

November 2022

Missouri AHEC hosts the First Missouri Inter-Professional Education Conference

Interprofessional education is a powerful training program which ensures that healthcare providers work together to prevent medication errors, improve patient experiences, reduce the costs of healthcare, and deliver better health outcomes. MAHEC is one of the first organizations in Missouri to develop and implement interprofessional training programs. This year, MAHEC and its partners offered a one-day virtual

Interprofessional Education (IPE) and Collaborative Practice conference for healthcare professionals, academics, and students in March 2022. This conference provided the latest information, trends, and tools used to enhance the interest and knowledge centered on IPE and collaborative practice.

Missouri AHEC engaged health organizations across the state, who supported the conference and made it possible for participants to attend at no cost, including: A.T. Still University Academic Technologies, ATSU Area Health Education Center, Missouri AHEC regional centers, Missouri Hospital Association, Missouri Primary Care Association, and the REACH Healthcare Foundation.

MAHEC's 35 years of excellence and strong relationships with universities and healthcare organizations had attracted excellent speakers, including Amanda Arnold, the Chief Operating Officers at HCC Network whose talk was about the benefits of interprofessional teamwork and how it reduces healthcare costs. Sarah Shrader, a pharmacist with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacies, discussed key challenges to interprofessional care training and how to enhance interprofessional training in worksites. Dr. David Pole, faculty at Saint Louis University, provided strategies to encourage interprofessional "collaborative practice." Janice Lundy of Perry County Memorial Hospital spoke about implementing geriatric interprofessional teams, and Drs Ashley Crowl and Hannah Maxfield of the University of Kansas Medical Center discussed the challenges of running interprofessional training clinics.

Over 65 students and professionals attended, representing nursing, dentistry, medicine, allied health, pharmacy, community health workers and public health disciplines. Most attendees were from Missouri, but given efforts to publicize widely, attendees also came from Alabama, California, Georgia, Iowa and Tennessee.



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

