Quick Facts

Over the past 5 years MAHEC has:

- Presented 4,791 Health Careers Education Recruitment and Training Programs – touching 85 counties
- Connected with 46,894 Health Career Recruitment participants in those 85 counties
- Coordinated 10,439 medical student rotations, most of which took place in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) and Medically Underserved Communities (MUCs)

This past year alone, MAHEC:

- Touched 7,646 Health Careers Recruitment Prospects, 205 of whom completed 20 or more hours of career preparation
- Supported the community-based clinical training of 487 medical students, 326 of whom completed 120 or more hours of training
- Placed medical students in 491 different clinical training sites located in 69 of Missouri’s 115 counties; of these, 357 are located in Medically Underserved Communities (MUCs) or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs), and 182 in rural areas

To date, at least 1,024 MAHEC participants have gone on to healthcare careers in the state of Missouri, 53% of whom are in primary care.

Missouri’s Healthcare Workforce Crisis

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

- Missouri’s health ranking continues to decline – 37th nationally in 2014 to 40th in 2017
- Missouri’s rural population is older, poorer, and suffers from higher rates of chronic diseases compared to metropolitan populations
- Of the 101 rural counties in Missouri, 99 are considered Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas and 6 counties lack a single primary care physician
- The rural physician shortage crisis is further complicated by an aging physician workforce - rural Missouri primary care physicians are older than their urban counterparts by more than six years
- 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 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, 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 1,024 have gone on to 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 healthcare 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/or underserved urban settings
- Includes, but is not limited to, students in medical, dental, pharmacy, nurse practitioner, nursing, physician assistant, social work, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and public/population health programs
- Focus is on six core topics: interprofessional education, behavioral health integration, social determinants of health, cultural competency, practice transformation, and current and emerging health issues

MAHEC Clinical Training Activities

- Support the training of medical, nursing, oral health, and other health professions students, and medical residents in healthcare 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 10 years,
- 1,685 MAHEC participants have matched into primary care residencies
- 632 have completed residencies in Missouri
- 422 have completed primary care residencies in Missouri

This past year alone,
- 201 MAHEC participants began primary care residencies
- 70 began residencies in Missouri
- 54 began primary care residencies in Missouri

On average, each year approximately 165 MAHEC participants choose to train in primary care residencies.

References