



CALIFORNIA NORTH COAST AHEC

ABOUT

The North Coast Area Health Education Center (NC-AHEC), housed within North Coast Clinics Network (NCCN), works with its member health centers and community partners to develop innovative strategies and partnerships to overcome recruitment and retention challenges in rural Humboldt, Del Norte and Trinity counties in Northwestern California. The AHEC focuses its activities in the following five areas: identifies workforce needs through surveys, interviews, data aggregation and analysis; organizes and promotes multidisciplinary, professional development training events, peer networking and best practice sharing activities; provides training, technical assistance and practice coaching to build Patient Centered Medical Home and quality improvement capacity across the Network; supports coordination of on-site experiences for health professions and high school students; and collaborates with community stakeholders and partners to identify and develop recruitment and retention strategies to ensure access to quality health care services on the North Coast.

On a local level, the NC-AHEC works with multiple organizations throughout the community such as the Independent Practice Association, the Medical Society, the Consortium for CME, the Center for Rural Policy, academic institutions, family resource centers, public health, social services and the Department of Health and Human Services. The AHEC collaborates with these long-standing partners to maintain a pulse on the workforce needs of the region and to respond in efficient and effective ways to support the health care delivery system. The NC-AHEC also extends its network to the state and national level, engaging primary care associations, academic institutions, health care and professional societies and other AHEC's.

Due to the many connections and relationships that the NC-AHEC has forged, North Coast health professionals have received current, evidence-based continuing medical education. Topic areas have included hypertension, diabetes medication and patient self-management, motivational interviewing, psychiatric medications 101 for primary care providers, ER/LA Opioid REMS and tapering strategies, medication-assisted treatment and the ABC's of Quality Improvement to name a few. The AHEC has also coordinated provider networking and appreciation events, student clinical rotations and community projects, as well as scholarships and National Health Service Corps education and application assistance. In line with its mission, the AHEC will continue to forge new partnerships and innovate successful strategies to recruit and retain quality health care professionals for our rural, underserved area.



Open Door Community Health Centers' NP Residency Program (top). Northern California Rural Roundtable participants listen to a presentation on Alternative Payment Reform and health system transformation (middle). Hepatitis C 101 Course with UCSF Hep C ECHO subject matter experts and treaters (bottom).

2017-18 OUTCOMES TO DATE

213 individuals

participated in 2 multidisciplinary best practice sharing events to improve systems transformation and care coordination

11 health professional students

and 1 MD resident hosted at community health centers for community-based training

168 attendees during Hep C 101, ABCs of QI, Faculty Development, Hypertension, Communication and Infection Control trainings

Open Door Community Health Centers currently hosts **4 NP residents** in its NP/PA Fellowship Program

CONTACT

For more information, please visit:
<http://cal-ahec.org>
<http://northcoastclinics.org>

Or contact the Center Director:
Trisha Cooke, MA
Trisha@northcoastclinics.org

1036 5th Street, Suite C
Eureka, CA 95501