



Fifty Years

1972-2022

2022

Annual Report

Welcome to the Annual Report



Ann Lefebvre, MSW, CPHQ
SC AHEC Executive Director

I am pleased to welcome you to the South Carolina AHEC Annual Report that marks AHEC's 50th anniversary. There have been some tremendous changes over the five decades since AHEC was founded in 1972. The introduction and further use of technology, a vast array of medical advancements, improvements in quality of care, and innovations in health professions education have all made great strides in our work and our service to the state. Even with all of these great changes, there is more work to be done. SC AHEC will continue to adapt to a changing healthcare landscape, adopting further innovations in programming and strategies to address the ever-evolving needs of the healthcare system. We remain steadfast in our focus to build and support the healthcare workforce South Carolina needs for every community to have access to diverse, high-quality, patient-focused care.

In Fiscal
Year
2022:

9,916

Total individuals served
throughout the state across
all AHEC programs

259,967

Total contact hours
of programming
delivered statewide

24,583 total contact hours of programming delivered to 773 high school and college students

763 training site placements for health professions students with 601 preceptors at 199 sites

68 medical students from 17 medical schools attended virtual Family Medicine Interest Day

102 total providers active in the Rural Incentive Grant Program

7,690 professionals participated in SC AHEC continuing professional development programs

618 SC Health Professions Data Books mailed out by SCOHW to support workforce planning

AHEC Programs Support the Entire Health Profession Journey



"I started at AHEC Health Careers program during my sophomore year of high school. I always knew I wanted to be in the medical field but the opportunities that were provided to me through this program further solidified it. The medical terminology, guest speakers, and other experiences that were provided monthly to us immensely helped me in my future career. Participating in the Summer Enrichment Program allowed me to gain hands on experience and improve my interpersonal communication. After receiving my degree, the program came full circle by providing me with continuing education courses that further advance my nursing practice. I am thankful for the mentorship and education that AHEC provided me and will continue to use it in my everyday professional life! I would

not be where I am today without the strong foundation it built as well as the support that it continues to provide me in my nursing practice."

Joanne Edwards, BSN, RN, CEN, TCRN
Former HCP Student/Practicing Nurse

Looking Back at 50 Years of Service to South Carolina

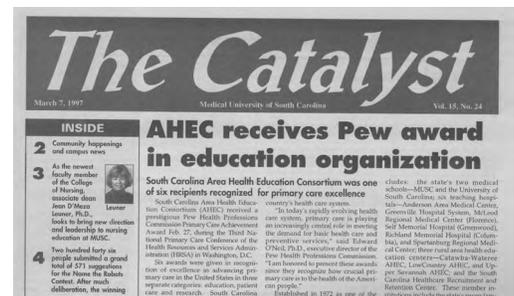
In 1970, the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education issued a report declaring that Americans needed better healthcare and that improved care was a national priority. The report identified areas for improvement, including better geographic distribution of health professionals and educational facilities, more opportunities for women and minorities, and enhanced training.

The Commission coined the term “AHEC” or “area health education center” as a means for extending health professions training out into communities away from larger urban areas and academic health centers. In 1971, Congress passed the “Comprehensive Health Manpower Training Act,” putting the AHEC program into law. In 1972, South Carolina was awarded funding as one of the 11 initial AHEC programs established under this act.

Key Events

- 1972** - South Carolina’s AHEC program established through initial federal grant
- 1973** - Statewide Family Practice Residency System established
- 1981** - Initial federal funding is phased out
- 1985** - The state funds the AHEC program through the South Carolina Consortium of Community Teaching Hospitals
- 1987** - “South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium” adopted as the official name
- 1989** - State Legislature establishes the Rural Physician Incentive Grant Program
- 1998** - SC AHEC receives the HRSA Model AHEC grant, federal funding that it continues to receive today (now HRSA “POSME”)
- 2001** - AHEC System is restructured from 7 to 4 regional centers
- 2005** - State Legislature establishes the Rural Dentist Loan Repayment Program
- 2009** - South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce created through funding from The Duke Endowment
- 2016** - Recurring state funding awarded for the SC Office of Healthcare Workforce

South Carolina AHEC Then & Now



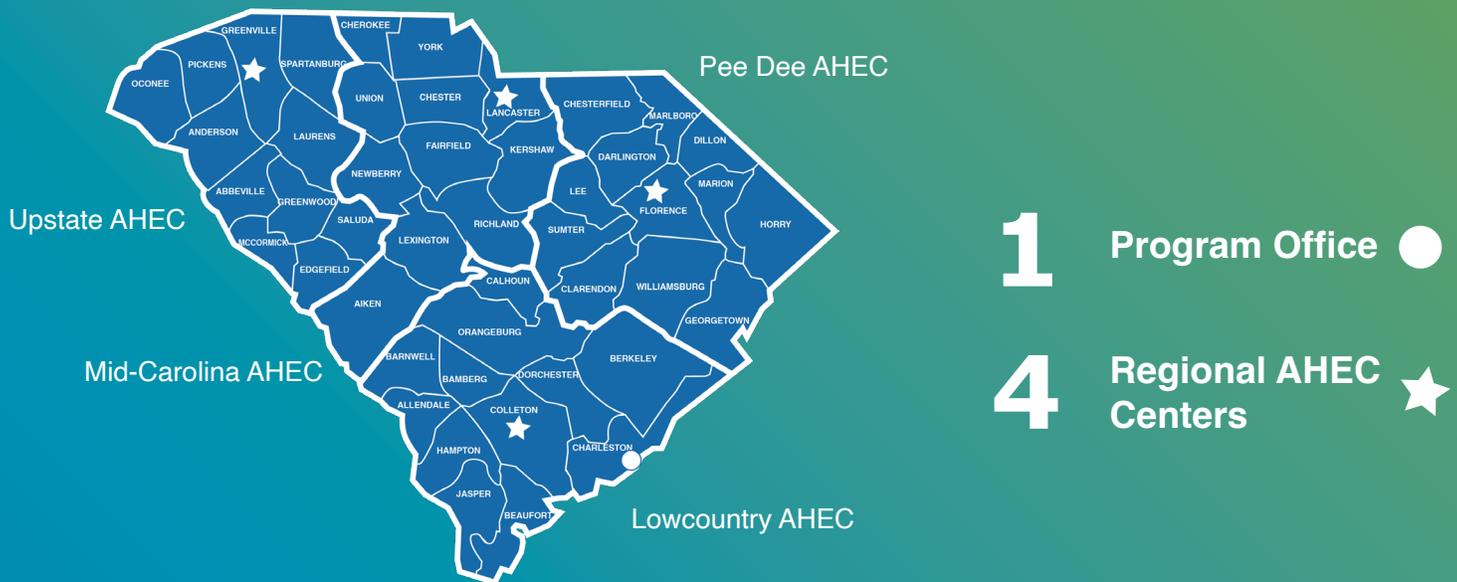
South Carolina Exemplifies Rural Interdisciplinary Health Professions Training through SCRIPT

Focusing on the rural way of life, the South Carolina Rural Interdisciplinary Program of Training (SCRIPT), exposes health professions students from 11 different disciplines to rural health care. SCRIPT encourages students to establish health care practices in these rural and often medically underserved areas. SCRIPT is operated by Low Country AHEC, a member institution of S.C. AHEC, and is in partnership with MUSC in new title and acronym in its five years of existence. In 1996, SCRIPT registration had to be closed with 65 applicants and after normal attrition, participants numbered 54. Eleven health professions disciplines are eligible to participate in SCRIPT. Three disciplines have been added to the original eight in RITP. The geographic area served by the project has doubled to include eight Lowcountry counties (all IJFSA and MUAs) and SCRIPT serves three

Through guest presenters and experiential learning strategies, awareness is raised regarding culture within South Carolina rural communities. Guest presenters discuss herbal medicine and other complementary health care approaches which practitioners may encounter in rural South Carolina. SCRIPT students experience firsthand local businesses and industries, such as farming, and special cultures, such as Gullah and

South Carolina AHEC System

South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC) connects students and professionals with the tools, training and resources necessary to develop an effective healthcare workforce, with a focus on primary care for rural and underserved areas. Our education, recruitment and retention programs serve as a bridge between academics and communities, connecting students to health careers, health professionals to communities and communities to better care. Since 1972, South Carolina AHEC has strived to improve the training, diversity and distribution of health professionals to build and support the healthcare workforce South Carolina needs to connect all communities to better health.



SC AHEC Programs Build and Support the Healthcare Workforce South Carolina Needs

- +
Health Careers Program
 Supports diverse high school and college students on their paths to becoming healthcare professionals, building a future healthcare workforce that is representative of the communities it serves.
- +
Recruitment & Retention Program
 Provides financial incentives to healthcare professionals who practice in rural and underserved areas to improve the distribution of providers statewide.
- +
Health Professions Student Program
 Provides community-based training experiences, exposing students to the opportunities of working in rural and underserved areas of South Carolina.
- +
Continuing Professional Development
 Enhances clinical skills, addresses ongoing and emerging health trends and helps professionals maintain their licensure and certifications.
- +
Graduate Medical Education
 Works collaboratively with all of the family medicine residency programs in the state to facilitate recruitment for high-quality training in family medicine in South Carolina.
- +
SC Office for Healthcare Workforce
 Analyzes data and provides policy-relevant information about the healthcare workforce in South Carolina.

Fiscal Year 2022 Funding

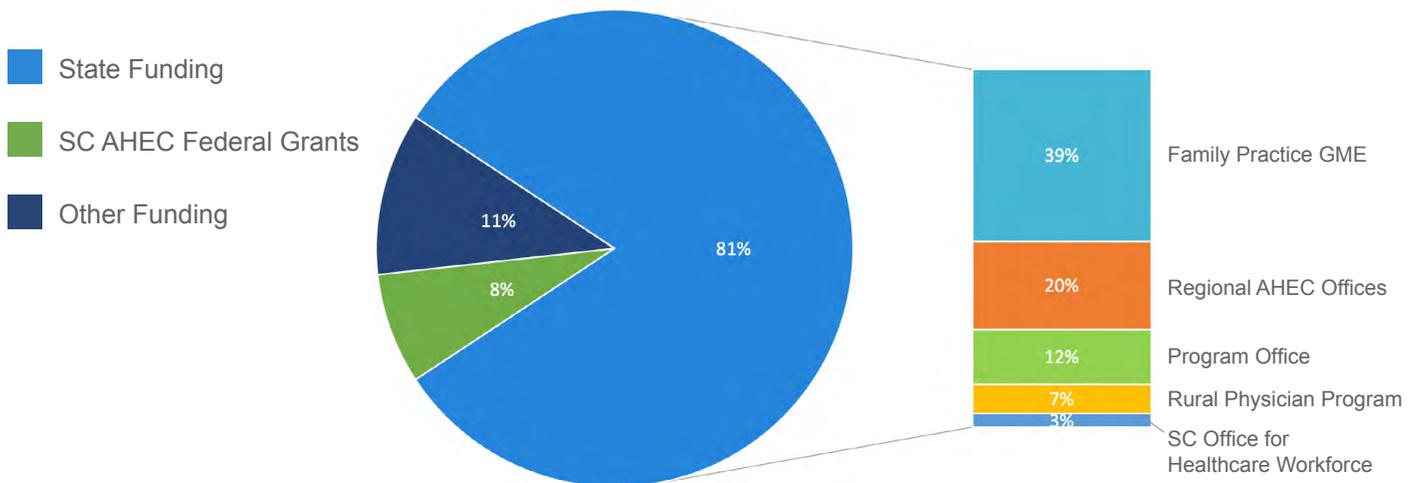
State Funding	Amount
Family Practice GME	\$5,442,811
Regional AHEC Offices	\$2,807,458
Program Office	\$1,728,930
Rural Physician Incentive Grant Program	\$917,287
South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce	\$450,000
Total State Funding	\$11,346,486

Federal Grants Awarded to SC AHEC	Amount
AHEC Point of Service Maintenance & Enhancement Award, POSME (HRSA Grant)	\$592,000
POSME Supplemental Funding (HRSA Grant)	\$251,154
POSME Supplemental Funding (HRSA Grant)	\$204,577
Total Federal Funding	\$1,047,731

Other Funding (Contracts, Direct Grants, Subawards on Other's Grants, etc.)	Amount
Rural Physician Program/Rural Dentist Program (DHHS Contract)	\$684,752
SC's Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities (SC Office of Rural Health Grant)	\$414,000
Rural Dentist Loan Repayment Program (MUSC Contract)	\$176,101
Office for Telehealth Education (MUSC Center for Telehealth Contract)	\$115,000
Delta Dental of South Carolina (Direct Grant)	\$50,000
Health Occupations Providing Excellence in Workforce Wellness & Resilience (USC Grant)	\$48,000
Improving STD Prevention & Care Through Partnerships (USC Grant)	\$40,862
DHEC Office of Primary Care Projects (DHEC Contract)	\$10,000
Total Other Funding	\$1,538,715

Total Funding for FY22 \$13,932,932

Funding Breakdown



Regional Highlights

Each of South Carolina AHEC's four regional centers serves an 11- or 12-county region of the state where they connect students to health careers, health professionals to communities and communities to better health. The centers do this through collaboration with healthcare organizations, high schools and colleges, graduate health professions programs and other community partners. Together, the four centers serve all 46 counties in the state.

Lowcountry AHEC | Walterboro | lcahec.com

Lowcountry AHEC developed a unique approach to community collaboration and health careers exposure in June by hosting a Health Careers Carnival at their center in Walterboro. The carnival included games, lunch, the Culley Farms Petting Zoo, and featured a Q&A session with 16 health and public safety professionals. More than 50 eighth grade students participated from the Trident Technical College's Educational Talent Search Program, meeting with health professionals and learning more about what they do. Members of the community and partners, including the Colleton Medical Center and Colleton Fire and Rescue, came together to make this inaugural event a fun, innovative way to teach students about health careers.



Mid-Carolina AHEC | Lancaster | midcarolinaahec.org

Mid-Carolina AHEC is proud to support the South Carolina COVID-19 Virtual Grand Rounds Series. The virtual grand rounds are ongoing and bring professionals and stakeholders across the state together each week to integrate the best practices for COVID-19 treatment, prevention and screening. More than 300 clinicians have attended the live grand rounds and the enduring

video versions have accrued more than 1,420 registrations. This series is a collaborative effort of the SC AIDS Education and Training Center, Prisma Health, SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, SC Primary Health Care Association, SC Medical Association, SC Hospital Association, SC Office of Rural Health, SC AHEC, and the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and College of Pharmacy.

Pee Dee AHEC | Florence | peedeahec.net

To address the behavioral health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on health professionals, Pee Dee AHEC sponsored "Burn Out in the Workplace," a respiratory symposium focused on addressing the signs and symptoms of stress and burnout in respiratory therapists. The program focused on recognizing compassion fatigue, coping with stress and key strategies to preventing burnout and building resilience. More than 30 health professionals completed the series of three programs: Stress and Burnout in the Workplace, Stress Management and Resilience and Coping and Self Care to Prevent Burnout.



Upstate AHEC | Greenville | upstateahec.org

In an effort to improve infant health outcomes in South Carolina and in recognition of October as Safe Sleep Month, Upstate AHEC launched the Safe Sleep Summit last fall. This virtual summit consisted of weekly webinar sessions focused on sleep-related infant deaths as a public health issue and how to further educate parents and caregivers about safe sleep habits. More than 500 people participated in the program that was hosted in partnership with the SC Department of Social Services (SCDSS) and

the SC Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS) to support the South Carolina Birth Outcomes Initiative's Safe Sleep Initiative.

Program Feature:

SC AHEC Scholars

The AHEC Scholars Program prepares health professions students for interprofessional primary care practice and service to rural and underserved populations. The AHEC Scholars program supports students on their paths to service in rural and underserved areas by providing: a dedicated two-year curriculum; training opportunities via team-based clinical fieldwork placements; networking with leaders and providers statewide; focused training in key areas such as behavioral health integration, social determinants of health and cultural competency; and interprofessional simulation and training activities.

The program was rolled out nationally as an update to the federal AHEC program requirements in 2017. In 2022, SC AHEC marked the conclusion of the first program cycle with the graduation of the fourth cohort of SC AHEC Scholars.

Twenty-four students from the first two cohorts of SC AHEC Scholars responded to our survey about where they were practicing/training more than one year out from graduation (57% response rate):

- **79%** were practicing/training in a primary care setting
- **38%** were practicing/training in a rural and/or medically underserved area

Supporting Tomorrow's Providers in Rural and Underserved Areas

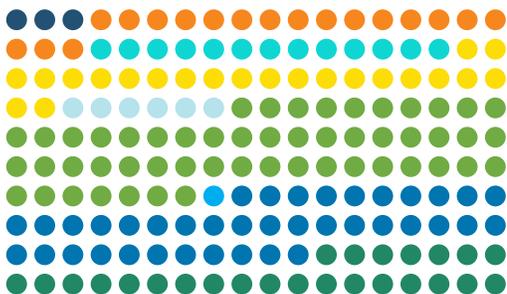


“Participating in the AHEC Scholar program has been integral to me choosing and finding a job working in primary care. The various programs and opportunities such as: inter-professional team case conferences, East Coast Migrant Headstart project, [and] AHEC pipeline project allowed me to grow in my clinical skills and understanding as well as gave me opportunities to practice leadership and working with underserved communities. I also believe that my participation in AHEC contributed greatly to me receiving the [National Health Service Corps] scholarship, and ultimately landing a job at a federally qualified health care facility in an underserved area in South Carolina. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would recommend it to anyone interested in pursuing primary care or working with rural or underserved populations.”

Stephen B.

Physician Assistant | AHEC Scholar Graduate | 2022 MUSC College of Health Professions Graduate

SC AHEC Scholars - First Four Cohorts



- Dental (3)
- Medicine - MD (18)
- Medicine - DO (13)
- Nurse Practitioner (22)
- Occupational Therapy (6)
- Pharmacy (53)
- Physical Therapy (1)
- Physician Assistant (39)
- Social Work - MSW (25)

During the first four cohorts, the SC AHEC Scholars Program achieved:

180 SC AHEC Scholars

9 educational institutions represented

10,514 hours of didactic training

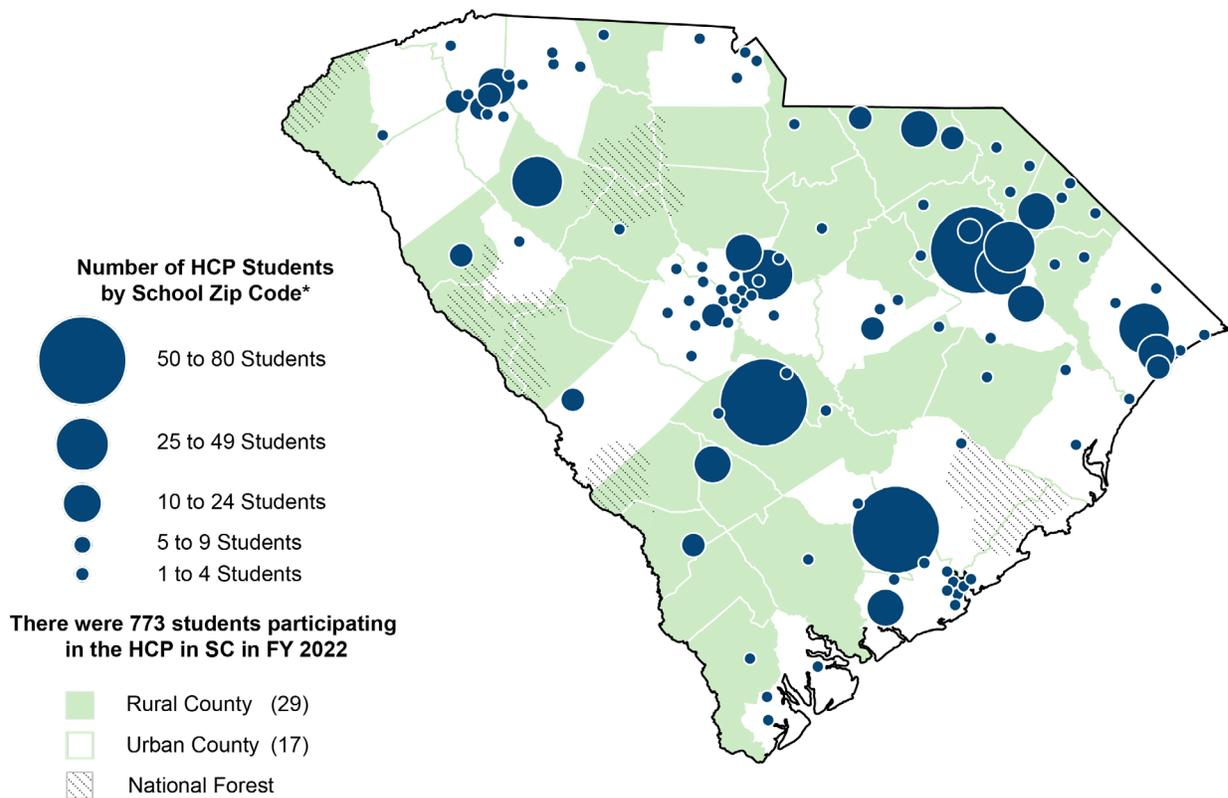
38,886 hours of experiential training

Health Careers Program

The South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program provides support to diverse high school and early college students on their paths to becoming healthcare professionals, building a future healthcare workforce that will reflect the diverse range of communities it serves in South Carolina.



SC AHEC Health Careers Program (HCP) Serves Students across South Carolina in FY22



Note: *Data show the unique number of Health Careers Program participants in FY2022 (7/1/2021-6/30/2022), by students' secondary school zip code. If secondary school zip code was missing, post-secondary school zip code was used (n=126). If that was missing, home zip code was used (n=85). Map excludes 16 out-of-state records and 10 records that were missing zip code. Source: HCP data from South Carolina AHEC. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural/2010-urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on the 2010 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022.

During the last fiscal year, the AHEC Health Careers Program achieved:

24,583 total contact hours of programming delivered to 773 high school and college students

54% of HCP students identified as Black, Indigenous and/or People of Color*

57% of HCP students were from rural areas

1,409 hours of job shadowing completed by HCP students

* Percent of total students for whom race/ethnicity data was available/provided



Takeara R. (left) pictured with Dr. Rodney Alan (right)

Building up Future Physicians

“The Pee Dee AHEC [Health Careers] Program has made such a great impact and improvement on my journey to reaching my goal of becoming a physician. I am a first-generation college student, this program is exactly what it was described to me as, a pathway program. This program has helped me reach some of my short-term major goals, more specifically the shadowing hours part of my journey. Prior to becoming a part of the pathways to medicine program with AHEC, it was very difficult to even as much as have a conversation with a physician. I received plenty of “no’s”, until reaching out and becoming a participant in this program. Through the AHEC program, I have made a tremendous jump in my process. Not only am I able to talk to physicians, but I am able to also gain mentors through the physicians.

This program has given me access to opportunities that coming from a smaller, private institution, I would have not received. Being able to serve as a chaperone for students in high school made an impact on me because I knew how it felt to be in their shoes. This program has made such a great impact on my journey that I shared it with my fellow colleagues so I can encourage them that they are not alone. Being able to have someone like Mrs. Smalls, HCP Coordinator, and Pee Dee AHEC is comforting because you have that extra support. I am beyond thankful for this program and her support for this process is not easy, so this stepping stone is a blessing. Thank you!”

Takeara R.
AHEC HCP Student | Morris College

Why It Matters: Connecting Students to Health Careers

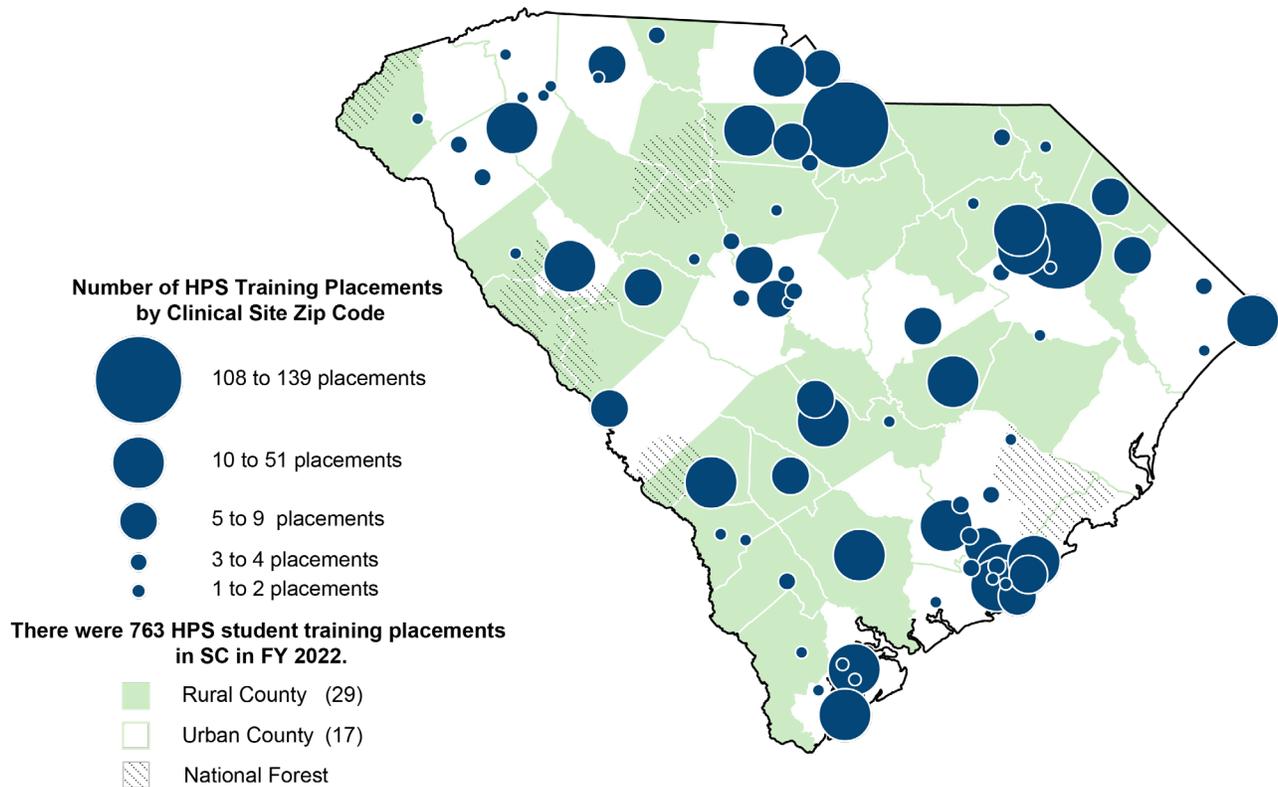
A more representative health workforce provides more career opportunities for more individuals and also improves access to care, reduces health disparities, and improves patient outcomes through more productive patient/clinician relationships.

Health Professions Student Program

The South Carolina AHEC Health Professions Student Program provides community-based training experiences, exposing students to the opportunities of working in rural and underserved areas of South Carolina.



SC AHEC Health Professions Student (HPS) Training Assignments Placed Students in Communities across South Carolina



Map Note: Data are based on the number of students participating in the SC AHEC HPS Program who performed clinical rotations in 2022 at the clinical sites shown. Dots are located at the zip code centroid (center) and may not represent actual street location. Map excludes out-of-state placements. Source: Student data from South Carolina AHEC. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural/2010-urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on the 2010 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022.

During the last fiscal year, the AHEC Health Professions Student Program achieved:

763 training site placements for health professions students

63% of placements in a rural setting

52% of placements in a medically-underserved setting

53% of placements in a primary care setting

601 clinical preceptors at 199 community-based training sites

Training and Collaboration for Health Professions Students



“Working with Mid-Carolina AHEC over the past year has afforded me multiple opportunities to further my education and collaborate with other health profession students in South Carolina. I am passionate about improving patient care and optimizing healthcare outcomes in my home state, so I have greatly enjoyed participating in the Health Professional Student Programs offered by SC AHEC. These programs have helped me grow and gain confidence as a pharmacy student, and certainly play a crucial role in the betterment of our future healthcare providers.”

Anna F.
Student, USC College of Pharmacy

“I just wanted to reach out and say thank you for giving me this opportunity. The Simulation Education Training was a great experience, and I learned a lot not only about the career path I want to go in but about my peers as well. I am glad I got to collaborate and network with students from other disciplines and academic institutions as well as make new friends. I hope to participate in future opportunities with SC AHEC and your team. Thank you again!”

Ilesha B.
Nursing Student, Lander University



Why It Matters: Connecting Students to Communities

Evidence shows when health professions students are exposed to training experiences in rural/underserved areas during their education, they are more likely to ultimately practice in a rural/underserved area.

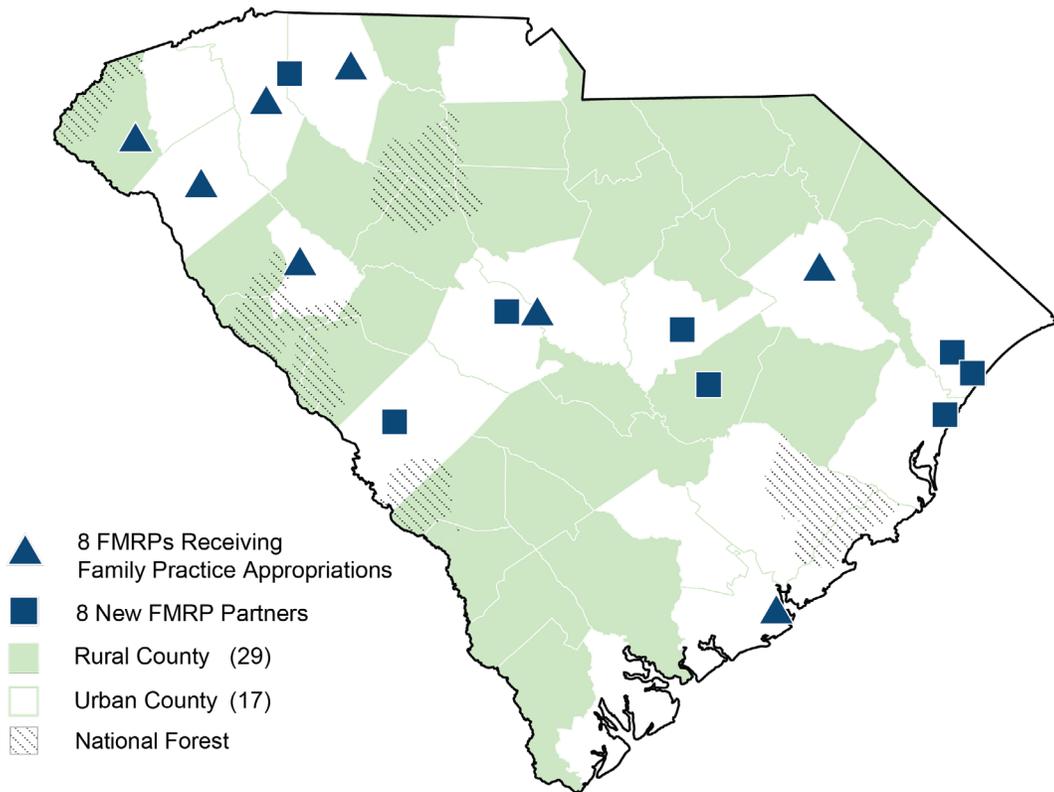
Graduate Medical Education

South Carolina AHEC works collaboratively with all of the family medicine residency programs in the state to facilitate recruitment for high-quality training in family medicine for South Carolina.



Photo: 2022 Family Medicine Interest Day (FY23)

Family Medicine Residency Programs (FMRPs) in South Carolina



Map Note: Sixteen Family Medicine Residency Programs included based on residency program city. McLeod Health Rural FMRP has two locations (Cheraw & Manning) but only one location icon included on the map to match total number of residencies counts. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural/2010-urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on the 2010 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022.

During the last fiscal year, programming for SC Family Medicine Residencies achieved:

- 68 medical students attended virtual Family Medicine Interest Day
- 17 medical schools represented by Family Medicine Interest Day attendees
- 236 registrations for training accrued by residents on the AHEC Learning Portal
- 128 residents participated in training via the AHEC Learning Portal



Making Connections at Family Medicine Interest Day

“I participated in [Family Medicine Interest Day] in 2019 for the 2020 season and it was so beneficial in meeting the SC FM programs in a smaller setting than AAFP [American Academy of Family Physicians conference]. There was a lot of time for discussion with the programs during small groups and networking hour in a more casual setting. This is how I met the program I ultimately matched with. I do not believe I would have even applied to this program if I hadn’t met them at SC Family Medicine Interest Day and I am so glad I did because it is the best decision I ever made.”

Sabby King, MD

Chief Resident | Prisma Health Upstate/USC Greenville Family Medicine Residency

Family Medicine Residency Programs (FMRPs) in South Carolina

- Aiken Regional Medical Centers | Aiken
- ▲ AnMed Health | Anderson
- Conway Medical Center | Conway
- Grand Strand Health | Myrtle Beach
- Lexington Medical Center | West Columbia
- ▲ McLeod Health | Florence
- McLeod Health Rural | Cheraw & Manning
- ▲ MUSC Health | Charleston
- ▲ Prisma Health Midlands/USC SOMC | Columbia
- Prisma Health Midlands/USC SOMC | Sumter
- ▲ Prisma Health Upstate/USC SOMG | Greenville
- Prisma Health Upstate/USC SOMG | Greer
- ▲ Prisma Health Upstate/USC SOMG | Seneca
- ▲ Self Regional Healthcare | Greenwood
- ▲ Spartanburg Regional Healthcare | Spartanburg
- Tidelands Health MUSC | Murrells Inlet

Why It Matters: Connecting Physicians to Family Medicine Training

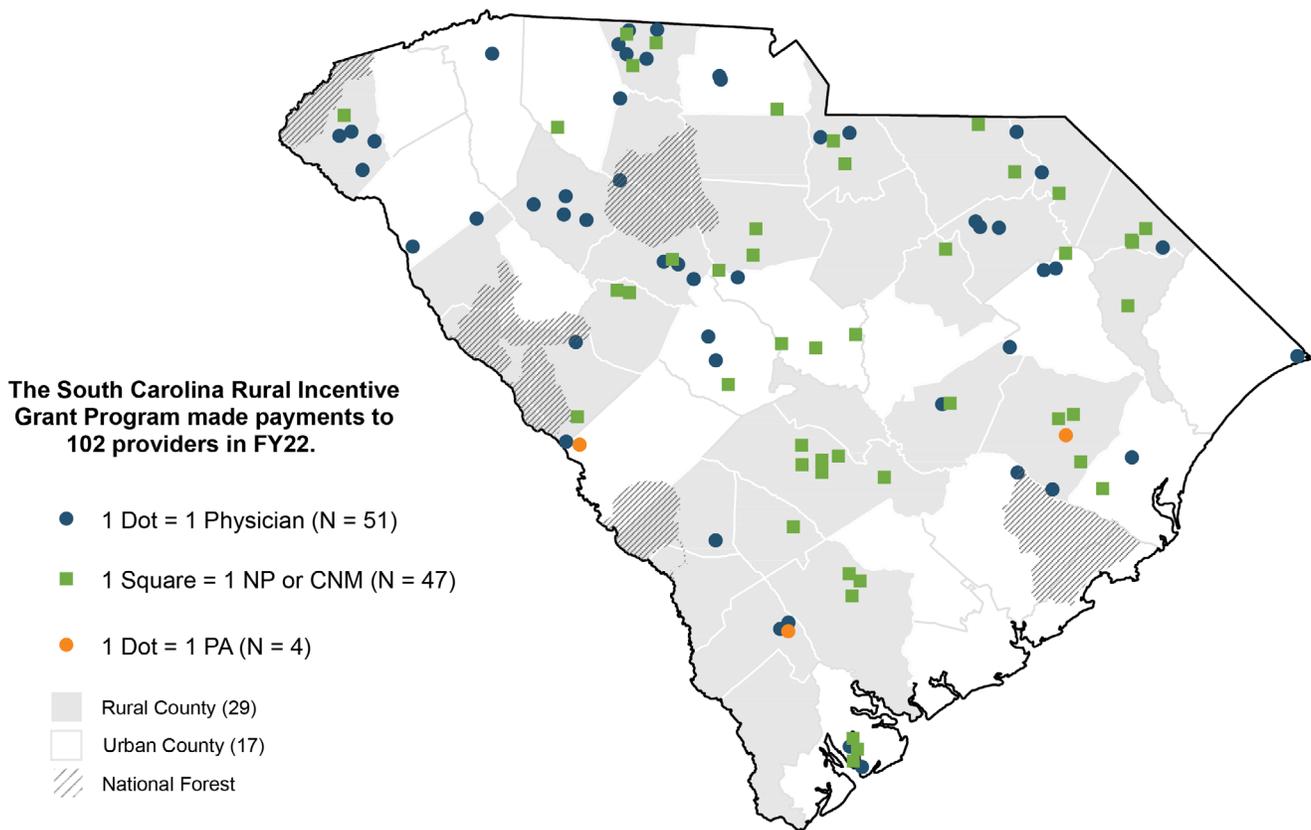
Family medicine physicians provide lifelong care for the entire family, making them an important asset for the health of communities, especially in rural areas where they can practice comprehensive, full-scope medicine.

Recruitment & Retention Program

The South Carolina AHEC Recruitment and Retention Program utilizes financial incentives to build an effective healthcare workforce to address the maldistribution of clinicians in rural and underserved areas of South Carolina.



South Carolina Rural Incentive Grant Program Participants, FY22



Map Note: Information is based on the provider's current practice zip code in 2022. Dots are randomly scattered within the zip code area and may not indicate a precise address. Source: Rural Incentive Grant Program recipient data from South Carolina AHEC. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural/2010-urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on the 2010 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022.

During the last fiscal year, AHEC Recruitment & Retention Programs achieved:

102 total providers active in the Rural Incentive Grant Program

31 providers received Rural Incentive Grant funding for the first time in FY22

6 new dentists received funding in the Rural Dentist Loan Repayment Program

82% of community dentists funded since the inception of the Rural Dentist Program are still practicing in the original community in which they were funded



Supporting Health Professionals in Rural Practice

“As a new provider, it can be daunting finishing years of training to have the medical school loans just when you are trying to establish yourself as a provider. This program has allowed me to start paying my loans off faster so I can focus my time on my practice and patients...”

Kelly San Miguel, MD
OB/GYN practicing in Clinton, SC

**New Rural Incentive Grant Program
Participants in FY22**

17 advanced practice nurses

12 physicians

2 physician assistants

**New Rural Dentist Loan Repayment
Program Participants in FY22**

4 community dentists

2 dental faculty at the MUSC
College of Dental Medicine

Why It Matters: Connecting Health Professionals to Communities

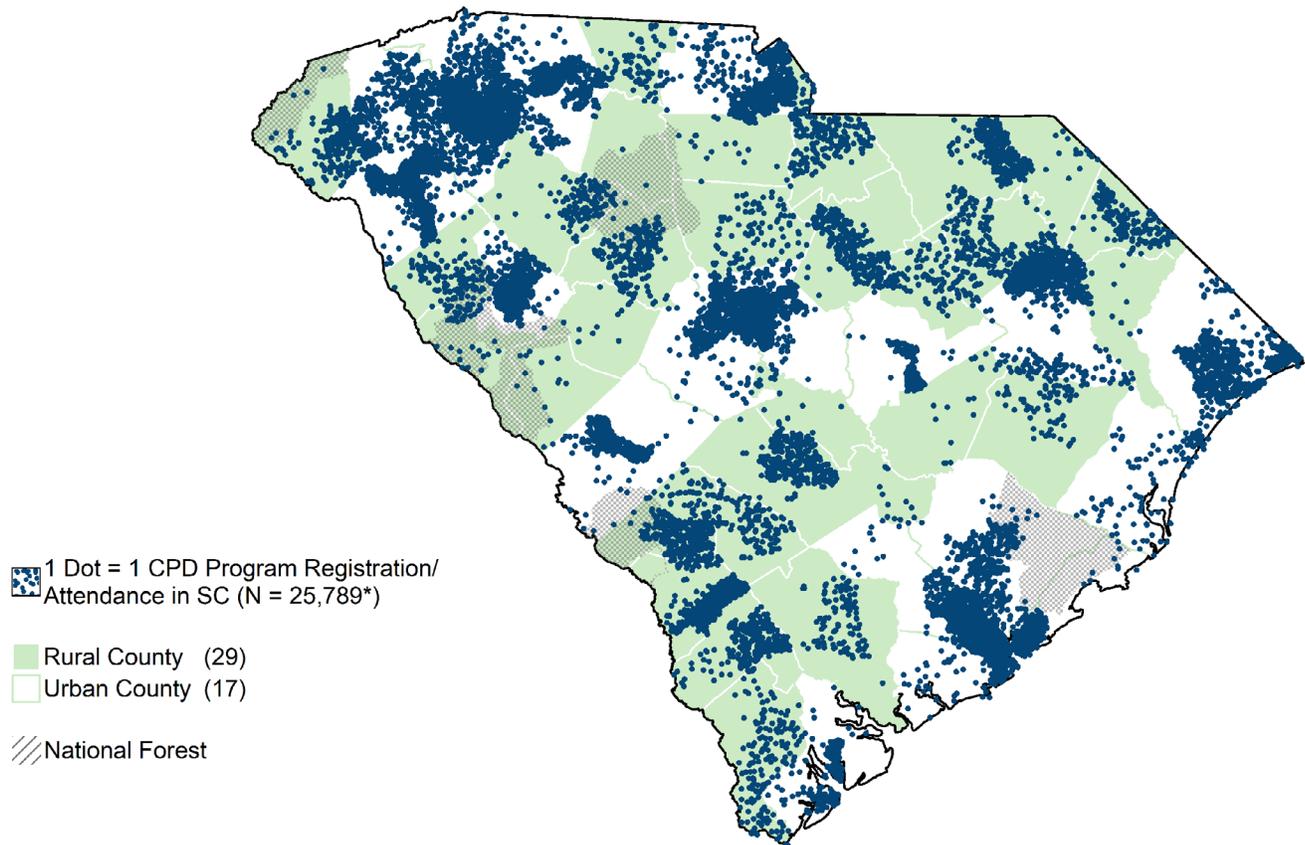
Research shows that financial incentives are effective at encouraging and supporting practitioners to live and work in rural and/or underserved areas. Increasing the availability of healthcare providers in these communities provides more access to care and better health for South Carolina.

Continuing Professional Development

South Carolina AHEC Continuing Professional Development Programs enhance clinical skills, address ongoing and emerging health trends and help professionals maintain their licensure and certifications.



SC AHEC Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program Registrations by Zip Code, FY22



1 Dot = 1 CPD Program Registration/
Attendance in SC (N = 25,789*)

■ Rural County (29)
□ Urban County (17)

/// National Forest

Map Note: *Data show the number of continuing professional development program registrations/attendances provided in FY2022 (7/1/2021-6/30/2022), by individuals' self-reported practice zip code. Dots are scattered randomly within the zip code area and show 25,789 records within South Carolina. Map excludes 1,078 out-of-state records and 4,753 records that were missing zip code. Source: CPD data from South Carolina AHEC. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural/2010-urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on the 2010 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022.

During the last fiscal year, AHEC Continuing Professional Development Programs achieved:

- 7,690** professionals participated in SC AHEC continuing professional development programs
- 57,753** contact hours of continuing education accrued by participants statewide
- 18,401** registrations from professionals in medically-underserved communities
- 4,791** registrations from professionals in rural communities



Supporting Health Professionals in the Provision of High-Quality Care



“We find the online trainings offered through Lowcountry AHEC invaluable to our staff! Over the last nine years we have seen the educational videos increase in number and into different useful topics. We use several training videos for our new staff orientation and for our biannual full staff trainings. The AHEC trainings are easy to access and offer quality education. We have several staff that have taken the initiative to further their knowledge in other areas of interest. I recently had one provider tell me that she was so grateful for the access through LCHCS due to the rising cost of attending conferences in person. She stated that access to unlimited training was one of the best benefits to her as an employee and the ability to earn CEUs online. We look forward to continuing our partnership and to the new education you offer!”

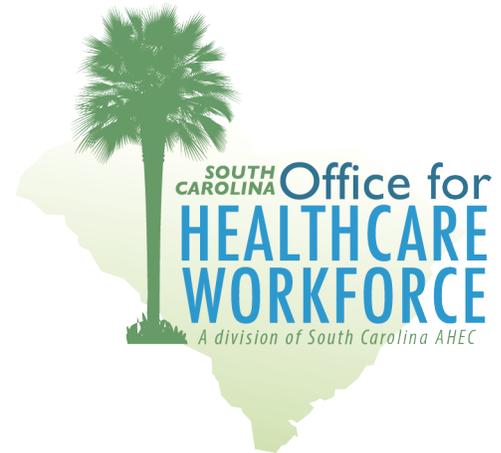
Denise Cone, RN
Quality Improvement & Risk Management Director | Low Country Health Care System

Why It Matters: Connecting Professionals to Training and Education

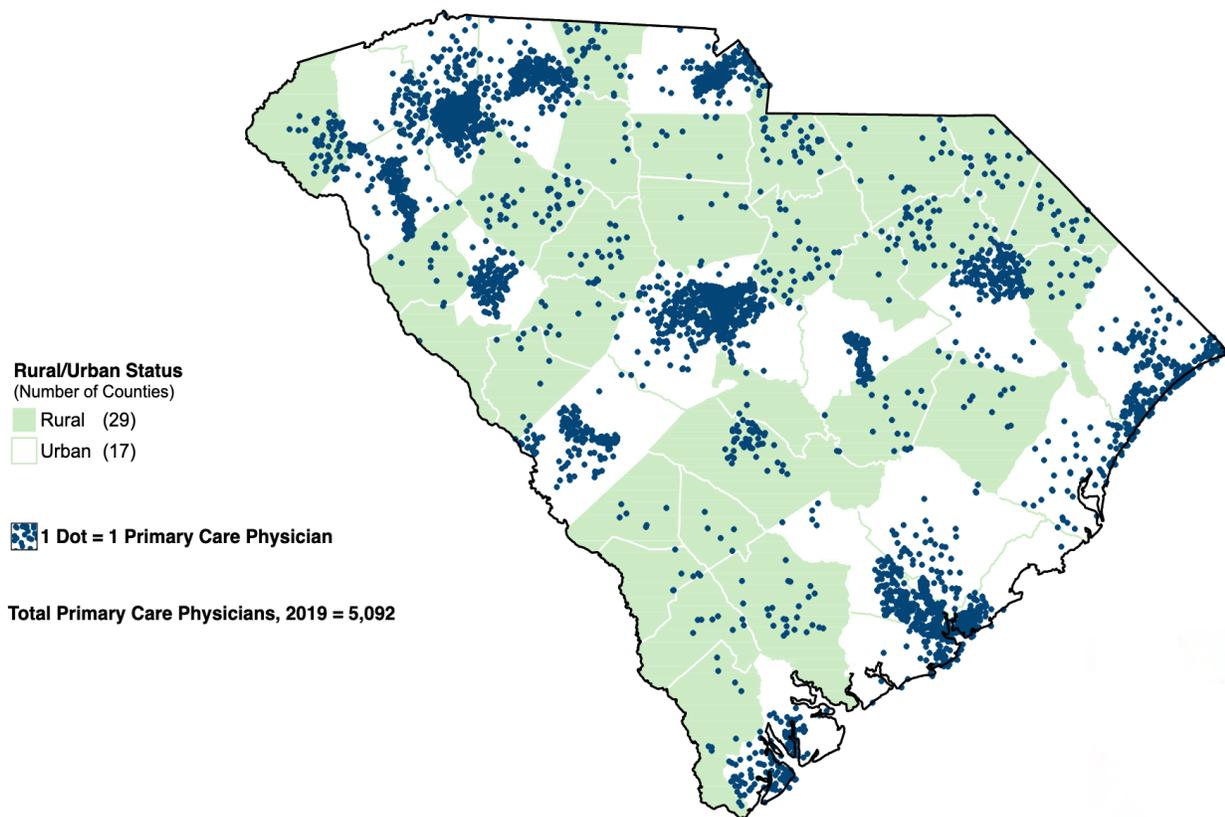
AHEC continuing education programs provide a local and low-cost approach to the education needed for health professionals to maintain their licensure and certifications and practice high-quality healthcare.

SC Office for Healthcare Workforce

The South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce (SCOHW), a division of South Carolina AHEC, studies issues that affect the balance of supply and demand for different types of healthcare professionals across South Carolina. Its primary mission is to develop accurate, reliable information about the healthcare workforce in South Carolina and to make that information widely available to support planning and policy decisions.



Primary Care Physicians by Primary Practice Location, South Carolina, 2019



Map Note: This information is based on all physicians with a primary specialty of family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, or pediatrics that have an active license to practice and a primary practice location in a nonfederal setting in South Carolina as of 9/1/2019. Counts are based on self-reported primary practice location and include residents-in-training. Dots are randomly scattered within the zip code area and may not represent the actual street address of the practice. Source: South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce, SC AHEC, with data collected by the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation and obtained from the SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural/2010-urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on the 2010 Census counts.

During the last fiscal year, the SC Office for Healthcare Workforce achieved:

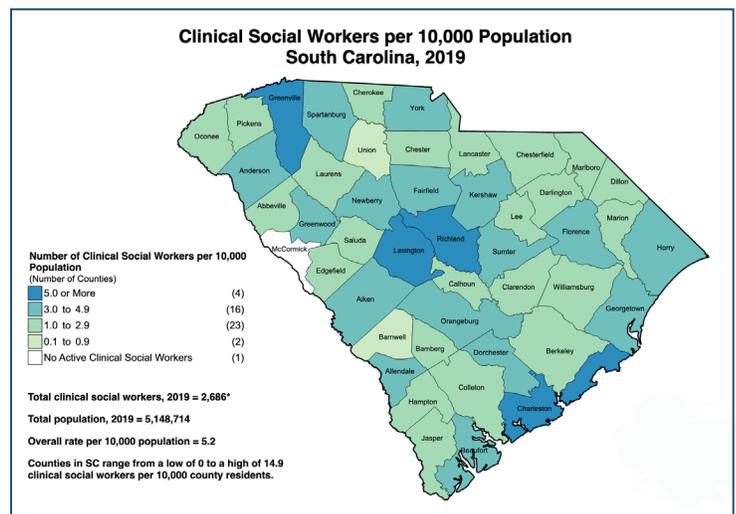
41 data requests fulfilled and 14 presentations delivered at state and national meetings

618 SC Health Professions Data Books mailed out to support workforce planning

103,630 licensed health professionals in South Carolina included in the data analyzed by SCOHW

Find more maps, information for other professions and data by county and state region in the *2021 South Carolina Health Professions Data Book*.

Find it and other reports online at www.scahec.net/scohw



Supporting Data-Driven Decision Making through Partnerships



“The South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce (SCOHW) provides an invaluable resource for policymakers and other key stakeholders across the state by publishing reliable, objective workforce data specific to healthcare workers across the state.

The South Carolina Board of Nursing contributes to this body of work by collecting workforce data pertaining to LPNs, RNs and APRNs biannually with licensure renewal, relying on statisticians from the South Carolina Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office to prepare the data and for SCOHW to further analyze and present the data in a meaningful way to assist with workforce planning and policy decisions.

As the nursing shortage continues to grow, this information can be utilized to make data driven decisions that ultimately impact the health and well-being of the citizens of South Carolina.”

Carol Moody, MS, RN, NEA-BC
South Carolina Board of Nursing Administrator

Why It Matters: Connecting Data to Decision Making

Policymakers and other stakeholders need objective, timely and reliable information with which to make data-driven decisions about healthcare—including the healthcare workforce—that impact the health of all South Carolinians.

South Carolina AHEC
1 South Park Circle
Suite 203
Charleston, SC 29407

*Building and
Supporting
the Healthcare
Workforce South
Carolina Needs
for 50 Years
and Counting*

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