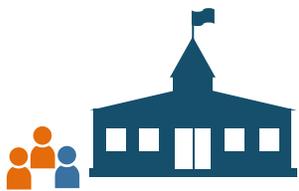


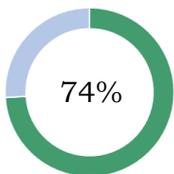
11,199  
participants\*

*Enhancing access to quality healthcare, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of healthcare professionals through community/academic educational partnerships.*

*Pipeline programs* expose students to health careers and develop intent to pursue post-secondary education in primary healthcare professions.

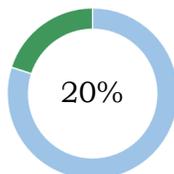


10,490  
grades 9-16 participants  
(many thousands more participated at the K-8 level)

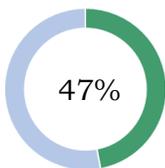


*from disadvantaged backgrounds*

*from rural backgrounds*



*underrepresented minorities*



### *Clinical training*

improves readiness, willingness, and ability of health professions trainees to serve in primary care, and rural and underserved community settings.

facilitated  
**146**  
rotations

As well as 24 residency rotations

122

health professions students placed in rural and underserved locations

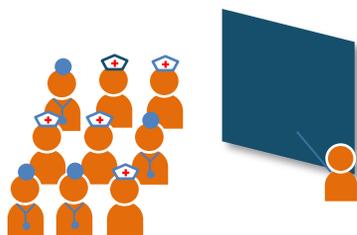
- 34 medical students
- 2 nursing students
- 38 physician assistants
- 47 pharmacists

### *Training sites* used include:

- 128 primary care settings
- 139 located in a medically underserved community
- 139 located in a rural area

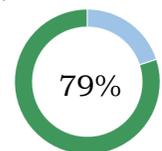


*Continuing education programs* address key issues in health professional shortage areas by providing health professionals with access to resources that support practice, reduce professional isolation, disseminate best practices, and improve quality of healthcare for medically underserved communities and health disparities populations.



563

Continuing education participants



*Employed in medically underserved communities*

# The Utah AHEC Program: Improving Community Health and Lowering Healthcare Costs



## WHAT IS UTAH AHEC?

- The AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) program was developed by Congress in 1971 to **recruit, train, and retain a health professions workforce** committed to underserved populations
- The **Utah AHEC Program** was established in 1996 with the goal to **provide access to primary healthcare** for Utah's entire population
- We focus on **recruiting and supporting Utah's primary care workforce**, which in turn **increases the capacity** of our health system and **improves health** in communities throughout the state

## WHY FOCUS ON PRIMARY CARE?

Access to primary care lowers healthcare costs and improves population health. **In Utah, we have significant shortages in our primary care workforce:**

- **26 counties** are designated **Primary Care Health Professions Shortage Areas (HPSA)**
- **29 counties** are designated **Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA)**
- Utah is ranked **49th in the nation** for primary care physician-per-100,000 population ratio (AAMC)

## UTAH AHEC ACTIVITIES:

The Utah AHEC is a statewide program that **improves the primary care workforce** by:

- Driving innovative primary care **workforce research**
- **Generating evidence** to support health policy decision making
- Delivering **inter-professional training** to current and future health professionals
- Enhancing community-based **clinical training capacity**
- Modeling best-practice health workforce **pipeline programs** to grades 7-16
- Compiling resources for **health career exploration** to grades 7-16
- Linking program impact to state data on workforce **diversity, distribution, and practice transformation**

## WHY STATE FUNDING?

We have received modest funding from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration [HRSA] for over 20 years. As we enhance our program to meet the workforce needs in Utah, we seek to follow the **predominant funding model of AHEC Programs** across the country with **ongoing funding from the State of Utah** to expand the Utah AHEC Program.

**We are asking for \$750,000 ongoing funding to expand activities that will increase quality healthcare access for underserved Utahns**

## KEY PARTNERS:

Intermountain Healthcare

Utah Medical Education Council

Utah Center for Rural Health

Association for Utah Community Health

Utah Academy of Family Physicians

*HealthInsight*

University of Utah

Weber State University

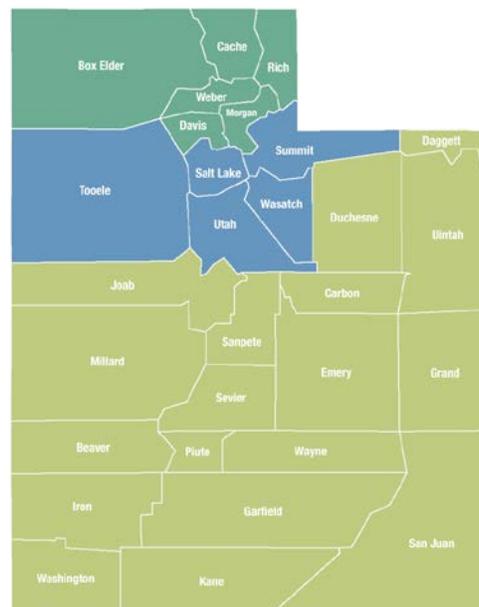
Salt Lake Community College

Southern Utah University

Dixie State University

## UTAH AHEC PROGRAM STRUCTURE:

The Utah AHEC Program includes a **statewide program office** (*hosted at the University of Utah*) and **three regional centers** (*hosted at Weber State University, Salt Lake Community College, and Southern Utah University with office space at Dixie State University*). Together the three regional centers serve every county in the state.



## OVER 2 DECADES OF SUCCESS:

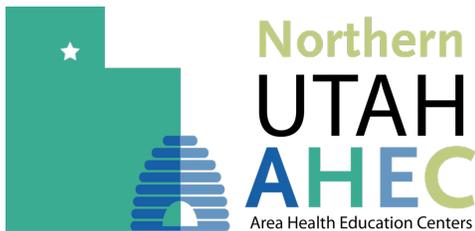
The Utah AHEC was established in 1996, and for the last two decades has been working to:

- **Introduce** over 154,000 high school students to health careers
- **Engage** over 6,600 high school students in health career camps
- **Increase acceptance rates** into medical school by over 300% for Rural Health Scholars students, thereby **increasing the number of physicians in rural Utah**
- **Facilitate training** for 4,100 graduate students in underserved, community-based primary care settings
- Host the **Annual Rural Health Association of Utah Conference**
- Host the **Annual Utah Primary Care Summit**

In addition to enhancing these ongoing activities, **state funding** will allow our program to **expand** to include:

- **The AHEC Scholars Program**, a statewide interdisciplinary training for health professions students
- **Healthcare workforce projection models** for team-based, transformed delivery systems (*in collaboration with UMEC*)
- **Provide training** for community-based clinical preceptors
- **Increase access** to primary care clinicians, including mental and behavioral health services across the state
- **Recruit preceptors** to train health professions students

For more information, visit [www.utahahec.org](http://www.utahahec.org)



"Transforming healthcare through education"

# The Utah AHEC Program: **NORTHERN UTAH AHEC**

Dedicated to achieving the "Quadruple Aim"

## WHAT IS NORTHERN UTAH AHEC?

- One of three regional center offices for the Utah Area Health Education Centers Program (Utah AHEC)
- Hosted at **Weber State University Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke College of Health Professions**
- Serves the following counties: *Box Elder, Cache, Rich, Weber, Davis, and Morgan.*

## NORTHERN UTAH AHEC ACTIVITIES:

In coordination with the Utah AHEC Program Office, the Northern Utah AHEC Regional Center **improves the primary care workforce** by:

- Providing a Pre-Health Sciences Scholar Program (P-HS Scholar) for high school Seniors
- Healthcare Skills Presentations at local high schools
- Providing field Trips and Summer Camps for future healthcare professionals
- Increasing student diversity in healthcare education programs
- Coordinating job shadow experiences at Intermountain Healthcare
- Coordinating clinical rotation placements into underserved training sites.
- Providing nominations for the Utah AHEC Preceptor Recognition Program

## WHY STATE FUNDING?

State funding will allow the Northern Utah AHEC Regional Center to expand to include:

- Increased capacity in the P-HS Scholar Program
- Support for the NUAHEC Hispanic Outreach Initiative
- Increased capacity in providing Healthcare Skills Presentations at local high schools
- Program fee support for financially underserved P-HS Scholars.
- Mentorship Program (previous P-HS Scholars mentor new P-HS Scholars)

For more information, visit: [www.utahahec.org/about-utah-ahec/regional-centers/](http://www.utahahec.org/about-utah-ahec/regional-centers/)

## KEY PARTNERS:

Weber State  
University

The Dr. Ezekiel R.  
Dumke College  
of Health  
Professions

Intermountain  
Healthcare

Midtown  
Community  
Health Center

Weber, Ogden,  
and Davis School  
Districts

Weber State  
University  
Upward Bound

# Christal Martinez



From: Ben Lomond High School  
Career Interest: Pediatrician

## Utah AHEC Participation:

**Healthcare  
Career and Skills  
Presentation  
participant  
NUAHEC Pre-  
Health Sciences  
Scholar**

The NUAHEC Pre-Health Sciences Scholars (honors) program is designed to prepare students for competitive post-secondary allied health programs and to prepare them to take their place in our future healthcare workforce. The future healthcare workforce will practice in a dynamic health system that is transformed to lower costs, enhance quality, improve satisfaction of healthcare professionals, and improve population health outcomes.

Pre-HS Scholars earn college credit while they gain healthcare career knowledge and experience. The program guides Scholars in making informed education and career decisions. Each Scholar is required to meet and maintain:

- 10 hours each two-week period of healthcare skills training observations in the Annie Taylor Dee Simulation Center or didactic lessons in WSU classrooms
- 12 hours of healthcare job shadowing with Intermountain Healthcare professionals
- 2 hours every other Friday devoted to orientations, seminars, and hands-on healthcare skills workshops
- 8 hours of community service in a healthcare setting
- A GPA consistent with post-secondary program acceptance

\*\*Their requirements are customized to take full advantage of and to facilitate the Scholars release time from high school

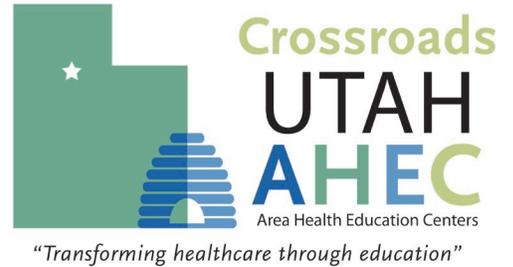


*"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to be in this program. I am beyond grateful for the scholarship that I was offered. I enjoyed all the fun things we have done and many of the new skills I have learned. I love how Lisa is always with us and is always doing her best to explain the topic or procedure that we will be doing that day. My favorite thing has been the IV practice that we have done."*

*Overall this program has helped me expand my view on the medical fields that are out there. I feel like I am now a step ahead of some of the other students who are interested in a healthcare career."*

-Christal Martinez, 2018 Spring Cohort

# The Utah AHEC Program: **CROSSROADS UTAH AHEC**



## WHAT IS CROSSROADS UTAH AHEC?

- One of three regional center offices for the Utah Area Health Education Centers Program (Utah AHEC)
- Hosted at **Salt Lake Community College School of Health Sciences**
- Serves the following counties: *Tooele, Salt Lake, Summit, Utah, and Wasatch*

## CROSSROADS UTAH AHEC ACTIVITIES:

In coordination with the Utah AHEC Program Office, the Crossroads Utah AHEC Regional Center **improves the primary care workforce** by:

- Increasing the number of students interested in health careers.
- Collaborating with partners for high school internship programs.
- Increasing outreach programs to urban underserved students.
- Coordinating clinical rotation placements into rural and urban underserved sites.
- Coordinating continuing education training programs for providers and health professions training students.
- Recruiting and supporting students in the new AHEC scholars IPE program for health professions training students.

## WHY STATE FUNDING?

State funding will allow the Crossroads Utah AHEC Regional Center to expand to include:

- Support minority outreach programs for high school and college students.
- Integrate behavioral health in training programs
- Increase clinical rotation opportunities in urban underserved sites including those who support the homeless population.
- Increase student diversity in healthcare education programs
- Increase staffing to support programs

**For more information, visit:**

[www.utahahec.org/about-utah-ahec/regional-centers/](http://www.utahahec.org/about-utah-ahec/regional-centers/)

## KEY PARTNERS:

Salt Lake  
Community College

American Cancer  
Society

University of Utah

Intermountain  
Healthcare

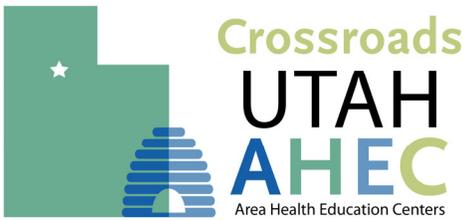
Roseman University

Local School  
Districts

Utah Department of  
Health

Community Faces  
of Utah

Intermountain West  
HPV Vaccination  
Coalition



## Brittany Kuhn, Student-Intern

From: Hunter High School

Career Interest: Anesthesiology

### Utah AHEC Participation:

### Wasatch Front Health Science Partnership

The Wasatch Front Health Science partnership group is working together to provide an internship program for high school students in the Salt Lake Valley. Various members in the healthcare industry as well as school district members and higher education are combining efforts to offer opportunities which meet school and healthcare site requirements. Students have the opportunity to be involved in a variety of experiences including learning in the high school internship classroom, group hands-on activities, hospital department tours, college simulation labs, individual or small group job shadowing along with mock interviews and health professionals panel discussion. Experiences are geared towards helping students learn about various careers in the healthcare industry.

"My name is Brittany Kuhn and I am a senior at Hunter High School. I have been interested in healthcare careers since I was a little girl. In seventh grade I discovered that I wanted to become an anesthesiologist. Since then I have taken medical classes to help me understand more about the healthcare world.

This last fall semester, of the 2018-2019 school year, I had the opportunity to participate in the Wasatch- Front Health Science Internship. This internship program gave me the opportunity to learn about different health careers from

professionals, participate in group hands-on activities, hospital department tours, and college/hospital simulation labs and clinics. This internship was an amazing experience, and I was able to learn more about the health sciences and sustain the desire of pursuing my future career of anesthesiology. In one of my favorite experiences, at St. Mark's Hospital, I was able to participate in an OB/GYN simulation of delivering a baby. Since then I have been fascinated with the OB/GYN unit, and hope I can pursue anesthesiology within this field, administering epidurals. After interning at several hospitals over the span of the semester I then presented what I had learned and experienced to all the students at both Kennedy and Hunter Junior High. -Brittany Kuhn, 2018 Fall Intern



# The Utah AHEC Program: **SOUTHERN UTAH AHEC**



## WHAT IS SOUTHERN UTAH AHEC?

- One of three regional center offices for the Utah Area Health Education Centers Program (Utah AHEC)
- Hosted at **Southern Utah University**, with office space at **Dixie State University**
- Serves the following counties: *Juab, Duchesne, Daggett, Uintah, Carbon, Sanpete, Millard, Sevier, Emery, Grand, Beaver, Piute, Wayne, Iron, Garfield, Washington, Kane, and San Juan*

## SOUTHERN UTAH AHEC ACTIVITIES:

In coordination with the Utah AHEC Program Office, the Southern Utah AHEC **improves the primary care workforce** by:

- Facilitate over 150 rural rotations annually for health professions students
- Sponsor the Rural Health Scholars program to increase opportunities for preparation to graduate/health training programs for over 1,000 students at 4 rural higher education institutions
- Produce and distribute *Utah Directory of Health Training Programs*
- Provide high school students opportunities to explore health careers and understand requirements
- Host 3R Net – a national job board for rural health care positions

## WHY STATE FUNDING?

State funding will allow the Southern Utah AHEC to expand to include:

- Expand the 3R Net program connecting hospitals and clinics with candidates who could return to practice in rural Utah
- Position SU-AHEC to act as a clearinghouse for preceptor training and capacity for training graduate students
- Expand RHS program at Snow College and USU-Eastern, where we only have a limited presence due to staffing constraints
- Assist in coordination of training for health care providers in regards to topics such as the Opioid Use Disorder

**For more information, visit:**

[www.utahahec.org/about-utah-ahec/regional-centers/](http://www.utahahec.org/about-utah-ahec/regional-centers/)

## KEY PARTNERS:

Southern Utah University

Dixie State University

Snow College

Utah State University – Eastern

Family Healthcare

Rural Health Association of Utah

Utah Hospital Association

UDOH Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Intermountain Healthcare

Roseman University

Rocky Mountain University of Health Sciences

3R Net

Rocky Vista University

University of Utah



# Colten Bracken, MD

From: Enterprise, Utah  
Family Medicine Physician,  
Sevier Valley Hospital



## Utah AHEC Participation:

### Health Career Exploration Camp

### Rural Health Scholars

### Rural Graduate Rotation

*"I couldn't have asked for a better way to jumpstart my career [than Utah AHEC]. I would go this same route into medicine again in a heartbeat."*

-Dr. Colten Bracken, MD

Dr. Bracken is a great example of an individual from a rural place (Enterprise, Utah) who, after an impressive medical school experience, returned to practice in rural Utah through Sevier Valley Hospital in Richfield. Actually, his first experience with this facility was through a rural graduate rotation with the Utah Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Yet this was not his initial experience with Utah AHEC, as he started in high school as a Health Career Exploration Camp participant, and then enrolled in the Rural Health Scholars Program at Southern Utah University (SUU).

Originally pursuing a career as a physician assistant at SUU, after speaking with Rita Osborn, Southern Utah AHEC Executive Director, he was inspired to switch and become a physician, where he could have a greater positive impact on rural health outcomes. When giving advice to other pre-medical students, Dr. Bracken indicates, "Do it! Don't doubt your capacity to [go to medical school]."

Dr. Bracken completed his MD at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN followed by a family medicine residency in Provo, UT. He is passionate about encouraging rural providers to become integrated into their communities for the long term.

