

EASTERN INDIANA  
Area Health Education Center  
Regional Stakeholder Meeting

# AHEC – Healthcare for Tomorrow

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## Today

- Introduction to the Indiana AHEC (IN-AHEC) Program Mission
- Overview of IN-AHEC Program Strategies
- AHEC's Core Mission
- Partnership Opportunities

## History of Indiana AHEC

- 1969 ● Statewide medical education plan
- 1992 ● Indiana Commission for Higher Ed: "Recommendations for Med Ed"
- 1995 ● IUSM Primary Care Initiative
- 1999 ● Preliminary AHEC planning
- 2001 ● Regional planning with communities  
Federal award (DHHS HRSA, Title VII)  
Indiana 6 AHEC Regions
- 2007 ● 46 States, 236 AHEC's

## What's the Problem?

- Too few primary care professionals
- Too many underserved communities
- Too little access to quality healthcare
- Too big of a disconnect between the mission of health profession training programs and community needs
- Too few under-represented minorities in the health workforce

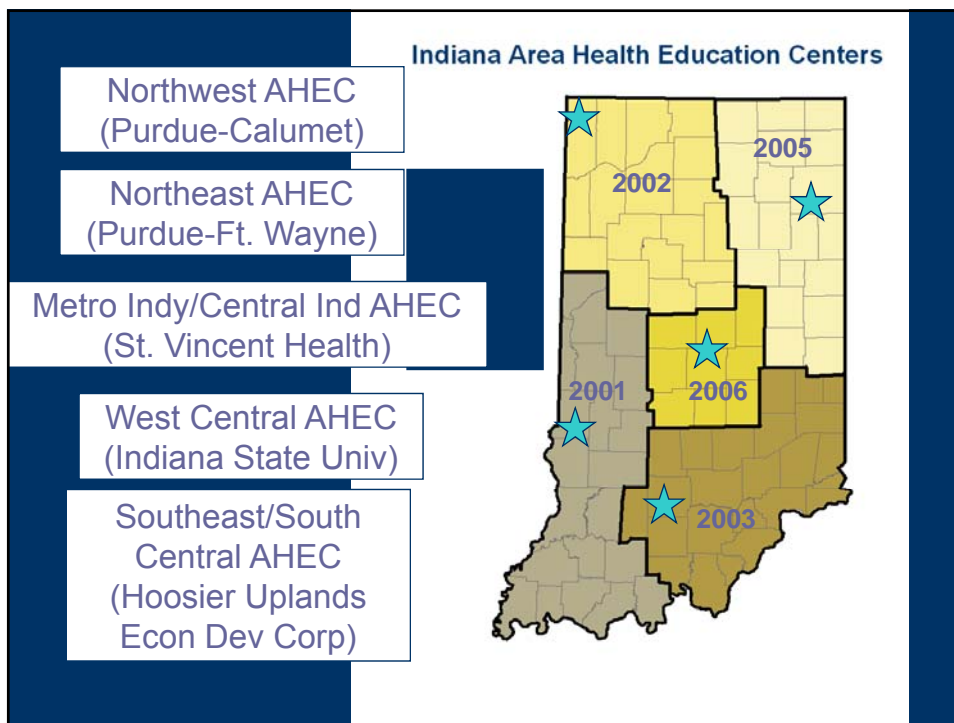
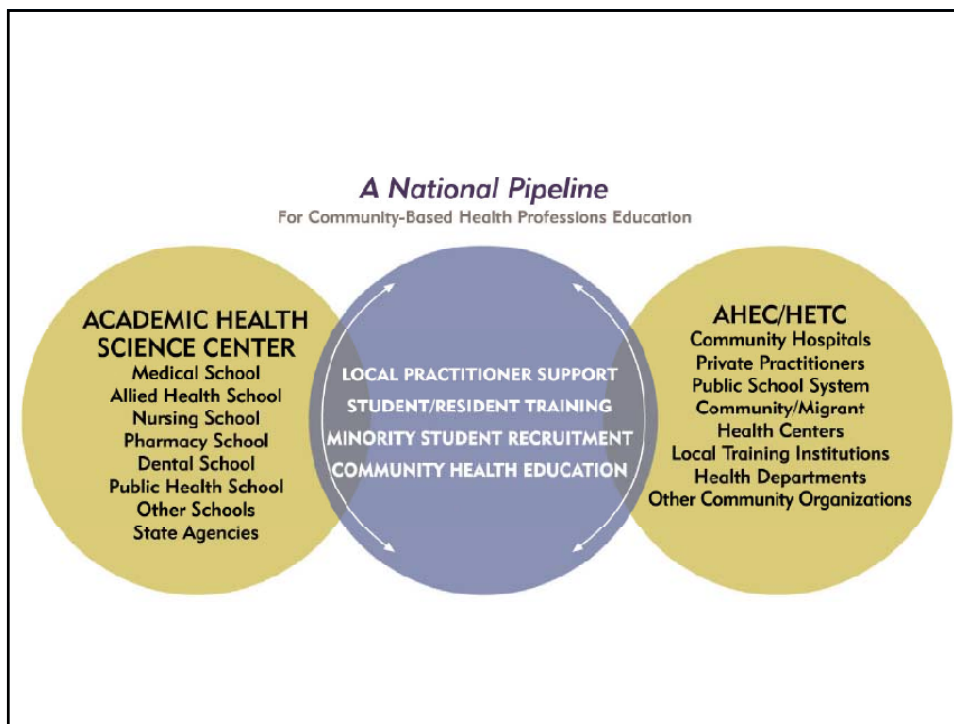
## AHEC Mission/Goals

### Why do we exist?

- To enhance patient access to quality primary and preventive care for medically underserved populations in rural and urban settings.

### What do we do?

- Through community/academic educational partnerships, AHEC's improve the distribution, diversity and quality of health care professionals.

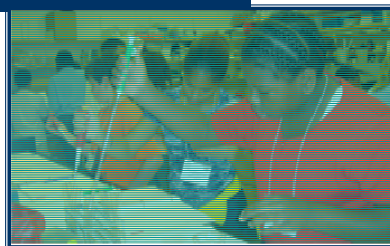


## AHEC Objectives, Activities

## Connecting students to health careers

Improve knowledge and awareness of health career opportunities among URMD students

- *Health careers awareness and enrichment programs (both quick and intensives), academic readiness/success*



## AHEC Objectives, Activities

## Connecting health professionals to communities

Increase exposure of health professions students to medically underserved communities and other health professions disciplines.

- *Clinical rotations*
- *Interdisciplinary training*
- *Service learning*



Tricia Kurtz, MS3, and Matt Waldron, MD

AHEC Objectives, Activities

## Connecting communities to better health

### Enhance access to CE and clinical support tools

- *Medically underserved-oriented CE*
- *Interdisciplinary training*
- *Health library, technology access, other learning resources*



BHOC's Hanna Swayer and Mike Owen with first-responder training simulators

## Outcomes: Funding and Planning

- Eastern-IN AHEC begins receiving HRSA Federal funding September 1, 2009, approximately \$225,000
- Community Stakeholder Committee needs to be established to guide the decisions of the Eastern-IN AHEC formation.

## Indiana AHEC Outcomes

- **Improve health professions distribution**
- **Increase workforce diversity**
- **Improve quality of health and health care**

## AHEC Belongs to the Community

Community should answer:

- Why
- What
- Who
- How
- Where
- When

## Stakeholder Committee

- Meet monthly
- For the next 6 months
- Make the formative decisions about the Eastern-IN AHEC

## Design the Eastern-IN AHEC

- What are the things that this AHEC should accomplish?
- Who are the stakeholders that will make this AHEC work?
- How could this AHEC be structured?
- How is this AHEC going to be financed?
- Where is the AHEC going to be housed?
- What is the name of the contracting entity?
- When will the AHEC begin operations?

## **AHEC in a Nutshell**



**Connecting students to  
health careers**

**Connecting health professionals  
to communities**

**Connecting communities  
to quality health care**