventions

Organization	Date	Location	Registration
Alabama Emergency Nurses Association	April 12	Bruno Conference Center Ascension St Vincent's Birmingham	State Conference 2024
National Rural Health Association	May 7-10	New Orleans	9th Rural Hospital Innovation Summit
Gulf Coast Dental Association	June 19-23	SanDestin	Gulf Coast Dental Conference



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[alahec.org](http://alahec.org)



Visit Our Website

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## 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.*