This past year, MAHEC:

- Presented 3,508 Health Careers Education Recruitment and Training Programs – touching 79 counties in Missouri
- Connected with 43,681 Health Career Recruitment participants in those counties
- Coordinated 12,588 medical student clinical training experiences, 81% of which took place in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) and Medically Underserved Communities (MUCs)

This past year, MAHEC:

- Touched 4,469 Health Careers Recruitment Prospects, 171 of whom completed 20 or more hours of career preparation
- Supported the community-based clinical training of 570 medical students, 381 of whom completed 120 or more hours of training
- Placed medical students in 434 different clinical training sites located in 53 of Missouri’s 115 counties; of these, 356 are located in Medically Underserved Communities (MUCs) or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs), and 194 in rural areas

To date, at least 2,290 MAHEC participants have pursued healthcare careers in the state of Missouri, 42% of which are in primary care disciplines.

Missouri’s Healthcare Workforce Crisis

Like many states, Missouri continues to face a critical shortage of healthcare providers

- Missouri ranks 39th in the nation for overall health, 42nd for behavioral health, and 42nd for overall health outcomes
- There are currently 363 primary care HPSA designations in the state and 599 primary care practitioners are needed to remove these designations
- Missouri’s rural population is older, poorer, and suffers from higher rates of chronic diseases compared to metropolitan populations
- The primary care physician shortage is complicated by an aging physician workforce
- The ongoing physical and emotional toll of COVID-19 on health professionals may result in older physicians choosing to leave the field early
- Only 21.5% of Missouri medical school graduates remain and practice in the state due in large measure to a shortage of available residency slots

The Missouri Area Health Education Centers Answer

- Increasing the number of healthcare providers providing care to rural and urban underserved populations requires a longitudinal pipeline nurturing students each step of the way
- MAHEC network programming provides the needed pipeline stretching from grades 9-16 through health professions education and into practice, with a focus on rural and urban underserved, and minority students
- MAHEC brings together the resources of health professions education programs and community-based organizations to recruit, train, and retain healthcare professionals
- Participants in MAHEC programs are returning to Missouri communities to practice – to date, at least 2,290 have pursued healthcare careers in the state
- MAHEC’s partnerships, infrastructure, and outcomes make it essential to increasing and improving Missouri’s healthcare workforce

MAHEC Youth Recruitment Activities

- Inform youth from rural and urban underserved communities and populations about opportunities in health careers
- Foster their interest in becoming healthcare providers
- Help prepare them to enter health professions training

AHEC Scholars Program

- A multi-year educational program designed to prepare interprofessional teams of health professions students to practice in rural and urban underserved settings
- Includes, but is not limited to, students in medical, dental, pharmacy, nurse practitioner, nursing, physician assistant, social work, physical therapy, and public/community health programs
- Focus is on eight core topics: interprofessional education, behavioral health integration, social determinants of health, cultural competency, practice transformation, current and emerging health issues, virtual learning and telehealth, and community health workers

MAHEC Clinical Training Activities

- Support the training of medical, nursing, oral health, and other health professions students, and medical residents in rural and urban underserved communities
- Facilitate preceptor and underserved training site identification and development
- Provide opportunities for students to learn about and engage in the community

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

www.MAHEC.org
MAHEC Participants Choose Primary Care and Missouri

Studies show that retention rates are highest for physicians who complete both their medical school education and residency in the same state.2,7

Over the past 13 years,
- 2,331 MAHEC participants have matched into primary care residencies
- 894 have matched into residencies in Missouri
- 566 have matched into primary care residencies in Missouri

This past year,
- 221 MAHEC participants began primary care residencies
- 75 began residencies in Missouri
- 48 began primary care residencies in Missouri

On average, approximately 179 MAHEC participants choose to train in primary care residencies each year.

At least 2,290 MAHEC participants have pursued healthcare careers in 103 of Missouri’s 115 counties; 98 of which are county-level Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs).

References