



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

MENTAL  
HEALTH  
*Matters*



**Three Rivers Area Health Education Center (AHEC)** is a community-driven, non-profit organization and through our vision, mission, values, and guiding principles, we assist our communities in building and sustaining the healthcare workforce to meet their healthcare needs. Since 1994, we have served 28 counties in West Central Georgia from our headquarters in Columbus, and our efforts place special emphasis on rural and underserved areas. We accomplished our goals through the numerous partnerships and collaborations we have formed over the years which include healthcare providers, health professions students, academic institutions, state and federal agencies, and communities – without them, we would not be successful. Each partnership is as unique as each of our program areas: Recruit, Train, and Retain which comprises our Programmatic Model: The Health Professions Pipeline. We place a strong focus on educational activities that foster the “grow your own” approach to increase the supply, distribution, retention, and education of the healthcare workforce.

**RECRUIT** Preparing youth and adults for careers in healthcare by expanding their views of the world of health careers and inspiring them to pursue the path of becoming healthcare professionals

**TRAIN** Facilitating community-based clinical training experiences for health professions students by connecting future physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice registered nurses and other healthcare providers with our communities

**RETAIN** Sustaining the healthcare workforce through RN re-entry and continuing education programs in collaboration with our community partners

## RECRUIT Preparing Students for Careers in Healthcare

Health Career Academies and Summer Camp

**Goal: 60 • Reached: 103**

Inspiring and connecting with students who have a strong desire to pursue health careers

Classroom Presentations and Career Fairs

**Goal: 2,300 • Reached: 3,178**

Sparking each student’s initial interest in the wide range of health careers and expanding their view of this field of opportunity

## TRAIN Facilitating community-based clinical training experiences for health professions students

Community-based Clinical Training Rotations

**Goal: 469 • Reached: 705**

Training future healthcare professionals

Travel and Housing Supported Rotations

**Goal: 287 • Reached: 537**

Supporting students during their training

## RETAIN Retaining Practitioners in the Community

Continuing Education Training

**Goal: 501 • Reached: 1,284**

Providing continuing education through workshops/conferences and web-based programs

RN Re-entry Training Sites

**Goal: 15 Sites Reached: 53 Sites**

RN Re-entry Programs Completers

**Goal: 10 RNs Reached: 12 RNs**

Alleviating the nursing shortage one nurse at a time