

Western Maryland Area Health Education Center Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report



The Western Maryland Area Health Education Center (WMAHEC) is a 501 (c) 3 organization whose mission is to improve access to and promote quality in healthcare through educational partnerships.



Addressing Health Professional Shortages While Meeting Educational Needs

During Fiscal Year 2008, many stakeholders within Maryland's health professions sector renewed the focus on addressing Maryland's existing and future healthcare workforce shortages. Activity emanated from the Governor's Office to Med Chi and the Maryland Hospital Association, from the Maryland Rural Health Association and Rural Maryland Council to local hospitals and healthcare provider sites, from the State Office of Rural Health to the Maryland Area Health Education Center Program.

Along with other stakeholders, Western Maryland Area Health Education Center (WMAHEC) continued to focus on health professions education pipeline programs, specifically through two new programs that address the "Grow your Own" health professionals approach. The addition of the Youth Health Service Corps (YHSC) and the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs enabled WMAHEC to engage K-12 students year-round in activities that not only promote interest in the health professions but also provide hands-on activities with healthcare topics and health professionals through training and job shadowing experiences.

WMAHEC's programs and services continued to provide Western Maryland Communities with quality continuing education and training programs, advocacy efforts through the Maryland Rural Health Association and the Allegany County Family Violence Council, student clinical education rotations, and learning resources and library services for health professionals, students, and hospitals.

We commend the Board of Directors and the dedicated staff for a productive and successful year. In closing, we take some time to reflect on how an AHEC effectively serves the community, which is through partnerships. So, once again, we thank our health professional Caucuses and our community and academic partners for allowing us the privilege of working with them to address regional needs.

Sincerely,

Susan K. Stewart

Executive Director

Earl Stoner

Chair, Board of Directors

Board of Directors FY 2008

Stoner, Earl	BS, MPH
Wilson, Jennifer	M.Ed., RD, LD
Raver, Sue	MD
Raines, Troy	BS
Aiken, Rebecca	RN
Ambrosia, Todd	PhD, MSN, CRNP
Baquet, Claudia	MD, MPH
Bezuneh, Meseret	MS, Ed.
Breakall, Charles	LCSW
Browning, Bethany	RN, CCRN
Edwards, Jason	PhD
Harr, Christina	PTA
Hoffman, Joe	PhD
Keane, Elaine	MS, OTR
Kessell, James	RPh
Kiddy, Amy	RN, BSN
LaParle, Frank	DDS
Lease, Henrietta	BS, MBA
Lytle, Jennifer	LSWA
Menchavez, Celestino	MD
Phillips, A. George	BS, MEd
Preaskorn, Diane	PTA
Purdy, Timothy	MSN, CRNP
Rozas, Ramon	JD
Rulle, Mark	Ed.D.
Schneider T. Brooke	MS, LPC, MAC, NCAPIII
Sheetz, Anne	MS, MA, LCPC
Sullivan, Mark	

WMAHEC Staff Listing FY 2008

Stewart, Susan	<i>Executive Director</i>
Beaulieu, D. Michele	<i>Program Coordinator</i>
Booth, Jackie	<i>Administrative Specialist I</i>
Donahoe, Sharon	<i>Human Resource Specialist I</i>
Morton, Kristin	<i>Program Coordinator</i>
Powell, E. Renae	<i>Administrative Specialist I</i>
Roberson, Tina	<i>Finance Coordinator</i>
Samples, Scottie	<i>Program Coordinator</i>
Slaven, Robert	<i>Information Systems Specialist</i>
Socha, Terri	<i>Program Coordinator</i>
Taylor, C. Joy	<i>Program Coordinator</i>
Shook, Sandy	<i>Office Aide</i>
Fisher, Roland	<i>Maintenance</i>
Clites, Mary	<i>Custodian</i>
Folk, Nancy	<i>Volunteer</i>



Susan Stewart – Executive Director, Michele Beaulieu – Program Coordinator, and Joy Taylor – Program Coordinator traveled to Denver to represent the agency at the National AHEC conference. WMAHEC presented three program posters: GGEAR-GAIT Partnership, Community Network Program, and ECHO – Youth Health Service Corps.

Programs and Services

Clinical Education

One Internal Medicine Resident and 102 health professions students representing 11 disciplines from 21 universities, colleges, and programs completed 105 rotations with preceptors in Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington counties and nearby areas of West Virginia. This maintained the level of FY2007 student participation, which was more than a 20% increase from FY2006. In addition, FY2008 participants completed 731 weeks of clinical experience, a 7% increase over FY2007.

The students were mentored by 49 preceptors – area health professionals that shared their time, knowledge and skills with the students. Twelve new preceptors shared their expertise with students: Patrick Bell, RPh; Daniel Buckingham, MD; Peter Bui, MD; Julie Caler, PharmD; Andrew Foy, MD; Ronald Greger, MD; Ziad Haidar, MD; Steven J. Kesner; Dan McTaggart, PharmD; Elaina Tarantello, PT; Katrina Timmons, MPT, CCCE; and Gregg Wolff, MD.

Leslie Robinson, MD, from the Department of Family and Community Medicine was named the course director for the AHEC rotation at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Robinson met with students and preceptors in Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties during the rotations.

Volunteer hours: **29,400 hours**
(731 weeks x 40 hours = 29,240 hours;
Site visits: 20 days x 8 hours = 160 hours)



University of Maryland Dental School student, Gretchen Seibert, DDS (right) completed a clinical rotation in Frostburg, MD with Diane D. Romaine, DMD. Dr. Seibert returned to practice with Dr. Romaine.

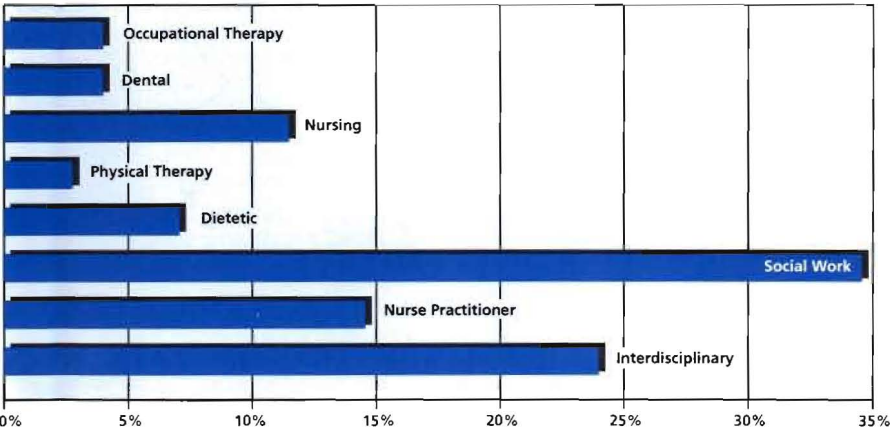
Continuing Education, Training, and Caucuses

The dedication and commitment provided to WMAHEC from the members of the eleven health professional Caucuses continues to be the core of the continuing education program success. The disciplines represented by these Caucuses include dentistry, dietetic, nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, pharmacy, medicine, psychology and professional counseling, nurse practitioner, and social work. Because of the collaborative relationship established between these Caucuses, health care organizations and educational institutions, the continuing education department continues to grow. In cooperation with these partners, training needs are assessed and programs are developed and conducted using national, regional and local experts as

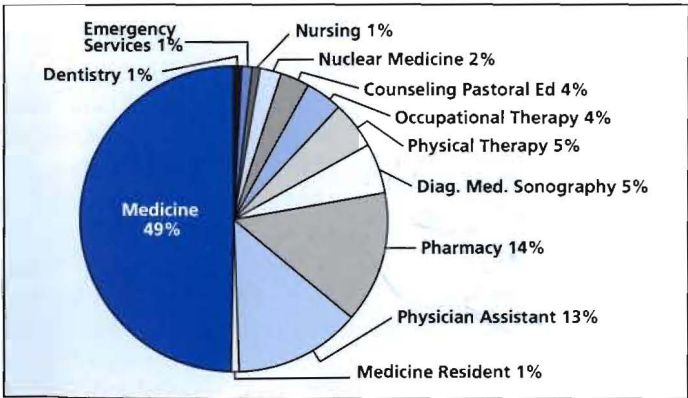
lecturers and consultants. During Fiscal Year 2008, 54 continuing education courses were sponsored or co-sponsored for a total of 1569 health professionals. Another 15 non-credit programs were conducted for 1553 participants. Presentation formats included seminars, workshops, lectures and telecasts. By providing quality, diverse and affordable

educational opportunities, WMAHEC is assisting with the retention of health professionals in the region as well as helping them to improve the health care provided to citizens of Western Maryland. During any given Fiscal Year, the number of programs conducted and professionals served is commensurate with the amount of available grant funds.

Continuing Education Participants by Discipline



Clinical Education Students by Discipline



Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research (GGEAR) Partnership

The GGEAR, a University of Maryland Baltimore program, directs a University System of Maryland Redeployment Grant that, in partnership with the WMAHEC, supports the following:

- Interdisciplinary geriatrics educational experience in rural/underserved areas for students in University Maryland System (UMS) health professions programs;
- Continuing Education for health professionals and caregivers working with older adults in Western Maryland;
- Educational outreach and resources for health care professionals, caregivers, and older adults in Maryland; and
- Aging Awareness and information about career opportunities in geriatrics and gerontology for middle and high school students in Western Maryland.

G.A.I.T. (Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team) projects are one or two day free standing projects that bring small interdisciplinary teams of health professions students to rural/underserved geriatric care sites. Each project focuses on a specific topic in rural geriatric care. Students participate in Aging Awareness activities; learn Interdisciplinary Health Care skills, and the interdisciplinary assessment process at the host site. Each team assesses a client selected by the host site and the student teams present their assessment to host site staff.

In FY2008, thirty-three health professions students representing Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, and Social Work, from University of Maryland Baltimore (Dental, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy schools),



An aging simulation activity engages GAIT students in the challenges elderly people face in their activities of daily living.

University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Towson University, and Frostburg State University participated in one of four GAIT projects in Western Maryland. The project topics included: *Transitions in Assisted Living, Supporting Living at Home: Adult Medical Day Services, Community-Based Hospice Care in a Rural Area, and Maintaining Health and Wellness in Independent Living.*

In FY2008, the **GGEAR Mini-Grants for Community-Driven Continuing Education** had fifteen organizations and agencies in 3 Western Maryland counties collaborating on GGEAR projects that provided Continuing Education for 550 health care professionals and providers, and supplied resource materials to support educational outreach to older adults and caregivers.

Educational Resources and Community Outreach included maintaining the WMAHEC website gerontology and geriatrics resources for community caregivers, health professionals, and students exploring careers in aging. Information and resources are also shared electronically and at community events.

WMAHEC staff provided **Geriatrics and Gerontology Health Careers Outreach** to middle and high school students in Western Maryland and Aging Awareness and Team Activities for health career pipeline program participants.

The benefits of the GGEAR-WMAHEC partnership were shared at a University-Community Partnership Conference, the AGHE National Conference, and the NAO Conference. An article, *Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team Training: A Collaboration Among the Maryland AHECs and the University System of Maryland* was published in the National AHEC Bulletin.

Volunteer hours: **990 hours**

Learning Resource Center (LRC)

The LRC staff assists area health information providers, health professionals, and students in the health professions by maintaining a health sciences library, performing literature searches, filling interlibrary loans, and providing multimedia resources. Staff members also provide training on accessing reliable health information on the Internet. The Learning Resource Center is a Primary Access Library and a member of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern/Atlantic Region. Funding for this service comes from the University of Maryland School of Medicine for the Maryland Statewide Medical Education and Training System.



Exploring Careers in Health Occupations (ECHO)

This year marked the expansion of ECHO into a three-year program, which was the realization of a long-held agency goal for WMAHEC's health professions education pipeline programs. As part of the effort to "grow our own" health professionals, ECHO conducted outreach and recruiting trips, where 835 students in Western Maryland were informed about the need for health care professionals in the region. Twenty-two students enrolled in ECHO 101; seventeen students returned for ECHO 201; and five took part in the pilot year of ECHO 301. Participants met with health professionals and health professions students for lively discussions of what careers in the respective disciplines meant. They visited the University of Maryland School of Medicine; the University

of Maryland School of Nursing; the Allied Health programs at Allegany College of Maryland; the Allegany County Health Department; and the New York University School of Medicine.

Job shadowing experiences included Tri-Towns Ambulance Service; the surgery and emergency room departments at the Western Maryland Health System; Dr. Diane Romaine and Associates (DMS); Around the Back Chiropractics; Golden Living Center; and the Frostburg Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Students trained for CPR and First Aid certification. Much fun was also involved, as participants engaged in white water rafting at Adventure Sports Center International and attended a New York Mets baseball game.



ECHO students participate in an exciting team building activity at the world's only mountaintop whitewater course, located at Adventure Sports Center International in Garrett County.



ECHO 301 students, Thomas Barr, Sharon Saku, Catie Taylor, Tori Charley, Ashley Werner, and Dalton Fisher along with Program Coordinator, Scottie Samples (front) enjoy a New York Mets game during their field trip to New York City

Their ECHO experiences gave students clear ideas of the reality of the various professions that they observed. One student was so inspired by the work of an Occupational Therapist that he has decided to pursue occupational therapy as his career.

ECHO is funded by the University of Maryland School of Medicine's AHEC Program Office through a grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Professions' Model AHEC Grant Program.

National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine (NYLFM)

For the third year in a row, Dr. Jordan Warnick at the University of Maryland School of Medicine's Office of Student Research, was able to secure a scholarship for a worthy WMAHEC student to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine. Participants are nominated by teachers or mentors and must have a grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale or above to be eligible. This year's scholarship recipient was **Dalton Fisher**, a junior from Southern Fulton High School in Warfordsburg, Pennsylvania. Dalton is an outstanding student who has an interest in medicine as a career, and we know he'll go far.

Express Outreach Project

This project aims to meet the community need for current, reliable and local health information by training at least 100 participants in WMAHEC's Exploring Careers in Health Occupations (ECHO) program as well as the students enrolled in our new Youth Health Service Corps program in the use of NLM resources, including GoLocal, Pubmed, Medline Plus, Clinical Trials.gov, NIH SeniorHealth.gov, genetics website, as well as on locating and evaluating reliable health information on the Internet. The Express Outreach Project is funded by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine/ Southeastern Atlantic Region.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

The Allegany County Public Schools began a contract with WMAHEC to coordinate the activities of their Maryland State Department of Education STEM grant. The project serves K-12 students, their parents, guidance counselors, teachers and principals and is designed to raise awareness, increase exposure to, and better prepare students for the pursuit of STEM careers. In the 2007-2008 school year, grant projects included 14 Elementary School Career Days in which more than 2000 students learned from a STEM



Stacey Rohrbaugh, Assistant Professor of Medical Laboratory Technology at Allegany College of Maryland and member of the STEM Camp teaching team, shows a camp participant how to draw blood using a simulated arm.



Middle School students participate in the Health Careers segment of the week-long STEM Career Exploration Camp.

professional; 18 Field Trips in which 544 students participated; 3 STEM Family nights which involved 152 students and parents; 15 STEM Professional Classroom visits which engaged 1061 students in the opportunity to

learn from a STEM Professional; 9 Special STEM Projects reaching 900 students; 3 paid internships for high school students and a week-long STEM camp for 85 middle school students.

Allegany County Family Violence Council (FVC)

The Allegany County Family Violence Council, a local coordinating Council has the mission to significantly reduce the incidents of family and interpersonal violence by creating a coordinated community response that protects victims, holds offenders accountable, and offers treatment and education as a means of prevention. In FY2008 the Council continued its domestic violence data tracking and support of the

Lethality Assessment Team and implementation of the Lethality Assessment Tool and designed and implemented the protocol for the operation of an Allegany County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team. The FVC receives its funding from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention's S*T*O*P Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program, VAWA-200-1467.



Youth Health Service Corps (YHSC)

The inaugural year of the Western Maryland Youth Health Service Corps has been a successful one. 15 students have received introductory training, and 14 are actively volunteering at several community healthcare related sites. To date, 302 volunteer hours have been served by YHSC members. In addition, the YHSC volunteers are leading a “Virtual Bowling League” using the Nintendo Wii with residents in area long-term care facilities, which they designed as their YHSC Service Learning component. The project’s funder, the Northwestern Connecticut AHEC expressed their pleasure with the program during their site visit

in April. Initial training has begun to create a statewide YHSC through the Maryland AHEC Program Office with WMAHEC as the coordinating center.

Mini-Med School

WMAHEC conducted its fourth annual Western Maryland Mini-Med School for 154 participants from the community, among which 105 graduated. Throughout the four-week course, Mini-Med offered an inside view into exciting progress in medicine, ways to improve health, and important prevention and treatment information on mental health and chronic disease and conditions



Youth Health Service Corps program participants, Christina Faidley, Ashley Herbaugh (L), coach residents of the Lions Manor Rehabilitation in a game of Nintendo Wii bowling as part of their Service Learning Project.



Fourth annual Western Maryland Mini-Med School class.

commonly experienced by citizens of Western Maryland. Courses were taught by medical professionals from the local community and from the faculty of the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Mini-Med was a partnership effort of WMAHEC; the University of Maryland School of Medicine; the University of Maryland Statewide

Health Network; the National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities; and the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission. Community partners included Allegany College of Maryland, PharmaCare of Cumberland, Deep Creek Pharmacy, Tri-Towns Pharmacy and the Western Maryland Health System.

Community Network Project (CNP)

WMAHEC is the Northwest Maryland Community Partner for the University of Maryland School of Medicine's Maryland Regional Community Network Program. The mission of the this program is to reduce and eliminate cancer disparities for Maryland's urban and rural underserved communities through an intensive and integrated program of community-based participatory research, evidence-based

culturally appropriate community outreach and training that fosters discovery, intervention development and delivery in community settings. WMAHEC's regional focus is currently oral cancer and smokeless tobacco prevention and cessation. Funding for this project is made possible by grant number 5U01CA114650 from the National Cancer Institute.





FY08 Financial Highlights

Income*

Maryland Statewide Medical Education & Training System Services (MSMETS).....	\$ 324,000
Subrecipient Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
State of Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)	130,556
Subrecipient Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
Model AHEC Funding	60,664
HRSA, Subrecipient Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team Project (GAIT).....	45,555
Subrecipient Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
Allegany County Family Violence Council.....	28,375
Violence Against Women Act Grant Program, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention	
Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research Program (GGEAR).....	25,000
Subrecipient Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
Maryland Statewide Health Network.....	15,000
DHMH, Subrecipient Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
National Network of Libraries of Medicine.....	14,927
National Library of Medicine, Subaward Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
Youth Health Service Corps.....	25,846
Sub-Grantee Contract, Northwestern AHEC - Connecticut	
STEM — Contract with Allegany County Public Schools.....	27,498
National Network of Libraries of Medicine - Express Outreach	5,199
National Library of Medicine, Subaward Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
Western Maryland Health Information and Resource Network.....	21,950
Service Agreements with area hospitals	
The Maryland Regional Community Network Program to Eliminate Cancer	23,000
National Cancer Institute, Subaward Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
Statewide Academic Health Center Tobacco-Related Diseases Research Grant.....	60,000
DHMH, Subrecipient Agreement with the University of Maryland, Baltimore	
Maryland Statewide Health Network — Telehealth Project.....	6,000
Integration Allegany.....	1,500
Contract with Tri-State Community Health Center for Mini Med School	
UoM Center for Health Disparities Research, Training, & Community Outreach.....	9,056
Mini Med School	
Total	\$ 824,125

Line Item Expenditures*

Personnel.....	\$ 552,647
Contractual Services	100,546
Insurance	4,091
Communications	13,880
Printing and Supplies	25,539
Equipment & Equipment Contracts	2,000
Office Space & Utilities	52,107
Travel	21,425
Direct Student Support.....	26,441
Learning Resources.....	25,450
Total	\$ 824,125

Expenditures by Functional Category*

Recruitment.....	\$ 568,564
Retention	76,555
Information	127,631
Advocacy	51,375
Total	\$ 824,125

* For the fiscal year of July 1, 2007,
through June 30, 2008

2008 Preceptors

Theresa Barkdoll, CN MT, RT(N)	William Kerns, MD
Gerald Beachy, RPh	Steven J. Kesner
Patrick Bell, RPh	Shiv Khanna, MD
Robin "Mickey" Bittinger, RDMS	John Lapid, PT, MBA
Anthony Bollino, MD	Dan McTaggart, PharmD
Daniel Buckingham, MD	Celestino Menchavez, MD
Peter Bui, MD	Anita Meyers-Vagnoni, MD
Julie Caler, PharmD	Mary Money, MD
Ruben Cerri, MD	Marla Niland, RDMS
Thomas Chappell, MD	Donald Patthoff, DDS
K. Jill Ciccarelli, MD	Ghazala Qadir, MD
James Crable, RPh	Samuel Rao, MD
Wayne Crowder, MD	Sotiere Savopoulos, MD
Allen Ditto, MD	Sanjay Saxena, MD
Charles Downs, PharmD	Karl Schwalm, MD
Vivian Exline, OTR/L	Manzar J. Shafi, MD
Andrew M. Foy, MD	Huma Shakil, MD
Gene Gall, DDiv	Paul E. Shuster, MD
Gregory George, RPh, MS	John Staggers, MPT
Ronald E. Greger, MD	John Stuckey, OTR/L
Ziad E. Abou Haidar, MD	Elaina Tarantello, PT
Gerard Herpel, PD	Katrina Timmons, MPT, CCCE
Steve Hospodavis, PD	Christopher Vagnoni, MD
Margaret Kaiser, MD	Gregg Wolff, MD

FYI

During Fiscal Year 2008, WMAHEC sponsored or co-sponsored 69 continuing education and training events for 3,122 participants. Many thanks go to WMAHEC's preceptors, eleven health professions caucuses, and partner organizations for a great year of dedication and service to the community. Preceptors, Caucuses, Board members, Allegany County Family Violence Council, and WMAHEC pipeline programs contributed **52,396** volunteer hours.





Susan Stewart, WMAHEC Executive Director (left), is pictured with the agency's 2008 Annual Award winners: Vickie Mazer, the Jane A. Fiscus Community Health Leadership Award shared with Bill Wood (not pictured); Jeanette Sweitzer, Nurse Practitioner of the Year Award; Dawna Day, Social Worker of the Year Award; Mark Rulle, Distinguished Service Award; and Paula Fuller (not pictured), the John M. Dennis Award.

WMAHEC thanks its many partner organizations for a great year of service to the community. United in working toward quality healthcare in the rural region, WMAHEC looks forward to continued collaborations with these partners in future endeavors.



WMAHEC
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