

# *Western Maryland* **AHEC**



*Annual Report*  
**1995-1996**



**E**ducational partnerships enable the Western Maryland Area Health Education Center (AHEC) to realize its mission. To improve access to and promote quality in health care, the Western Maryland AHEC works in partnership with institutions of higher learning, community health professionals, and other vital supporters and advocates.

Pictured on the front cover, clockwise from upper left:

*The Team Dynamics Seminar is always an enriching experience for Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Project participants from the University of Maryland (UM) System and for other interested Western Maryland AHEC Clinical Education Program students. Seated clockwise from left foreground are: Jennifer McDonald, social work-University of Maryland at Baltimore (UMAB); Jason Solomon, law-UMAB; Larissa Pylypec and Jennifer Drennan, communication disorders-Towson State University; Diane Lewis, social work-UMAB; Stephanie Silverman, medicine-UM School of Medicine; and Joan Huston, nursing-University of Maryland Baltimore County. Standing left to right: Mark Fannie, physician assisting-Duquesne University; Ron Kealy,*

*EdD, of Frostburg State University, seminar presenter; and Katherine Walton, physician assisting-George Washington University.*

*The UMAB School of Social Work conducted an orientation for MSW outreach students and field instructors at the beginning of the 1995-96 academic year. Conducting the orientation were, from left: Tom Vassil, PhD, Faculty Liaison for Field Instruction; Janice Chippendale, LCSW, Western Maryland Outreach Site Coordinator; Mary Giovanni Rode, LCSW-C, Assistant Dean for Field Instruction, and Barbara Brown, ACSW, LCSW, Assistant Director of Field Instruction.*

*Hyun Kiel, a PharmD student from UMAB worked with Robert Martin, Jr., RPh, President and Co-owner of Potomac Valley Pharmacy, Inc, in Cumberland.*

*Claudia Baquet, MD, MPH, pictured second from right, was named Project Director of the Maryland AHEC Program in September 1995. Dr. Baquet is Associate Dean for Policy and Planning at the UM School of Medicine. She and Judith Emery, EdD, Interim Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education, pictured*

*center, visited the Western Maryland AHEC for an orientation this past fall. The orientation included, from left to right: Donald Spencer, AHEC Executive Director; Jean Seifarth, Nursing Caucus Representative for the Interdisciplinary Health Education Council (IHEC) ; Dr. Emery; Dr. Baquet; and Myra Binau, IHEC member.*

*Dr. Michael Levitas, with Children's Medical Group, Cumberland, right, observes as David Lang, a fourth-year medical student from the UMAB School of Medicine, examines two-month old Bryce Trezise.*

*Victor Mazzocco, MD, (Center picture) of the Braddock Medical Group in Cumberland,*

*has served as an AHEC preceptor since 1979. In the photo, Dr. Mazzocco, left, is shown with Matthew Park, who at the time the photo was taken in 1992 was a fourth-year medical student from the UM School of Medicine. After completing a two-year residency program in internal medicine at Boston University, Dr. Park recently completed his first year of a three-year fellowship in infectious diseases at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, MD. After 35 years as an internist, Dr. Mazzocco celebrates his retirement this summer.*

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# Directors'

# Message

This year the Western Maryland Area Health Education Center (AHEC) celebrates 20 years of progress and partnerships. Since its establishment in 1976, the Western Maryland AHEC has collaborated with the University of Maryland at Baltimore (UMAB), many other universities, numerous community health care agencies, several hundred health care professionals, vital supporters, and advocates. Together we support the long standing AHEC mission of working to increase access to and promote quality in health care.

The collective vision, commitment, and leadership of numerous individuals is central to the shared AHEC enterprise. In this report you will read about the many partnerships and collaborative efforts involving the AHEC, health professions schools, and local health care providers throughout the Appalachian counties of Maryland. We are excited that the Maryland network now includes the Eastern Shore AHEC, located in Cambridge. As part of the national AHEC network, both the Western Maryland AHEC and the Eastern Shore AHEC benefit from its vast resources.

With essential support from state and federal resources, we continue to expand the multidimensional network that keeps the AHEC effective. Once again with pride we call attention to the fact that the public funds we receive are more than matched by the contributions of our community partners in the form of volunteer hours. This year we recorded 20,972 hours of service donated to this organization. According to salary/benefit estimates by profession, this represents

an area contribution of \$989,200. Additionally, regional community clinicians donated 8,581 hours of service to the universities' outreach program students in nursing, occupational therapy, and social work, valued at \$249,455.

The very nature of any partnership, by definition, implies a relationship in which each partner has equal status and a certain independence but also implicit or formal obligations to the other or others. The whole partnering concept appears to be more widely accepted today. Although not a new concept, partnerships in health personnel education are increasingly successful.

Several AHEC staff, along with education and community partners, shared their insights into how community-based organizations can be an asset to health professions education during a session at a national conference in Boston. The conference, entitled *Community Partnerships in Health Professions Education*, was sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Bureau of Health Professions, Health Professions Schools in Service to the Nation, and numerous other organizations. It provided an opportunity to learn about a broad variety of successful community partnerships.

Through the *Nursing Information Literacy Project* we strengthened and expanded our connection with long term care agencies in the region. The *Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Project*, supported as a University of Maryland System's redeployment initiative, expanded new interdisciplinary services into Washington and Garrett counties. This year, the GAIT project involved additional disciplines and utilized new clinical sites, seminar presenters, and preceptors.

Throughout the year, we have been faced with changes in health care and health professions education. As our fiscal year draws to a close, we will reflect on the implications of these changes for rural areas and utilize the insights gleaned to guide us into the future.

We look forward to working with all of our partners in health personnel development and to addressing new opportunities and challenges in the year ahead.



Patricia Lund  
Chair, Board of Directors

Donald Spencer  
Executive Director



# Report

The Interdisciplinary Health Education Council (IHEC) is adjusting to today's fast changing health care environment. The IHEC changed its own procedural format to allow more time for discussion of programming and health issues. As a result, several innovative program ideas have emerged.

The IHEC established a marketing committee to promote what the AHEC is and the services it provides. AHEC staff and IHEC members are preparing to spread the word by visiting area health care facilities with the Center's display. We have started by approving the new AHEC slogan: "We don't provide health care; we help to make it better."

Another project being driven by the IHEC is a new interdisciplinary journal club. The first session was an overwhelming success as pharmacists, dietitians, doctors, and nurses gathered to learn about and discuss Olestra, the new fat substitute.

Interdisciplinary education opportunities continue to expand in the region. Cooperative efforts between the

University of Maryland at Baltimore, Towson State University, and area clinical site representatives, initiated by the *Western Maryland Interdisciplinary Health Care Training Program*, resulted in development and approval of the *Interdisciplinary Team Practice* curriculum.

University of Maryland System's redeployment funds supported three Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team projects this year. These projects expanded to new clinical sites and involved new disciplines not previously participating.

Based on input from geriatric providers, funds from the Geriatric and Gerontology Education and Research Program, University of Maryland at Baltimore, were used to attract over 50 new participants with programs such as the *Community Geriatric Health Education Program* series and *Determining Competence and Alternatives to Guardianship: Health Care Decisions Act*.

With support from the health care providers and agencies

in the region, there will be a one-week summer health careers enrichment program despite the loss of federal funds for the program this year. An exciting new grant proposal was submitted collaboratively with West Virginia University for new Health Careers Opportunity Program funds.

We have traveled in many exciting directions this year. Although we may not be operating exactly as we have in the past, the Western Maryland AHEC's future depends on the continued collaboration and creativity of regional health care agencies, centers for higher education, community health professionals, and students. With the scarcity of funds, we are our most valuable resource and must work together to maintain quality health care in Western Maryland.



**Heidi Lueking, RPh**  
**Chair, IHEC**  
 (Garrett County Memorial Hospital)

*Heidi M. Lueking*





## Dental Caucus

*"Through education, the caucus strived to increase awareness of a rural community's dental needs."*

Frank LaParle, DDS, Chair

- Established computerized database for maintaining record of AGD approved continuing dental education.
- Approved design and distribution of Geriatric Dental Externship brochure.
- Reapproved as AGD sponsor of continuing dental education.
- Submitted article to newspaper on benefits of fluoridation.
- Met with Gary Colangelo, DDS, MGA, Director of Community Oral Health Care Program at the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, UMAB, about community-based dental externships.
- Established caucus bylaws.
- Met with Bob Jones, DDS, Chair, Eastern Shore AHEC Dental Caucus.
- Compiled continuing dental education survey.
- Assessed need for a dental assisting program and proposed ways to meet the need.
- Cosponsored continuing dental education programs including: *Current Trends in Preventing and Treating Caries in the Pediatric Patient; Oral Medicine.*
- Provided AGD credit for one-hour sessions sponsored by the Allegany/Garrett Dental Society.
- Precepted 1 oral surgery resident.



Michael Siegel, DDS, MS, was the speaker for the spring dental education program, "Oral Medicine," which was cosponsored by the Allegany/Garrett Dental Society and the Western Maryland AHEC Dental Caucus. Pictured from the left are: Bill Yant; Siegel; John Davis; and Frank LaParle, Chair of the Dental Caucus.

# Caucus

## Dietetic Caucus

*"The caucus sponsored nutrition education to benefit both the dietary professionals and the community."*

Elaine Flick, RD, LD, Chair



More than 140 health professionals, athletes, coaches, and interested area residents attended the seminar in March on "Sports Nutrition: The Winning Formula." The presenter was Nancy Clark, MS, RD, Director of Nutritional Services for Sports Medicine Brookline. Among those at the event were members of the Dietetic Caucus, left to right: floor level, Nancy Clark; Amy Shuman; Amy Ritchie; and Nancy Forlifer, AHEC; middle step, Elaine Flick, Caucus Chair; Jennifer Wilson; Sherri Golden; and Sandra Fletcher; top step, Michelle Mealie; Angela Fetchero; Susan Hanekamp; and Pamela Keith.

- Met with President-elect of the Maryland Dietetic Association.
- Coordinated survey of consumers at area super-markets to assess interests/needs in nutrition education.
- Held grocery store tours for the public as a means of nutrition education.
- Compiled a resource directory.
- Cosponsored continuing education programs with Allegany Community College including: *Putting the HACCP System into Practice; Sports Nutrition: The Winning Formula; Nutrition: Making a Difference* (CDC Tele-conference).

# Reports

## Medical Caucus

*"Supporting preceptors through a curriculum transition has been the caucus focus."*

V. Raul Felipa, MD, Chair

- Distributed information about the University of Maryland's Associate Program to preceptors that were not already participating.
- Sponsored continuing medical education program, *Medical Education: Curriculum in Transition*, and met with David Stewart, MD, Director of the Undergraduate Division, and colleagues from the University of Maryland School of Medicine.
- Caucus chair nominated Wayne Spiggle for award received from the Maryland Chapter, American College of Physicians.
- Compiled questionnaire to assess medical staff awareness of AHEC and the caucus.
- Provided update on curriculum changes and preceptor guidelines to physicians upon request.
- V. Raul Felipa elected to Council of Maryland Chapter, American College of Physicians.
- Planned continuing medical education with area hospitals.
- Precepted 15 medical students; 19 physician assistant students; and 3 medical residents.



Participating in the continuing medical education program entitled "Medical Education: Curriculum in Transition" were, from left to right: David Stewart, MD, presenter from the University of Maryland (UM) School of Medicine; Jane Fiscus; Victor Mazzocco; Robert Ferrer, MD, UM School of Medicine; David Barclay, MD, UM School of Medicine; V. Raul Felipa, Caucus Chair; and Wayne Spiggle.

## Nursing Caucus

*"This year's caucus work involved exploring networks and methods of providing information access to nurses."*

Patricia Lund, EdD, RN and Jean Seifarth, MSN, Chairs



The advisory committee for the "Nursing Information Literacy Project" contributed their expertise to the assessment and evaluation of the project. Committee members included: from front left clockwise around the table, Kathleen Lese, AHEC; Dorothy Winner, Sacred Heart Hospital; Michele Beaulieu, AHEC; Gail Mazzocco, University of Maryland School of Nursing Western Maryland Outreach Programs; Bobbi Niklewski, Hagerstown Junior College; Dona Cantafio, Devlin Manor Nursing Home; and Carol Clark, Garrett County Health Department.

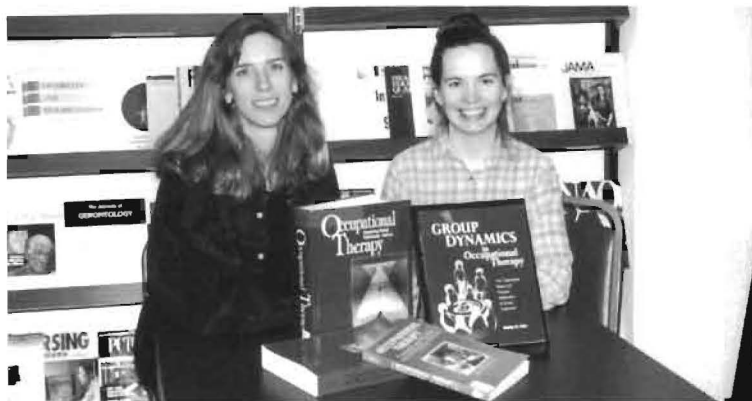
- Served in an advisory capacity for the nursing outreach programs.
- Provided assessment and evaluation support for the *Nursing Information Literacy Project*.
- Supported assessment of HEALTHPRO utilization.
- Collaborated with Learning Resource Services staff to conduct nursing education needs assessment/continuing education survey.
- Renewed contact with the District Nurses Association.
- Explored the feasibility of a Clearing-house for Nursing Continuing Education and decided not to proceed at this time.
- Hosted HEALTHPRO demonstration.
- Circulated information from the Rural Nurses Organization.
- Precepted 4 clinical education program students.



## Occupational Therapy Caucus

*"Providing economical continuing education within a managed health care environment was a primary concern of the caucus this year."*

Margie Orth, OTR/L, Chair



**T**he Learning Resource Services at the Western Maryland AHEC was able to increase its occupational therapy collection thanks to the generous donation of books by the caucus in honor of Gail Fidler, who is retiring this year. Showcasing some of that collection are caucus members Laura Robinson, left, and Elaine Keane.

- Invited OTA students to join the caucus.
- Shared program ideas, reviewed a case study, and met with foreign therapists.
- Served in an advisory capacity for the OT outreach program offered by Towson State University (TSU) and the interdisciplinary component.
- Encouraged networking at summer picnic.
- Met with the President of the Maryland Occupational Therapy Association regarding collaboration.
- Contributed a collection of books to the AHEC's Learning Resource Center in honor of Gail Fidler.
- Supported a proposal for TSU and Frostburg State University to collaborate in offering an ongoing OT degree program.
- Cosponsored continuing education programs including: *Unique Treatment with Zero to Three Year Olds*; *Maryland Relay Service*; *Occupational Assessment and Effective Intervention with Difficult Psychiatric Patients*.
- Precepted 12 OT/OTA students.

## Pharmacy Caucus

*"The caucus discussed many of the changes occurring in pharmacy and examined the educational options offered locally to help prepare for these changes."*

Jim Kessell, RPh, Chair

- Served in an advisory capacity for Allegany Community College's Pharmacy Technician program.
- Planned interdisciplinary continuing education on asthma care.
- Established bylaws.
- Surveyed interest in and advocated for a PharmD program in Western Maryland.
- Reviewed forecasts for the practice and education of pharmacists.
- Precepted 15 pharmacy students.



**S**hown are participants in the first Interdisciplinary Journal Club which met over the lunch hour at Sacred Heart Hospital (SHH). Meetings are scheduled monthly and will rotate between SHH and the Memorial Hospital and Medical Center of Cumberland, Inc. (MHMC). Seated clockwise around the table from left are: Linda Sweitzer, dietitian; Frostburg Village of Allegany County Nursing Care Center; Charles Blackwell, pharmacist, SHH; Karen Sassaman, dietitian, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Martinsburg, WV; Susan Shaw and Debbie Savage, both dietitians with Lions Manor Nursing Home; Sherri Golden, dietitian, MHMC; Marylane McGlinchey, AHEC; Susan Nuber, physician, Children's Medical Group; Elaine Flick, dietitian, SHH; and Amy Shuman, dietitian, Allegany County Health Dept.

## Physical Therapy Caucus

*"The caucus focused on exploring various approaches to recruiting physical therapists to the region."*

*John Dickerhoff, PT, Chair*

- Met with Clarence Hardiman, Chair, PT Department, University of Maryland School of Medicine, to discuss the various means of recruiting physical therapists to the area.
- Requested reserved admissions in the MPT Program at the University of Maryland for area residents.
- Established a process for selecting and officially recommending area students for admission in the MPT program at the University of Maryland.
- Supported the physical therapy component of the interdisciplinary training program.
- Explored PTA-PT conversion program options.
- Met with Rick Peret, President, Maryland Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association and decided to establish a district of MD APTA.
- Reviewed a proposal for a PT Aide Program.
- Cosponsored continuing education programs with Allegany Community College (ACC) including: *Selected Topics in Neurology; Updates in Chronic Pain Management and RSD.*
- Precepted 5 PT students.



**M**embers of the Physical Therapy Caucus include, seated left to right: Clarence Hardiman, University of Maryland; John Staggars; and Don Heare. Standing left to right: Mark Hamilton, PT student from West Virginia University; Teresa Reynolds; Lisa Rocks, ACC Center for Continuing Education; Neil Nelson; Tim Parnell; John Dickerhoff, Caucus Chair; and Michael Staggars.

## Psychology Caucus

*"The caucus expanded membership parameters and continued to support educational opportunities in the region."*

*Mikal Crawford, PhD, Chair*



**S**hown at the continuing education seminar "12 Aspects of Coping with Schizophrenia" are, left to right: Sandra Negley; Terri Bonaventure, Janssen Pharmaceutica, cosponsor; Dr. Frederick Frese, Director of Psychology at Western Reserve Psychiatric Hospital, seminar presenter; Conrad Cole; Mikal Crawford, Caucus Chair; and Jane Paulson, ACC Center for Continuing Education, cosponsor.

- Advocated for legislative issues in response to action alerts from MPA and APA.
- Expanded the membership categories and updated the membership application.
- Completed a continuing education survey.
- Promoted several education opportunities available through APA and MPA.
- Cosponsored continuing education programs in collaboration with Allegany Community College (ACC): *12 Aspects of Schizophrenia; Working with Managed Care as a Mental Health Provider.*
- Sponsored the following Category B continuing education programs at caucus meetings: *Animal Assisted Therapy*, Jodi McAdams, PhD; *Crisis Work: Trauma Work*, Lee Ross, PhD; *Seasonal Affective Disorder*, Sandra Negley, EdD; *Assessment of Mental Health Services in Rural Areas and Mobilization of Resources*, Conrad Cole, PhD.



## Social Work Caucus

*"The social work caucus has further examined issues impacting on all aspects of the profession."*

Arleen Isaac, LCSW-C, Chair, Allegany/Garrett Co.

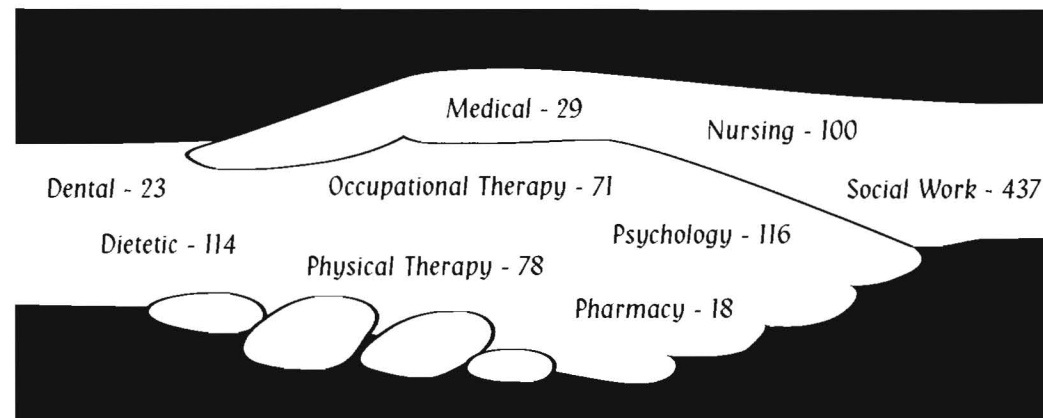
Bill Taylor, LCSW-C, Chair, Washington Co.



**S**ocial workers gathered for the annual Western Maryland social work conference and meeting. Pictured from left to right are, front row: Marsha Ansel of NASW-MD; Nick Bambacus; Carolyn Clauson-Andrews; Arleen Isaac, Caucus Chair; Charlene Platter; Jan Chippendale; Sue Dotson; Donna Grossnickle. Back row: Moya Atkinson, Executive Director of NASW-MD; Donald Spencer, AHEC Executive Director; Bill Taylor, Caucus Chair; Robert Hull; and Larry Bales.

- Conducted third annual joint conference and meeting with Carlton Munson, DSW, presenting *Diagnosis and Treatment of Traumatized Children and Adolescents*.
- Received follow up report to the White House Conference on Aging.
- Monitored status of SB323 and the Medicaid Waiver issues in the legislature.
- Served in an advisory capacity for the MSW outreach program through UMAB and its interdisciplinary component.
- Completed a continuing education survey.
- Promoted social work month through luncheons and various media promotions.
- Md Chapter NASW Representation for Delegate, Board of Directors, and Committee on Nomination and Leadership Identification.
- Cosponsored continuing education programs including: *Issues Impacting Social Work I and II*; *Working with Managed Care as a Mental Health Provider*; *Genetics and Social Work*; *The Changing Role of Social Workers*; *Traditional Emergency Medical & Housing Assistance*; *Welfare Reform*.
- Precepted 2 clinical education program students.

## Caucus Volunteer Hours



# Education

The Clinical Education Program continues to provide the principal off-campus, rural and small city health training program in the State of Maryland. Working cooperatively with the University of Maryland at Baltimore, the Maryland Statewide Medical Education and Training System, and other educational programs, the program provides community-based experiences that cannot be duplicated at large university campuses.

## Clinical Education Program Rotations July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1996

Family Medicine Resident	2
Internal Medicine Resident	1
Oral Surgery Resident	1
Clinical Pastoral Education	2
Ambulatory Care	13
Community Law	3
Medical and Research Tech.	2
Nurse Practitioner	3
Community Health Nursing	1
Occupational Therapy	13
Occupational Therapy Asst.	2
BS Pharmacy	2
PharmD	14
Physical Therapy	5
Physician's Assistant	23
Pre Med VISTA Volunteers	5
Dietetic Internships	4
Communication Disorders Prog.	3
Social Work (BS and MSW)	4
Community Medicine Electives	2
Total Rotations	105
Total Students	98

Dedicated health care professionals in the Western Maryland region contribute their time as preceptors. This one-to-one, student-to-preceptor relationship creates a practical hands-on learning experience that provides valuable lessons in rural and small city health care delivery. During the 1996 fiscal year, 62 preceptors worked with students and residents from sixteen health care disciplines at eighteen institutions to complete 105 rotations.

Clinical education opportunities exist in all three Western Maryland counties. Housing is available in Allegany County at the Western Maryland AHEC for twelve students; in Oakland, a private home owned by Manning and Kathy Smith, provides a unique, small town experience in Garrett County; and housing in Washington County is provided courtesy of Washington County Hospital Association.

In addition to the "custom-fit" student/preceptor relationship and housing is an eight-point interdisciplinary curriculum designed to increase student knowledge in clinical skills while also raising awareness of the human relations skills and savvy about the realities of health care essential for optimal patient care and interprofessional cooperation. The curriculum includes: an orientation to Western Maryland; area tour; elective site

visits; interviews with other health professionals; interdisciplinary seminars; case presentations; literature searching; and exit interviews.

Special clinical education experiences, in geriatric dentistry and interdisciplinary teams, have been offered at the AHEC since 1992. During the 1996 fiscal year, the *Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Project* received additional funding through a University of Maryland System's



Weekly seminars, part of the eight-point interdisciplinary curriculum, bring together the clinical education students to share in new experiences. During a seminar on touch therapy, in the foreground from left, UMAB pharmacy student Danielle Brown and University of Maryland medical students Josh Kolko and Lisa Miller practice demonstrated healing touch techniques.



# Student Comments

**T**he 1995 - 1996 Clinical Education Program students reported the following comments on their final assessment questionnaires.

**"Before coming to Western Maryland, I was worried that I might not learn much in a rural family medicine setting. I was 100% mistaken. This is the best rotation I have ever had. I learned a fantastic amount about medicine and about people and cultures."**



**"My preceptors gave me all the independence I could handle and I was able to do a variety of procedures; they made it a marvelous experience that I would recommend to other students."**



**"The AHEC's commitment to the concept of interdisciplinary care helped to remind me that patient care does not stop with one practitioner. It is a team approach -- or rather, it should be!"**



**"I learned more about myself during the last twelve weeks than in my previous 27 years. This experience has shaped the way I interact in my personal life and professional life -- using myself as a therapeutic tool."**

(continued)

**"This is a great program! It made me more aware of the health needs and services in a rural area. I wish I had been here longer to take advantage of all you have to offer."**

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**"This rotation emphasized for me the critical importance of continual cooperation between the different disciplines to provide complete patient care."**

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**"My Western Maryland rotation allowed me to learn to handle a lot of social work and insurance issues as well as general office practice procedures."**

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**"I come from an upper middle class family and never had to worry about food, clothing, or money. But, during this rotation, I have learned first-hand that many people in the area struggle to feed their families or pay for their medications."**

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**"My preceptor's enthusiasm, good communication, friendliness, and advice made my experience most enjoyable and educational."**

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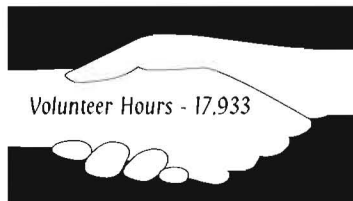
**"I found the AHEC's Learning Resource Center to be a great collection of very useful materials!"**



# Placement

redeployment initiative. This grant provides a geriatric team training opportunity for health professions students at Frostburg State University, Towson State University, University of Maryland at Baltimore, and the University of Maryland College Park.

One participant in the GAIT project summed up his experience by saying, "The Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team gave me an appreciation for what factors are considered important when the same patient is being evaluated from the separate perspective of every profession represented in the team. This was the only, truly interdisciplinary experience I had in medical school. I wish we could do this every week!"



**T**heresa Schell, former clinical education student, pictured right, is now employed at Progressive Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine Clinic in Cumberland where she works with Roy (Bucky) Whiteman, who served as Schell's preceptor during her rotation.

**S**everal years ago, the Western Maryland AHEC developed a database for use in linking new health profession graduates with prospective employers in Western Maryland. As an essential resource, the database is used to identify and contact former AHEC clinical education students, Health Careers Opportunity Program alumni, and others who express interest in working within the region.

Before Theresa Schell, PT, a native of nearby Moorefield, WV, participated in the Western Maryland AHEC's interdisciplinary Clinical Education Program from May to July 1995, she admits that aside from the Country Club Mall, she was unfamiliar with the Cumberland area. Little did she know that within six months she would be employed in Western Maryland.

"I wasn't familiar with the hospitals or any of the medical facilities, especially the ones with physical therapy opportunities," said Schell. "The AHEC helped me to see the area and provided me with a place to stay."

While at the AHEC, Schell completed an eight-week rotation at Progressive Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine Clinic under the watchful eye of her preceptor, Roy (Bucky) Whiteman, MBA, PT.

After graduating from West Virginia University's Physical Therapy Program in December 1995 with a bachelor of arts degree in physical therapy, she returned to Progressive Physical Therapy as a member of their staff in January 1996.

"I've been working with a lot of outpatients and sports medicine clients. I consider myself very fortunate to be employed in my field of study so close to home," says Schell.

# Rotations

1995 - 1996

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND MEDICAL CENTER FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Preceptor

William Lamm, MD  
Eugene Nallin, MD

Resident

Ray Otis, MD  
William Dando, MD

## INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Thomas Chappell, MD  
Victor Mazzocco, MD  
Wayne Spiggle, MD

Jay Penafiel, MD  
Jay Penafiel, MD  
Jay Penafiel, MD

## ORAL SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Howard Strauss, DDS

Gary Vela, DDS

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE COMMUNITY MEDICINE ELECTIVES

Preceptor

Jane Fiscus, MD  
Edmund Niklewski, MD  
Betty Wiedemann, RN, MA

Student

Sherri Passarell  
Mary Ripple  
Mary Ripple

**P**ictured -- Yale Liang, a fourth-year medical student from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, right, spent eight weeks in the private practice of Gary Wagoner, MD, located in Cumberland, MD.



# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

## AMBULATORY CARE PROGRAM

### Preceptor

James Bosley, MD  
Thomas Chappell, MD  
V. Raul Felipa, MD  
Martin Gallagher, Jr., MD  
Robert Goralski, MD  
Patricia Gotsch, MD  
Laurence Greenspoon, MD  
Margaret Kaiser, MD  
William Kerns, MD

William Lamm, MD  
Michael Levitas, MD  
Victor Mazzocco, MD  
Eugene Nallin, MD  
John Reed, MD

Karl Schwalm, MD  
Dwayne Shuhart, MD

Wayne Spiggle, MD  
Gary Wagoner, MD

### Student

Joshua Kolko  
Stephen Fisher  
Henry Klar Yaggi  
Michael Franks  
John Lee  
John Lee  
Donna Osikowicz  
Angela Smedley  
Nicholas Jerrard  
Mary Ripple  
Lisa Miller  
David Lang  
Stephen Fisher  
Stephanie Silverman  
Nicholas Jerrard  
Mary Ripple  
John Lee  
Nicholas Jerrard  
Mary Ripple  
Stephen Fisher  
Yale Liang

**P**ictured -- Klar Yaggi, a fourth-year medical student from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, right, participated in an ambulatory care rotation with Raul Felipa, MD, who practices internal medicine in Cumberland and has been precepting students for the past 26 years. "This was really one of my first experiences in a doctor's office practicing preventive medicine and primary care. This opportunity has given me more of an emphasis on outpatient medicine," said Yaggi.

## MEDICAL AND RESEARCH TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Joseph Litten, PhD  
Robert Manasse, PhD

Kathy Judis  
Jeffery Dolomanuk

# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT BALTIMORE

## PHARMD PROGRAM

### Preceptor

Gerald Herpel, PD  
Chris Lockard, RPh  
Robert Martin, Jr., RPh  
Richard Ottmar, RPh

Carol Ritchie, RPh  
Jenny Snyder-Rowan, RPh  
Ray Spassil, RPh  
Jerry Stewart, RPh

Jim Struntz, RPh

### Student

Stacey Whiteman  
Melinda Kammauff  
Hyun Kiel  
Danielle Brown  
Jennifer McCagh  
Hatif Sheikh  
Nicole VanMeter  
Jin Choi  
Susanne Morsberger  
Wayne Hube  
Jennifer Fan  
Jaime McGee  
Jennifer McCagh

## PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

Timothy Parnell, MS, PT

Kimberly Malcom

## SCHOOL OF LAW - COMMUNITY LAW PROGRAM

Joan O'Sullivan, JD

Brenda Douglas  
Tammy Howie  
Jason Solomon

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

Mary Ann Bloom, RN, MS

Shay Kinser

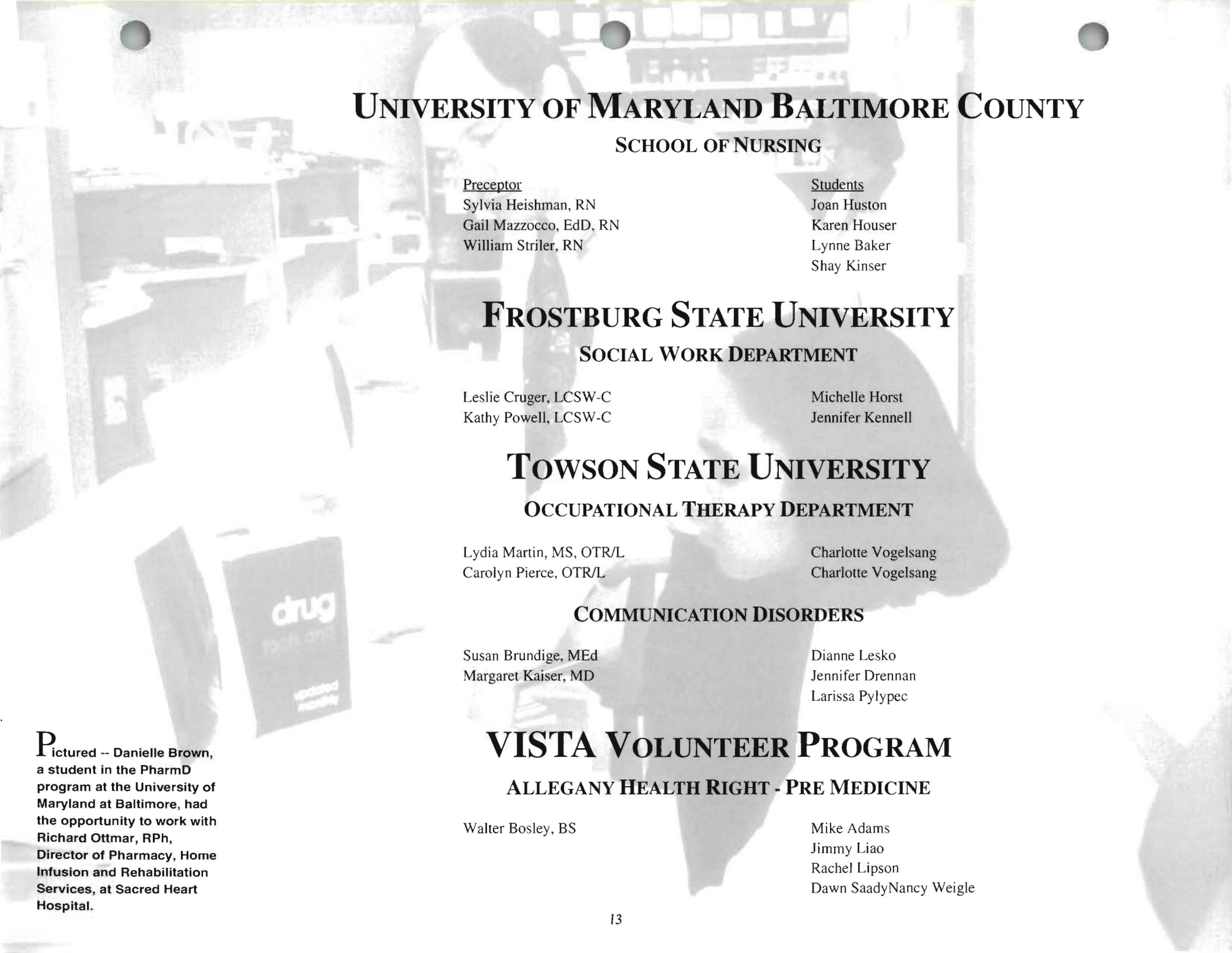
## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Margaret Kaiser, MD

Diane Lewis  
Jennifer McDonald

**P**ictured -- Smithsburg native Mary Ripple returned to the Smithsburg Family Medical Center, in Maryland, for a clinical rotation as a fourth-year medical student from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Ripple stated that her preceptor, John Reed, MD, "provided an environment that fostered independence and increased education."





# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE COUNTY

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

### Preceptor

Sylvia Heishman, RN  
Gail Mazzocco, EdD, RN  
William Striler, RN

### Students

Joan Huston  
Karen Houser  
Lynne Baker  
Shay Kinser

# FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

## SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

Leslie Cruger, LCSW-C  
Kathy Powell, LCSW-C

Michelle Horst  
Jennifer Kennell

# TOWSON STATE UNIVERSITY

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT

Lydia Martin, MS, OTR/L  
Carolyn Pierce, OTR/L

Charlotte Vogelsang  
Charlotte Vogelsang

## COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

Susan Brundige, MEd  
Margaret Kaiser, MD

Dianne Lesko  
Jennifer Drennan  
Larissa Pylypec

# VISTA VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

## ALLEGANY HEALTH RIGHT - PRE MEDICINE

Walter Bosley, BS

Mike Adams  
Jimmy Liao  
Rachel Lipson  
Dawn SaadyNancy Weigle

**P**ictured -- Danielle Brown, a student in the PharmD program at the University of Maryland at Baltimore, had the opportunity to work with Richard Ottmar, RPh, Director of Pharmacy, Home Infusion and Rehabilitation Services, at Sacred Heart Hospital.

# PARTICIPANTS FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES AND PROGRAMS

## CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION

Preceptor  
Gene Gall, DMin

Student  
Cecie Haxton  
Louise Reynolds

University/College  
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary  
Lutheran Theological Seminary Gettysburg

## FAMILY PRACTICE ELECTIVE

Barbara Burkett, DO

Cliff Stark  
Cliff Stark

University of Kansas

## DIETETIC INTERNSHIP

Erin Buell  
Anne Jonke  
Hien Nguyen  
Kim Van Newkirk

Maryland DHMH

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAMS

Patty Bean  
Shawna Kimberly  
Dawn Metzgar  
Sarah Zimmer  
Christine Newman  
Patty Bean  
Jessica Lester  
Michelle Bean  
Patty Bean  
Mary Griffiths  
Beverly Kasdorf

Shenandoah University  
University of Findlay  
University of Findlay  
Elizabethtown College  
Elizabethtown College  
Shenandoah University  
Elizabethtown College  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Shenandoah University  
Elizabethtown College  
University of Pittsburgh

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTING PROGRAMS

Jeffrey Hopkins, OTR/L  
Lydia Martin, MS, OTR/L

Patty Toth  
Duane Wyland

Allegheny Community College  
Mt. Aloysius University

## BS PHARMACY PROGRAM

Jon Wes Hann, RPh  
Jim Struntz, RPh

Erin Moore  
Jennifer Walker

Duquesne University  
Duquesne University

**P**ictured -- Susan Ruffennach, a physical therapy student from Duquesne University, spent eight weeks this past spring in the Physical Therapy Department of the Memorial Hospital and Medical Center of Cumberland, Inc. with preceptor Emil Duran, BSRPT.

Sharon Daniels, RN

Kristine Claar, OTR/L

Lydia Martin, MS, OTR/L  
Carolyn Pierce, OTR/L  
Laura Robinson, OTR/L

John Stuckey, MS, OTR/L



## PHARMD PROGRAM

Preceptor  
Ellen Frank, RPh

Student  
Charity Hooten

University/College  
Purdue University

## PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAMS

Don Heare, PT  
Jane Rossi, PT  
  
Mike Staggars, MS, PT

Laurie Beach  
John Loar  
Susan Ruffennach  
Sandy Everly

Shenandoah University  
West Virginia University  
Duquesne University  
West Virginia University

**P**ictured -- Katherine Walton, a student from George Washington University's Physician's Assistant Program Class of '96, seated, experienced "rural America" through the practice of Barbara Burkett, DO, in Friendsville, MD.

## PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT PROGRAMS

Carlton Baer, MD  
Anthony Bollino, Jr., MD  
  
Barbara Burkett, DO  
  
Thomas Chappell, MD  
Martin Gallagher, Jr., MD  
  
Michael Gayle, MD  
Laurence Greenspoon, MD  
  
Victor Mazzocco, MD  
Martha Riggle, MD  
Wayne Spiggle, MD  
Randy Stroup, PA

Thomas Galisin  
Thomas Galisin  
Kim Eutsey  
Marcus Fannie  
Mark Hammer  
Jean Kardell  
Monica Paterra  
Lori Romano  
Lori Romano  
Katherine Walton  
Nate DeFanti  
Yvette Fields  
Patricia Maltagliati  
Jennifer Permann  
Thomas Galisin  
Thomas Galisin  
Laura Dunn  
Regina Flewelling  
Daniel Lamont  
Betsy Shepard  
Jodie Stone  
Nate DeFanti  
Allison Shanahan  
Nate DeFanti  
Craig Simon

Duquesne University  
Duquesne University  
Duquesne University  
Duquesne University  
Duquesne University  
Duquesne University  
George Washington University  
George Washington University  
George Washington University  
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Duquesne University  
George Washington University  
Duquesne University  
George Washington University

# and Advocacy

## Networking

"We believe that community networking, particularly in rural areas, is an important way to share resources and enhance the service delivery of all institutions to the people of the region."

--Donald Spencer  
Western Maryland AHEC Executive Director

In order to achieve its mission of improving access to and promoting quality in health care, the Western Maryland AHEC networks with health professionals, centers of higher education and other vital supporters. Various groups advocate for local, state, and national legislation relating to health care, education, telecommunications, public policy, and professional issues.

- The **Task Force on Rehabilitation Degree Programs** continues to meet and serve in an advisory capacity for the *Western Maryland Inter-disciplinary Health Care Training Program*. It initiated plans for the core curriculum workshop and will help determine actions to be taken afterward.
- An interest survey was distributed to speech pathologists and audiologists in the region. A decision was made to offer an annual continuing education seminar with an opportunity for networking.
- The AHEC continues to support the **Maryland Office of Rural Health** and the **Maryland Rural Health**

**Association (MRHA)**. AHEC staff presented at the second annual Rural Health Conference.

- The **Western Maryland Coalition on Telecommunications** met regularly at the AHEC to coordinate regional telecommunications access. Regional telecommunications planning led to a three-county plan to implement the WMDNet grant funded through the Appalachian Regional Commission.
- A telecommunications network design was developed to seek funding for low-cost, area-wide videoconferencing.
- The AHEC supported development of and continued funding for Eastern Shore AHEC.
- Staff coordinated distribution of AHEC network information to the nation's AHEC centers.
- AHEC collaborated on several grant proposals with other agencies.
- Several AHEC caucuses met with representatives of their state or national professional associations to discuss options for collaboration.
- Through its networks and caucuses, AHEC nonpartisan legislative advocacy efforts included:
  - Drafting and supporting MRHA legislative priorities
  - Testifying at Medicaid Waiver Public Hearings
  - Following bills related to specific disciplines
- AHEC maintained advocacy efforts with Johns Hopkins University to establish an outreach MPH program for the area.



The **Western Maryland Coalition on Telecommunications** meets regularly to coordinate planning to support connectivity and cost containment for a regional telecommunications network. Pictured are, left to right: Frank Peto, Regional Education Service Agency; Chuck Ernst, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Emily Ferren, Ruth Enlow Library; Dana Shimrock, Garrett Community College; Kathleen Lese, AHEC; Brother Patrick Carney, Bishop Walsh High School; Ron Hensel, the Memorial Hospital and Medical Center of Cumberland, Inc.; and Mark Middleton, Tri-County Council for Western Maryland Inc.





# Recruitment

## HCOP Summer Program Alumni 1995-1996 Milestones

**Beth Clark** (1990) completed her first year of medical school at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. In last year's Annual Report, it was reported that Beth was still awaiting a decision on admission.

**Tammy Eisentrout** (1992) May 1996 graduate of Salisbury State University with a bachelor of science degree in biology medical school applicant.

**Flora Luyando** (1990) 1996 graduate of West Virginia University with a bachelor of science degree in dental hygiene.

**April Miller** (1991) May 1996 graduate of the University of Maryland School of Nursing with a bachelor of science in nursing degree.

**Laura Puderbaugh** (1990) May 1996 graduate of Carroll County Community College with an associate's degree in physical therapy assisting. Laura also holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

**Sherrie Rhodes** (1991) May 1996 graduate of West Virginia University with a bachelor of social work degree.

**Julie Sines** (1993) August 1995 graduate of Conemaugh Memorial Hospital School of Radiologic Technology.

**Krista Valentine** (1993) 1996 graduate of Conemaugh Memorial Hospital School of Nursing.

Of the 149 EAHCOOP summer program alumni:

- 24 are college graduates;
- 10 are health care providers;
- 16 are enrolled in health professions education programs;
- 82 continue on the educational pathway towards a health professional goal
- 17 work in non-health related areas.

The Western Maryland Area Health Education Center (AHEC) works to provide health career information and exploration activities to residents of its service region through partnerships with public and private high schools, colleges and universities, and area health care providers. Between September 1988 and January 1996, the Eastern Alleghenies Health Careers Opportunity Program (EAHCOP), supported by the Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Health Professions, was extremely successful in recruiting and motivating students for success in health career curriculums. Although not funded in the current grant cycle, the AHEC remains committed to health career recruitment and has designated state funds to support portions of the recruitment program.

In December, 1995 a health careers counseling workshop was offered to area guidance counselors, teachers, and interested persons. Workshop objectives included: an overview of current trends in healthcare and shortages in regional health care professions; identification of regional health care educational programs targeting shortages; and a highlight of AHEC support services for health career exploration and education.

This summer, a one-week health careers enrichment program is being held for regional high school students interested in exploring health careers. Activities include: a visit to a university-centered health professional education program; observations in community practices and hospitals; CPR

training and medical terminology; and health promotion seminars.

The AHEC continues to seek federal support for its recruitment efforts. In February, a comprehensive, collaborative grant proposal was submitted for the Central Appalachian Health Careers Opportunity Network (CAHCON). This grant would link the Western Maryland AHEC with the West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center. An exciting outcome of this proposed partnership is the successful negotiation of reserved spaces within the professional schools of the Health Sciences Center for CAHCON students who apply and meet the admission criteria but may not otherwise be admitted due to the high level of competition and class size limits. With the agreement in place, a community pipeline will support students' health professional goals from high school through the health professional school.

## WVU Health Professions Programs Reserved Spaces for CAHCON

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| School of Medicine        | 3 |
| School of Dentistry       | 2 |
| School of Pharmacy        | 2 |
| Div. of Med. Technology   | 2 |
| Div. of Dental Hygiene    | 2 |
| Div. of Occup. Therapy    | 2 |
| Dept. of Physical Therapy | 2 |



Twenty HCOP alumni gathered for an open house at the AHEC in December. Pictured are a few of the 1995 summer program alumni: left to right, seated, Courtney Taylor, Gina DeMasi, Krystal Abucevicz, Day Dettinburn; standing, Shayla Watkins and Scott Montana.



# Training

With continued support from the Interdisciplinary Training for Health Care for Rural Areas Program, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources Service Administration, the *Western Maryland Interdisciplinary Health Care Training Program* is completing its second year. Having a team of faculty and clinical site representatives work together to develop an interdisciplinary curriculum, overcome the barriers to obtain course approval, recruit students for the program and prepare to teach the *Interdisciplinary Team Practice* course, has truly been a demonstration of team work.

In November, university and community-based representatives gathered for the second annual Interdisciplinary Training Institute entitled *Meeting the Need for Rehabilitative Services in Rural Communities*. Harold Jones, PhD, Dean, School of Allied Health Sciences, East Carolina University, was the speaker. Judy Arndt, federal Program Officer for this grant project, was also present and emphasized the need for outcome measures, particularly ones that are service related.

During this year the project involved 32 students, 23 university representatives, and 34 community representatives.

Over the past year, components of the interdisciplinary training program were presented at the Maryland State Office of Rural Health Annual Meeting, National AHEC Conference, and a national conference entitled *Community Partnerships in Health Professions Education*. With each presentation and meeting, the network and collection of interdisciplinary rehabilitation resources has grown. All of these efforts will

provide a foundation on which to build additional partnerships and a mechanism to ultimately improve access to rehabilitative services in our community.

The Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee who developed the *Interdisciplinary Team Practice* course found the process challenging and rewarding. Their remarks follow:

*"We talk a lot about interaction in the academic world, but this program enabled us to actually set time aside to share information and be explicit about our common educational goals. I've established new relationships that are professionally and personally satisfying."*

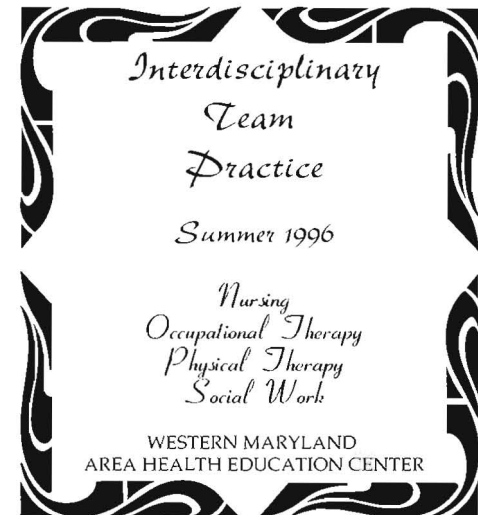
Nancy Blake, MEd, OTR/L  
Towson State University  
Occupational Therapy Department

*"Crossing over disciplines can often be intimidating to faculty members because it involves working outside the comfortable niche of one's school. There is a certain amount of reeducation when working with multidisciplines. There are terminology differences and varying points of view regarding practice priorities."*

Connie Saltz, PhD, LCSW  
University of Maryland at Baltimore  
School of Social Work

*"The most significant benefit to participation in this course is its relevance to continuity of care. We are better preparing people for changes in the health care system which puts these students a step ahead."*

Gail Mazzocco, EdD, RN  
University of Maryland  
School of Nursing



The "Interdisciplinary Team Practice" course focuses on the roles and functions of interdisciplinary teams and the impact they have on the consumer, family, health care system, and team itself. The unique health care needs of consumers in rural settings are highlighted. The course is designed for both professionals and graduate students in nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and social work. The Western Maryland AHEC partnered with the University of Maryland at Baltimore and Towson State University in designing and offering this course through the efforts of the "Western Maryland Interdisciplinary Health Care Training Program."





# Student Comments

**T**he 1995 - 1996 Clinical Education Program students reported the following comments on their final assessment questionnaires.

**"Thank you for making this rotation available. The AHEC is a great organization and a great structure, and learning environment."**

~~~~~

**"I think the atmosphere I worked in here will better prepare me for the health care reforms to come. I have seen managed care in action, and was surprised as to how effective it can be!"**

~~~~~

**"The weekly seminars were eye-openers in terms of learning about interdisciplinary care. Also, there is a great referral system here. My preceptor always seemed to know just where to send patients for any additional care they needed."**

~~~~~

**"Living at the AHEC with students from other types of schools (such as physician assistant, occupational therapy, medical technology, pharmacy) enabled me to share different experiences and learn about what each of us do in our fields."**

(continued)

"Thank you for providing what to me was a truly exceptional and valuable experience that has broadened my understanding and contributed to my growth as a health care provider."

~~~~~

"During this rotation, I was able to do much more than just work in an outpatient clinic! I was able to work in the emergency room, with an orthopedist and with a dermatologist. I also learned about and experienced massage therapy, and formed friendships among the other students living at the AHEC."

~~~~~

"I learned what a vast difference there is between patients and atmosphere in a university versus a rural setting."

~~~~~

"The AHEC allows us to learn about a side of medicine we are not exposed to in the university setting that we may wind up facing in practice!"

~~~~~

"Working with people in a small town has renewed my energy and love for caring for people."

~~~~~

"Because of the interdisciplinary curriculum, I have a better understanding of how the health care system as a whole works in a rural area."



Among those attending the second annual Interdisciplinary Training Institute were, from left to right, front row: Nancy Blake, Towson State University, Occupational Therapy Dept.; Harold Jones, keynote speaker; Judy Arndt, Health Resources and Services Administration; back row: Clarence Hardiman, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Physical Therapy Dept.; Gail Mazzocco, University of Maryland School of Nursing; Jan Chippendale, UMAB School of Social Work; and Donald Spencer, AHEC.



**B**arbara Kelly, a certified occupational therapy assistant with RehabSolutions, enlisted the aid of Jerry Hymes, an employee at Friends Aware Inc., in a demonstration of ways to prevent injuries when getting in and out of a bathtub. Kelly presented the seminar "Preventive Measures" as one session of the six-part series entitled "Community Geriatric Health Education Program" which was offered in both Hagerstown and Cumberland.

# Continuing

**T**he Western Maryland AHEC received funding from the Geriatric and Gerontology Education and Research (GGEAR) Program of the University of Maryland at Baltimore (UMAB) to coordinate geriatric education programs which will assist health professionals and students to improve service delivery to older adults. Several programs were offered at sites in Washington, Allegany, and Garrett counties: *Geriatric Update: Skills for Quality Care* (fiber optic network series); *New Frontiers in the Management of Dementia*; *Determining Competence and Alternatives to Guardianship: Health Care Decisions Act*; *Community Geriatric Health Education Program*; *Adapting to Needs of the Cognitively Impaired: Challenges and Opportunities*.

Collaborations with other organizations resulted in numerous continuing education events. Co-sponsoring organizations included: the AIDS Alliance of Allegany County; Allegany Community College Center for Continuing Education; Allegany Co. Health Dept.; Allegany/Garrett Dental Society; Allegany Sports Medicine; Frostburg State University; Garrett Community College; Garrett Co. Health Dept.; Garrett Co. Memorial Hosp.; Garrett Co. Tobacco Free Coalition; Hagerstown Junior College; the Interagency Aging Councils of Allegany, Garrett, and Washington

counties; Janssen Pharmaceutica; MD AIDS Professional Education Center; the Memorial Hosp. and Medical Center, Inc.; Mid-Atlantic AIDS Education and Training Center (PA and WV); Option Care of Cumberland; Pepsi All Sport; Sacred Heart Hosp.; UMAB School of Nursing; Upper Potomac Dental Hygiene Society; Valley Credit Services; Washington Co. Hosp. Assn.; and Western Maryland Alzheimers Assn.

Continuing education programs focusing on prevention and changes in health care included: *Invest in Prevention: Health Care Delivery Systems*; *Accounts Receivable Management & How it Impacts Your Bottom Line*; *Tobacco Summit*; *Changing Health Care in Rural Areas: What's the Bottom Line?*; *AIDS in Rural Communities* (teleconference); *Regional HIV/AIDS Care Conference*; *Rural Managed Care & Networks* (NRHA audioconference); and *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases* (CDC teleconference).



# Education

# Resource Services

"Change is inevitable in today's rural health care environment" was the thrust of Dr. Georges Benjamin's opening statements at the Maryland State Office of Rural Health Annual Meeting in Ocean City in October 1995. These changes are especially evident in library services as we rapidly evolve in the electronic information age.

## *New Learning Resource Center*

This summer, the Western Maryland AHEC doubles its service area by opening a new library, computer lab, classroom, technical services room, and student lounge in the renovated lower level of the Columbia Building. The new library doubles the floor space for maintaining a collection of books, journals, and multimedia resources that complement regional library collections and the Western Maryland AHEC's programs. A separate computer lab is available for student use or for hands-on training. Multiple modem connections allow easy on-line access to medical resources and the Internet.

More than 100 books relating to the interdisciplinary practice of health care initiated a new collection of information resources

for the AHEC and the region. Purchased through the *Western Maryland Interdisciplinary Health Care Training Program*, these reference materials will support and assist students and professionals in nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy and social work.

## *Health Information and Resource Network Services*

Learning Resource Services (LRS) staff coordinates network services with administrative personnel at six regional institutions. The AHEC also oversees the Consortium of Health Information Libraries Outreach (CHIL-Out) group, which provides networking and educational opportunities for librarians and library managers at academic, public, and health sciences libraries in Allegany and Garrett counties. This year, the LRS network services included:

- A Resource Collection Drive in collaboration with area hospitals;
- Two trainings for the CHIL-Out group: *Readmore* and *Internet Grateful Med*;
- Investigation of continuing education credits for the library journal club;
- Phase I of policies and

procedures revision at the Memorial Hospital and Medical Center Medical Library;

- Hospital-wide inventory, database development, and entry of book collection at Somerset Hospital;
- Over 12 weeks of on-site coverage of hospital library services during staff leave;

- Consultation for Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations information management plans;
- Contract with Allegany Community College Library to assist with library services.



This year, the Learning Resource Services of the Western Maryland AHEC was awarded the prestigious National AHEC Center Directors' Recognition of Excellence in Learning Resources Award for its past program -- "Access Computer Technology/Information Outreach Network" (ACTION). ACTION electronically networked 19 institutions for accessing biomedical information and was the precursor of the current Western Maryland Health Information and Resource Network. Presenting the award was Ann Roggenbuck, Chair of the National AHEC Center Directors' Association, center. Present to receive the award were Donald Spencer, Executive Director, and Kathleen Lese, LRS Director.



### ***Services To Off-campus Education Degree Programs***

LRS supported off-campus education degree programs by:

- Collaborating with University of Maryland nursing instructor to incorporate instruction on use of electronic mail, on-line research, and electronic bulletin board services into *Technology in Nursing* course;
- Surveying 36 RN to BSN nursing students at Cumberland and Hagerstown outreach sites to evaluate information access services and skills taught in *Technology in Nursing* course;
- Developing "An Annotated List of Issues Relating to Telecommunications in Western Maryland as a Sample of Rural America;"
- Continuing the Area Education Student Outreach Program (AESOP) which provides free interlibrary loans from the UMAB Health Sciences Library to students and instructors in Western Maryland outreach programs;
- Providing AESOP participants with 60 mediated searches and 1,063 interlibrary loans.

### ***Nursing Information Literacy Project***

On December 31, 1995, the Western Maryland AHEC successfully completed an 18-month project which

provided librarian services for access to medical information, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, and the National Library of Medicine products and services.

Through 27 demonstrations and 66 hands-on training sessions, 387 nurses and nursing students were taught to use Grateful Med, Medline, Health, Bioethics, and HEALTHPRO for retrieving information.

The educational and training programs aided registered nurses and student nurses in gaining knowledge and skills for using the latest nursing research with clinical practice.

The *Nursing Information Literacy Project* was one of five projects selected for funding by the Southeastern/Atlantic Regional Medical Library, which coordinates programs for the National Library of Medicine.

### ***HEALTHPRO***

The Western Maryland AHEC's HEALTHPRO bulletin board system, which introduced area health professionals to electronic mail and on-line capabilities for identifying local resources, was the focus of a regional effort to improve on-line access to local health information.

A committee was formed to address future development of the system. A computer-use survey of registered users was administered to



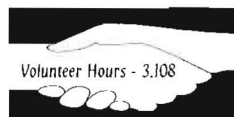
**S**tudents in the RN to BSN Nursing Outreach Program at the Hagerstown site are shown how to use HEALTHPRO during the "Technology in Nursing" course. Michele Beaulieu, Information Specialist for the AHEC, seated, demonstrates procedures to Carol Grove, kneeling; and standing left to right: Colleen Mathern, Lynne Baker, Kristie Diamond, and Monica Meyers.

examine the future direction that HEALTHPRO should take. Survey results identified what users would most want to find on a computer network. The survey also found that barriers to access were the most frequently cited reason for not using HEALTHPRO. The committee is investigating HEALTHPRO on the Internet as a future option.



# Programs

## Nursing Outreach Programs



"There are different routes to reaching a partnership, not all of which begin formally. The University of Maryland School of Nursing and the Western Maryland AHEC have developed a strong partnership which began as an informal relationship."

--Gail Mazzocco, EdD, RN  
Coordinator of Nursing Outreach Program

Western Maryland Nursing Outreach programs are thriving. The RN to BSN sites in Cumberland and Hagerstown flourished this past year. Changes in the health care system encourage registered nurses to earn baccalaureate degrees in preparation for changing roles. That encouragement is reflected in both numbers of students -- 24 in Cumberland and 23 in Hagerstown -- and in potential entrants. The upcoming year will bring with it a one-time program in Garrett County for a group of 9 students.

The MS degree program continues to offer concentrations in both education and administration. In addition, students with other nursing interests are able to complete significant numbers of classes locally, via interactive video. Beginning this fall, the School of Nursing plans to offer a combined MS/MBA degree program with Frostburg State University.

The Western Maryland AHEC continues to play a major role in nursing education in Western Maryland. Serving as "home base" for the programs, the AHEC provides classroom and office space as well as telephone and photocopying services. Nursing students are the largest single group consistently accessing health information via the AHEC's Learning Resource Services, a significant asset to the program. Of equal importance are the complementary relationships that the nursing outreach programs have with other AHEC programming such as the health careers recruitment efforts and the Clinical Education Program. Additionally, two nurses are participating in the interdisciplinary training program.

In July, the RN to BSN program, which oversees the outreach programs throughout Maryland, will leave the University of Maryland Baltimore County campus and return to the University of Maryland at Baltimore.



**P**ictured above are the RN to BSN students at the Cumberland site from left to right: front row, Belinda Lockard, Rachel Broadwater, Vivian Harris, Lois Cook, Lori Poland; row two, Kim Cooper, Barbara Layton, Cathy Miles, Sherry Schmitt; row three, Carla Phillips, Chris Mazaika, Regina Bittner; row four, Joan Huston, Sheila Richter, Christine Gizzi, Cheri Brockey, Traci Weyant; row five, Emily Oleskey, Debra Miller, Beth Wilson, Taryn Bennett; back row, Judy Smith, Cheryl Gilton, and Earleen Beckman.





## Occupational Therapy Outreach Program



"I'm really impressed with the quality of the students and the commitment they are making to Western Maryland's first outreach program in occupational therapy."

--Elaine Keane, MS, OTR/L  
Western Maryland Coordinator

Efforts of the *Western Maryland Interdisciplinary Health Care Training Program* saw a dream become a reality as eighteen students completed the first two semesters of the new Occupational Therapy (OT) Outreach Program being offered in Western Maryland by Towson State University (TSU). Last fall all were officially accepted into either the baccalaureate or graduate OT program.

By utilizing the Western Maryland AHEC's classroom and library facilities, as well as the interactive network system connecting Frostburg State University (FSU) and TSU, students traveled only one day per week to TSU for laboratory classes.

This past fall, students went into the community to observe occupational therapists at work. According to Elaine Keane, Western Maryland Coordinator of the OT Outreach Program, this experience

gave students the opportunity to take their observations back to the classroom making the *Introduction to Occupational Therapy* class more meaningful for them.

During each of the Fall '96 and Spring '97 semesters, students will be required to carry three classes. Again, they will travel to TSU for at least one class each semester. In the spring, students will participate in psychosocial level one fieldwork in Western Maryland.

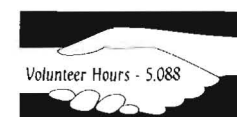
In the summer of '97, all students will be required to take the three-credit *Interdisciplinary Team Practice* course focusing on team building, consumer issues, and health care systems and evaluation.

The Western Maryland AHEC's OT Caucus continues in an advisory role for the outreach program and helps to identify potential clinical placement sites for students.

**O**ccupational therapy outreach program students completed two classes this year in task analysis. In the picture at the bottom of the opposite page, student Kathy Levitsky-Roberts, left, receives a little assistance on her woodworking project from instructor Elaine Keane, OTR/L, center, while classmate Lori Arnold, right, begins her project.

**T**he current class of MSW Outreach Program students at right includes: diagonally from top left to bottom right, along railing, Eddie VanMetre, Jill Sonner, Lara Graeff, and Kim Clair; back rows, Jill Young, Norleah Fatkin, Val Van Hollen, Bryan Miller, Anne DeVaughn, Caroline Cardwell, and Beth Layman.

## Social Work Outreach Program



"The partnership between the School of Social Work and the Western Maryland AHEC has enabled the establishment of a viable MSW outreach site in Western Maryland."

--Janice Chippendale, LCSW  
Coordinator, Western Maryland MSW Outreach Program

With continuing support from the professional community and the Western Maryland AHEC, the Western Maryland MSW Outreach Program of the University of Maryland School of Social Work has now completed its fourth year.

During the 1995-1996 academic year, eleven students completed required courses in social work research, practice, and social policy. Each student also participated in a clinical practicum experience in Western Maryland under the guidance of a licensed social worker.

Placement sites included the Joseph D. Brandenburg Center, the Thomas B. Finan Center, Sacred Heart Hospital, Burlington Family Services, the De-

partment of Juvenile Justice, the Parent/Child Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, and the Health Department and Department of Social Services in both Allegany and Washington counties. In the fall, students begin advanced coursework and field placements within a specialization.

The School of Social Work's participation in the interdisciplinary team project, coordinated by the AHEC, is an exciting and innovative development which affords the students an opportunity for additional graduate training in Western Maryland which would otherwise not be available to them.

Applications will be accepted this fall for a new cycle of graduate courses to begin in September 1997.



# Highlights

*For the fiscal year of July 1, 1995 - June 30, 1996*

## Income

|                                                                                                                                                                                |               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Maryland Statewide Medical Education and Training System                                                                                                                       | \$324,000     |
| Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) - AHEC Funding                                                                                                                  | 150,000       |
| University of Maryland System's Redeployment Initiative<br>Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Project                                                          | 90,000        |
| Geriatric and Gerontology Education and Research (GGEAR) Program<br>of the University of Maryland at Baltimore                                                                 | 25,000        |
| Health Careers Opportunity Program<br>(Federal HCOP Funds): Eastern Alleghenies HCOP                                                                                           | 61,952        |
| Interdisciplinary Training in Health Care<br>(Federal ITHCRA Funds):<br>Western Maryland Interdisciplinary Health Care Training Program                                        | 170,090       |
| Model State Supported AHEC Program<br>(Federal AHEC Funds): Model State Supported AHEC Program                                                                                 | 13,560        |
| National Library of Medicine Grant:<br>National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern/Atlantic Region<br>Western Maryland Nursing Information Literacy Project (NILP) | 8,275         |
| Western Maryland AHEC Health Information and Resource Network                                                                                                                  | <u>26,318</u> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                | \$869,195     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                | =====         |

*The annual audit as required by the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133 will be conducted as of June 30, 1996 by Huber, Michaels & Company, P.A. A copy of the organization's audit report will be available September 30, 1996.*

## Line Item Expenditures

|                                    |               |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Personnel and Contractual Services | \$569,300     |
| Communications                     | 24,345        |
| Printing and Supplies              | 26,811        |
| Equipment and Equipment Contracts  | 34,707        |
| Office Operations                  | 60,769        |
| Travel                             | 19,180        |
| Student Programs                   | 105,910       |
| Learning Resources                 | <u>28,173</u> |
|                                    | \$869,195     |
|                                    | =====         |

## Expenditures by Functional Category

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Clinical Education Program       | \$221,587     |
| Placement Program Support        | 21,624        |
| Career Recruitment               | 96,721        |
| Off-Campus Program Support       | 222,120       |
| Learning Resource Services       | 140,396       |
| Public Information               | 39,712        |
| Continuing Education             | 45,851        |
| Board, IHEC, and Caucus Activity | 35,339        |
| Administration                   | <u>45,845</u> |
|                                  | \$869,195     |
|                                  | =====         |

# Directory

## Board of Directors

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John Davis, DDS, *Vice Chair*  
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Angie Fetchero, RD

Jane Fiscus, MD  
Thomas Jimerfield, MPH  
Elaine Keane, MS, OTR/L  
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Benjamin Rosenthal, MBA  
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Wayne Spiggle, MD  
John Staggers III, PT

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Gary Colangelo, DDS  
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Patricia Alt, PhD  
Karen Adams, BS  
Donna Parker, MD  
Helen Kohler, PhD, RN  
Marvin L. Oed, BS Pharm  
Cheryl Spezzano, RPT  
Rebecca Hegar, DSW

*Ambulatory Care*  
*Dental*  
*Family Medicine*  
*Health Education*  
*Medical Technology*  
*Medicine*  
*Nursing*  
*Pharmacy*  
*Physical Therapy*  
*Social Work*

## Nursing Outreach Program Staff

Gail Mazzocco, EdD, RN  
Barbara Dobish, MSN, RN  
Jackie Snelson, MSN, RN

*Coordinator/Faculty Member*  
*Faculty Member*  
*Faculty Member*

## MSW Outreach Program Staff

Janice Chippendale, LCSW

*Coordinator*

## OT Outreach Program Staff

Elaine Keane, MS, OTR/L

*Western MD Coordinator*

## Maryland Statewide Medical Education & Training System

Donald E. Wilson, MD  
*Dean, University of Maryland School of Medicine*

Claudia Baquet, MD, MPH  
*Associate Dean for Policy and Planning*  
*University of Maryland School of Medicine*  
*Project Director, Maryland AHEC Program*

## AHEC Staff

*(Listing includes full-time, part-time, contractual, and volunteer positions)*

Donald L. Spencer, MPA  
*Executive Director*

D. Michele Beaulieu, RN, BSN  
*Information Specialist*

John Landrum, MS  
*Clinical Education Coordinator*

Deborah M. Bradley, MEd  
*Health Careers Program Coordinator*

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*Director of Learning Resource Services*

Mary Clites  
*Custodian*

Marylane McGlinchey, MT, MEd  
*Director of Health Personnel Development*

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*Bookkeeper*

Nellie Mock  
*RSVP Volunteer*

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*Health Information Assistant*

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*Secretary*

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*Community Education Coordinator*

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*Operations Coordinator*

Tracey L. England, AA  
*Secretary*

René Trezise, BSJ, MBA  
*Public Information Specialist*

Nancy Forlifer, MA  
*Director of Professional Education*

Rebecca R. Whitehill  
*Secretary*

Deborah Hartman, BA, MTS  
*Program Associate*





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Non-Profit Organization  
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Maryland Statewide  
Medical Education  
and Training  
System