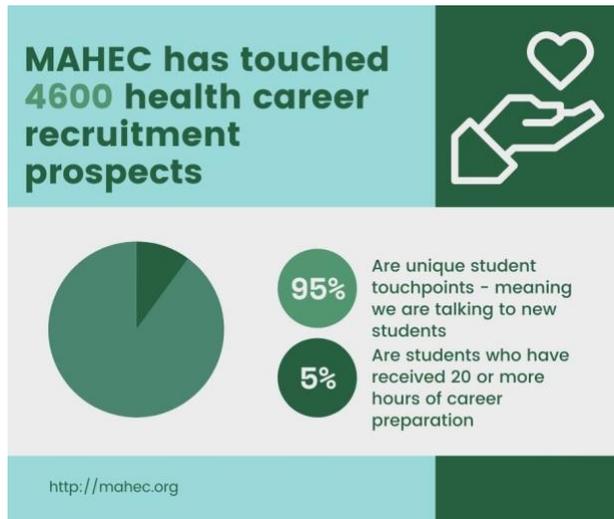


January 2022

Missouri Area Health Education Center: By the Numbers

Missouri AHEC (MAHEC) Programs such as, *AHEC Scholars*, build a developmental, healthcare pipeline that ensure we have a healthcare workforce that is prepared to work in interprofessional and diverse rural and underserved urban settings. This year's highlights include growing numbers of participants. MAHEC's strategies respond to Missouri's healthcare workforce crisis and we have had enormous success. Just in the last year, MAHEC has touched 4,606 health careers recruitment prospects with 5% of these participants already completing 20 or more hours of career preparation. Reaching to new heights, MAHEC has placed medical students in 429 clinical training sites including Medically Underserved Communities (MUCs) or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs), and in rural clinics. On average, approximately 172 MAHEC participants choose to train in primary care residencies each year. Tracking over the past 5 years, MAHEC has presented 4,067 health careers education recruitment and training programs improving healthcare in 86 counties across Missouri. To date, 1,460 MAHEC participants have gone on to healthcare careers in the state of Missouri, 56% of which are in primary care disciplines.



“Every experience has reminded me of why I went into a serviced-based profession, and has given me tools to better help my patients in the future”

students, 17 pharmacy students, 4 advanced practice-nursing students, 3 physician-assistant students, as well as many other allied health professions. Kristin, an AHEC Scholar from Mid-Missouri region, said this about her AHEC Scholars experience: "AHEC offers programming in social determinants of health, cultural competence, behavioral health, and other areas of practice that will help me best serve my future patients." Not only is AHEC Scholars focused on these competencies, it also provides opportunities for personal and professional growth. Victoria, an AHEC Scholar from Northeast Missouri shared: "AHEC Scholars has been a great way to take an hour or two during a crazy week to do something that helps me grow... Every experience has reminded me of why I went into a serviced-based profession, and has given me tools to better help my patients in the future."

The Missouri AHEC Scholars have grown to 106 participants as of this year's report, including 49 medical

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
- East Central Missouri ECMO AHEC – St. Louis
- Mid-Missouri AHEC – Rolla
- Northeast Missouri NEMO AHEC – Kirksville
- Northwest Missouri NWMO AHEC – St. Joseph
- Southeastern Missouri SEMO AHEC – Poplar Bluff
- Southwestern Missouri SWMO AHEC - Springfield
- West Central Missouri WCMO AHEC – Kansas City