



Our Mission

To serve as a culturally competent regional resource for the promotion of health equity among the communities of southern New Mexico.



Improving access to quality healthcare through community and academic partnerships that are designed to strengthen the health workforce.

Address:
205 W Boutz
Building 8 Suite 2
Las Cruces, NM 88005

575-597-0036



Area Health Education Centers

Connecting students to health careers, connecting health professionals to communities, and connecting communities to better health!



Area Health Education Centers

Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) are academic and community partnerships that provide health career recruitment programs for K-12 students and increase access to health care in medically underserved areas. AHECs address health care workforce issues by exposing students to health care career opportunities that they otherwise would not have encountered, establishing community-based training sites for students in service-learning and clinical capacities, providing continuing education programs for health care professionals, and evaluating the needs of underserved communities.

Health Careers Program

- A program to address the health professions shortage in Southern New Mexico.
- Community outreach through health/job fairs.
- School outreach through presentations and career fairs.
- Sponsorship of health career clubs in area schools.

SoAHEC Goals

- Develop the Health Professional Pipeline for underserved communities by engaging youth in a variety of health career awareness through presentations and special events.
- Improve the diversity of the health professions workforce by providing health career education to students in southern New Mexico from under-represented backgrounds, supporting the training of medical residents in rural settings, and facilitating continuing education opportunities for health professionals.
- Support health professionals and improved competency by offering continuing education on a variety of culturally sensitive and regionally relevant topics.
- Develop and foster partnerships with health and social service agencies to more effectively address the health concerns and needs of our communities.



AHEC Scholars Program

New Mexico AHEC Scholars will be selected from various health professions programs and regions of the state. They will participate in a two year program that includes 40 hours per year of didactic training related to six core topic areas:

- Inter-professional education
- Behavioral health integration
- Social determinants of health
- Cultural competency
- Practice transformation
- Current and emerging health issues, such as opioid addiction

A significant part of the didactic training will include intensive systems leadership workshops with the NM AHEC Scholar cohort. In addition, Scholars will participate in an interdisciplinary primary care AHEC TeleECHO clinic, the first of its kind! AHEC scholars will also receive 40 hours per year of community-based, interdisciplinary team-based experience as part of their regular clinical training each year. Each cohort of scholars will have the opportunity to network with other scholars and faculty through in-person and online training and seminars.

