

# Widening Gap of Disparity – How Rural Communities See an Increase in Health Disparities

*A part of the Rural Health Equity Series*

## Program Description:

This program will help participants better understand health disparities that exist in rural communities and implement strategies for improving access to health care, promoting education, and building trust between patients and the healthcare community.

## Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to –

- Discuss the lack of access to healthcare and its correlation to rising health disparities in rural communities.
- Explain the difference between rural communities and larger metropolitan communities as it relates to chronic diseases and illnesses.
- Discuss the educational gap associated with COVID-19 in rural areas and identify practice changes that can be made to bridge the informational gap.
- Assess tools to foster and strengthen trust between rural patients and the healthcare community.



**On-Demand Video**

## Target Audience:

Counselors/Therapists,  
Nurses, Social Workers,  
Community Health  
Workers, and other  
healthcare professionals.

**Price: Free**

Register at: [bit.ly/RuralHE](https://bit.ly/RuralHE)



## Credit

**AHEC:** This program is approved for 0.125 CEU's (1.25 clock hour) by Pee Dee AHEC and meets SC AHEC Best Practice Standards.

**Counselors and Therapists:** This program is approved for 1.25 hour of continuing education credit. The South Carolina AHEC system is recognized as a permanent sponsor of continuing education by the South Carolina Board of Examiners of Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists. {Provider number is #65}

**Social Workers:** Pee Dee AHEC, as part of the SC AHEC System, is an approved provider of CE for social workers. This social work program is approved for 1.25 hours of non-social work credit.

## Instructor

**Stacey M. Flaherty, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC**

Mrs. Flaherty, an Advance Practice Registered Nurse, is from the Erlanger, Kentucky a suburb of Cincinnati. She obtained undergraduate and graduate degrees from her local institution, Northern Kentucky University. Stacey spent ten years delivering patient care to residents of Northern Kentucky specializing in Telemetry and Emergency Medicine. After a rewarding ten years as a nurse, Stacey further pursued her career and education by obtaining a Master's of Nursing Degree from Northern Kentucky University as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Upon graduation, she served local residents in the urgent care setting. In 2016, Stacey moved to South Carolina where she was hired to work in the field of Urogynecology. Although she enjoyed the challenges of the Urogynecology field, she felt compelled to return back to the hospital setting and began working as a Nocturnist for Prisma Health Cardiology as well as a Hospitalist and Emergency Room provider in two of South Carolina's underserved rural hospitals.

Stacey continues her nearly 18 years of dedicated patient care. Along with her extensive clinical background, she is equally passionate about the education and training of our front-line health care workers. She shares this passion as she provides continuing education to various levels of healthcare professionals via classroom and multi-media web-based learning. Together, with her husband, Joe, Stacey resides in Columbia, SC and is mom to two wonderful furry friends: Dolly & Shiloh. She enjoys visiting her family back home in Northern Kentucky as well as traveling the world to learn about other cultures and history.

**Brought to you by:**



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**Register at [www.scahec.net/learn](http://www.scahec.net/learn)**