

April 30, 2009

Dear Stakeholder:

The Indiana AHEC Program is pleased to invite you to hear an update on the progress of planning for the proposed Eastern Indiana Area Health Education Center (EI-AHEC). On October 24<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 stakeholders from across your region gathered to hear about the opportunity to establish a region AHEC in the eastern part of Indiana. Many stakeholders volunteered to serve on a Steering Committee, which has been meeting monthly since January, 2009 to learn more and make the formative decisions of the new AHEC. On behalf of those Steering Committee members and the staff of the Indiana AHEC Program, we offer another opportunity to hear about this effort and invite you to consider joining the ongoing planning efforts.

***The members of the proposed EI-AHEC Steering Committee include:***

Geneva Baker, Ivy Tech - Columbus	Nancy Marticke, Margaret Mary Community Hospital
Megan Baldwin, SE/SCI-AHEC	Diane McKinney, Decatur County Memorial Hospital
Jim Battin, EcO-15	Dan Roach, Decatur County Com Schools
Dr. Michael Bushong, Jennings County Schools	Caroline Sims, Columbus Regional Hospital
Stephanie Craig, Dearborn County Hospital	Joe Stephens, Community Mental Health Center
Debra Gloyd, Margaret Mary Community Hospital	Pat Sutton, Dearborn County Hospital
Steve Hilpipe, Fayette Regional Health System	Ronda Sweet, Rush Memorial Hospital
Tom Hunter, Greensburg Community Schools	Tom Talbot, Community Mental Health Center
Matt Maple, Batesville Community School Corp	Shannon Walden, Columbus Regional Hospital

The Indiana University School of Medicine partners with health professions training programs and other community stakeholders to prepare a health professions workforce to meet the needs of Indiana's communities. Through the efforts of the Indiana Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program, these partnerships support health professions education strategies to:

- ❖ Improve the **distribution** of the health care workforce in underserved communities;
- ❖ Strengthen efforts to build a **culturally competent** and **diverse** health workforce;
- ❖ Improve the **quality** of health care in underserved areas through continuing education and information support;
- ❖ **Leverage** federal dollars with state and local resources.

The implications of this program for improving primary health care in eastern Indiana, particularly in our underserved communities, are significant. We hope you will join us on **May 15, 2009** (see enclosed invitation, including RSVP). If you cannot attend, please feel free to send someone else to represent your organization.

Sincerely,



D. Craig Brater, M.D.  
Vice President, Indiana University  
Dean and Walter J. Daly Professor,  
Indiana University School of Medicine



Richard D. Kiovsky, M.D.  
Director, Indiana AHEC Program  
Clinical Professor of Family Medicine  
Indiana University School of Medicine

***Partnering for the Next Generation of Hoosier Health Professional***

# indianaAHEC!

*You are invited to join us for an  
Update on the Progress of Planning  
for the proposed Eastern Indiana  
Area Health Education Center*

*Friday, May 15, 2009  
10:00 AM - 12 Noon*

*Meeting will be followed by luncheon from  
12:00 - 1:00 for those who wish to attend*

*Where: Decatur County Memorial Hospital  
720 N. Lincoln Street  
Greensburg, IN 47240*

*Please RSVP to **Phyllis Hoffman**  
At (317) 278-0310 or [phhoffma@iupui.edu](mailto:phhoffma@iupui.edu) by May 8, 2009  
Indicate whether you will be staying for the luncheon.*

**Proposed Eastern Indiana  
Area Health Education Center**

# Information and Planning Session

May 15, 2009, 10:00 AM – 12:00 noon  
Decatur County Memorial Hospital  
Conference Room D

## Today's objectives

Review the progress of planning for the proposed EI-AHEC  
Hear the stories of AHECs across Indiana and Northern New York

### **10:00 Welcome and Introductions**

### **10:10 What's been happening with the proposed Eastern Indiana AHEC?**

Angela Holloway, Associate Director for Development, Indiana AHEC Program

### **10:20 Their Stories – Indiana's AHECS (something old, something new...)**

Dr. Richard Kiovsky, Director of Indiana AHEC Program and Professor of Clinical Medicine, IUSM  
Louise Anderson, WCI-AHEC  
Megan Baldwin, SE/SCI-AHEC  
Aleshia Panbamrung, NEI-AHEC  
Jennifer Craig, SWI-AHEC

### **11:10 Q&A with AHEC Centers**

Jonathan Barclay, Associate Director for Programming, Indiana AHEC Program

### **11:20 MyHealthCareer.org – a web-based tool from Northern AHEC in New York**

Richard Merchant, C.E.O.  
Northern Area Health Education Center, Inc.- New York

### **11:50 Q&A for MyHealthCareer.org**

Angela Holloway MHA, Associate Director for Development

### **12:00 Choice Cards and Adjourn**

*Thank you for offering your time and input as we begin to shape an Area Health  
Education Center for Southwest Indiana*

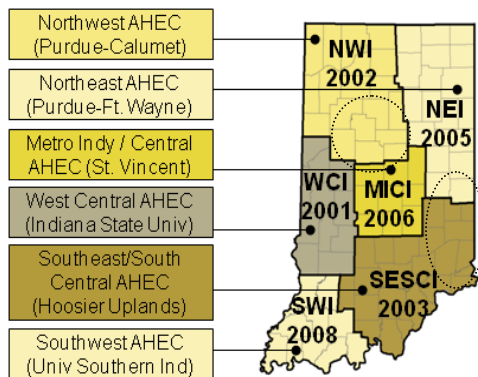


*partnering for the next generation of  
Hoosier health professionals*

## Indiana Area Health Education Centers Program

In Indiana and throughout the country, Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) work to improve access to quality health care through community-academic partnerships. By linking the Indianapolis-based academic medical center to communities around the state, the Indiana AHEC program:

- improves the **distribution** of Indiana’s health care professionals to areas and populations most in need of primary care;
- improves the **diversity** of the health care workforce in order to eliminate health disparities and increase access to health care for minority and disadvantaged populations;
- improves the **quality** of health care for all Hoosiers.



## Indiana AHEC in 2008

### Connecting Students to Careers...

- ☑ Nearly 11,000 K-12 students in **Kids Into Health Careers** activities at dozens of Indiana schools
- ☑ 274 students participating in intensive academic enrichment and career exploration programs
- ☑ 78% of all participating students are educationally or economically disadvantaged

### Connecting Health Professionals to Communities...

- ☑ 1,239 health professions trainees across Indiana
- ☑ 80 medically underserved sites providing clinical education to health professions trainees

### Connecting Communities to Better Health...

- ☑ 1,029 continuing education participants in 28 offerings

Founded in 2001, the Indiana AHEC program is coordinated by the IU School of Medicine’s Department of Family Medicine. A statewide Advisory Board of more than 40 health care and health professions stakeholders guides program development. Six AHECs have been established in communities around Indiana. Each regional AHEC is guided by a community advisory board. In Indiana’s medically underserved communities, shortages of primary care health professionals result in poorer health and increased health care costs. Indiana’s regional AHECs accomplish their goals through several types of activities:

- **Recruiting pre-college students**—particularly students from under-represented minorities and from educationally disadvantaged and poorer families—into the health professions. Minority health professionals are more likely to serve vulnerable populations. And students who are from rural areas are more likely to return to practice in these areas if they receive high-quality training, mentoring, and support.
- Assisting in the **ambulatory training of health professionals**. Health professionals who train in underserved communities are more likely to serve those populations when their training is done.
- Providing **continuing education**, particularly to primary care providers and those who care for the underserved. Continuing education improves the quality of care and enhances professional satisfaction. These benefits improve retention of health professionals in Indiana’s rural and urban underserved areas.