



*Morgan LaBoube  
AHEC Scholar*

May 2020

## **AHEC Scholars Virtual Connections and AHEC Scholars Testimony**

### **Online Statewide Scholars Retreat**

On April 18, 2020, MAHEC held its first Online Statewide Scholars Retreat. The three-hour session hosted approximately 70 AHEC Scholars and Missouri AHEC staff. The virtual event was planned as an alternative to an in-person retreat that had been scheduled in Columbia, Missouri. The keynote speaker was Dr. Nauman Ashraf who educated the group on Opioid Use Disorder. The second hour was filled with a virtual social determinants of health activity. The third hour included a panel discussion on the importance of advocacy. A student who participated made this comment: *"The materials presented are so pertinent, multifaceted and current. They are relevant to everybody no matter the future you plan."*

### **Virtual Scholars Recruitment Event**

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, each center has developed alternative approaches to traditional methods of recruiting students. The first statewide Virtual Scholars Recruitment event held on April 28, 2020 is an example of adapting to this need. The MAHEC staff highlighted the benefits of the AHEC Scholars program to potential participants. In addition, a panel of current Scholars shared testimonials of the advantages of being an AHEC Scholar. The event was a success and will reoccur each month through August of 2020. Sessions will be held on Thursdays, providing a variety of time slots to accommodate as many students as possible. Please watch a short clip of the May 28 session and hear from three current AHEC Scholars. Interested students may visit <https://mahec.org/ahec-scholars/> for more details.



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14plkLQapMHtfBOIXGFhgnH9AWWiOUiKz/view?usp=sharing>

### **Testimony of AHEC Scholar, Morgan LaBoube from Hermann, MO.**

I attend Maryville University in St. Louis, MO, as a fourth-year nursing student in the bachelor's in science in Nursing (BSN) program. My expected graduation date is May 2021. After graduation I hope to become a neonatal intensive care nurse, which will help me gain the necessary experience to become a pediatric flight nurse or neonatal nurse practitioner. I know the nursing profession and my valued education at Maryville will provide endless opportunities, which will allow me to reach my career goals. When I'm not at school, I work in my hometown, spend time with family/friends, and enjoy time outdoors. I strive to take every opportunity to supplement and enhance my nursing knowledge, and AHEC Scholars has been a great tool to help me confidently reach my future goals as a health professional.

*MAHEC is a partnership of seven locally governed organizations and three university-based health professions education programs working statewide to increase the numbers of Missouri youth entering stable, high-paying jobs as healthcare professionals and the numbers of professionals caring for underserved populations.*

**The MAHEC partners include:**

- A.T. Still University- Kirksville
- University of Missouri- Columbia
- Saint Louis University
- Northeast Missouri AHEC- Kirksville
- Northwest Missouri AHEC- St. Joseph
- West Central Missouri AHEC – Lexington
- Mid-Missouri AHEC - Rolla
- East Central Missouri AHEC– St. Louis
- Southeastern Missouri AHEC – Poplar Bluff
- Southwest Missouri AHEC- Springfield