



Quarterly E-newsletter - November 2019 - Issue 5

Escape Room at Southeastern Career Center

In Early November 2019, Becky and Jenny from the EI-AHEC team visited Dental and Health Careers 1 students at Southeastern Career Center in Versailles. Becky organized an “Escape Room” interprofessional activity for these students to work through together. Teams of 3 or 4 students worked through a series of health information puzzles that related to helping a patient prepare for a medical procedure. Each team had 30 minutes to “escape” the room by completing the tasks to get clues leading them from one puzzle to the next. Some challenges they faced were included checking the patient’s vital signs, identifying appropriate medications, notifying/consulting with other health professionals, and much more!

After the allotted time for each group, a debriefing session was held to talk about the challenges and successes each team had. The escape room activity gives students a chance to work together in teams to solve problems just like they will be asked to do in real life with real patients. Mixing Dental students with Health Careers students allowed them to collaborate with others from different career pathways. Students had fun while practicing teamwork, critical thinking, and problem solving! If you would like to try an activity like this with your students or in your organization, please contact Jenny or Becky!



Students working in teams to solve Escape Room puzzles

East Indiana AHEC Student Spotlight

Madeline Cook - IUPUC BSN Class of 2021 and Year 1 EI-AHEC Scholar

Madeline was selected for this quarter's student spotlight because of her involvement with AHEC that began in high school and has continued throughout her path to becoming a Registered Nurse. She is a true example of AHEC's goal and mission. Happy Birthday to Madeline on the 14th of this month!



2019 - MMH Nurses' Aide and BSN student



*2015 - Hanover Health Science Summer Academy
Patient Shuffle iPad Game Champion*

When asked to tell her story Madeline responded with the following: "My first experience with AHEC was the summer before my senior year of high school. I attended Batesville High School and had an interest in the medical field but wasn't sure exactly what profession. I attended the Hanover Health Science Summer Academy with AHEC and had such an amazing experience! They had surrounding area clinicians come and speak with us about the area and how they do their part to help. I knew then that I had an interest in helping patients in a rural or underserved urban area.

Moving forward into college, what drew me to the BSN nursing program at IUPUC was the teachers and advisors. I had heard from students currently enrolled in the program how amazing they were and how the people there genuinely wanted you to succeed and would do anything to help an individual become the best nurse possible. While enrolled in school I have also been apart of the Margaret Mary Health team. I first started working in the cafeteria in high school and now work as a nurses' aide on the second floor! Working there has also shaped my nursing experience as I have had the opportunity to work with and learn from some of the most amazing nurses, nurse practitioners, and doctors."

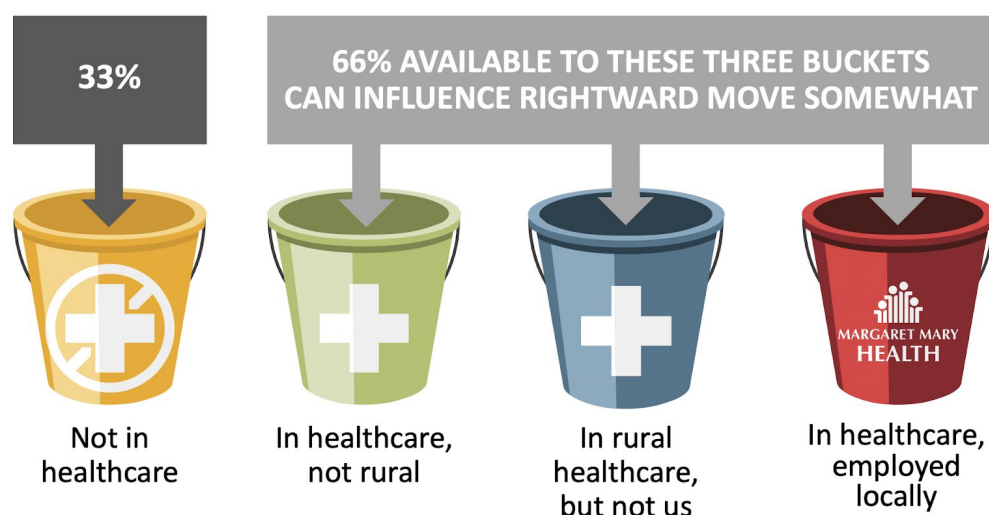
Since she was a previous pipeline participant, the EI-AHEC team was thrilled when Madeline's application came for the 2019-2021 Cohort of AHEC Scholars. She stated, "What drew me to being an AHEC Scholar was seeing first hand the need that this population needs. Another area that closed the deal was having the opportunity to work with Becky Niese and Jeff Hartz. They have been a great resource throughout my experience! I hope that throughout my involvement with AHEC I will not only gain additional knowledge and experience in rural and/or underserved urban settings, but also learn what I can personally can do to advocate and encourage others to get educated and involved with the community. I can't wait to continue learning evidence-based research specifically tailored to our surrounding communities through clinical, didactic, and community-based activities!

WONCA Conference Research Presentation

In October 2019, East Indiana AHEC Center Director Jeff Hartz travelled with Margaret Mary Health CEO Tim Putnam to the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA) annual conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico to give a presentation entitled *Moving From A Hunter-Gatherer to an Agrarian Model in the Rural Healthcare Talent Pipeline*. This presentation summarized research findings from an eight-year outcomes survey focused on students who participated in East Indiana AHEC - Margaret Mary Health health careers exploration programs while in high school. Both East Indiana AHEC and Margaret Mary were interested in knowing “Where are they now?” with regard to these past program participants, most of whom are now in college or in the workforce. The study’s goal was to establish a baseline expectation for the number of participants in programs like these who might ultimately become health care professionals. This will help both AHECs and hospitals or other clinical sites that engage in health careers activities for high school students understand what the long-term workforce yield for this programming might be.

The study determined that for East Indiana AHEC - Margaret Mary programs, about two-thirds of past participants are now either working in healthcare or enrolled in health professions college programs. At the WONCA presentation, we also discussed intangible benefits to the hospital such as community trust-building and brand loyalty and looked at how survey responses aligned with AHEC goals around not just motivation to become a health professional but also impacts on college preparedness, local networking, and choice of future work/practice setting (such as with rural or underserved populations).

East Indiana AHEC summer intern Sarah Poltrack, a former EI-AHEC / Margaret Mary health careers program participant herself and now a public health student at the University of Evansville, deserves a special thanks for completing much of the research work to make this presentation possible!



WONCA presentation slide

Richmond, Indiana Fall IPE Day



On Tuesday, October 1, 2019, more than thirty students from six different degree programs at IU East and Ivy Tech Richmond gathered on the Ivy Tech Richmond campus for a morning of interprofessional learning.

Students participated in icebreaker and teambuilding activities, heard from professionals working in the community, and collaborated to work through an unfolding case study that dealt with substance abuse in the context of a family.

Faculty members from the participating programs worked with the East Indiana AHEC staff to develop this event as a way to provide students with both the opportunity to practice collaborating with other disciplines and professions and also as a way to provide more curriculum content on substance abuse in support of broader prevention and recovery community efforts underway in Richmond and Wayne County.

We are grateful to Richmond Ivy Tech for hosting and look forward to assisting with future interprofessional learning opportunities for Richmond students!

AHEC Scholars Community Healthcare Fellowship Updates

Year 2 EI-AHEC Scholars

Our Year 2 Scholars have been learning about Practice Transformation and were able to hear about it firsthand from an interprofessional panel earlier this month. They are now working on identifying a healthcare site or professional that they will spend some time with in order to learn what practice transformation means and looks like at this site or for that individual profession. Year 2 Scholars are also busy working in three teams to complete community capstone projects as described below!

AHEC Avengers - This group is focusing on connecting the dots between Mental Health & Addiction with Dental Health & Nutrition. They are currently working with Bartholomew County's ASAP (Alliance for Substance Abuse Progress) Program and Celebrate Recovery. The focus is on growing the community's understanding of Mental Health and Addiction while equipping them with the knowledge, support, and resources available to take action.




Driving out Diabetes - This group's project involves hosting a food drive in Bartholomew County during which the Bartholomew County Health Department attends to check blood sugar levels. Additionally, they will provide education and resources regarding diabetes and where to obtain care in the community.

Growing Little Hands - Focused in Wayne County, this project supports a supplemental nutrition program to help children of Northeastern Elementary and Elizabeth Starr Elementary Academy schools have meals over the weekend. For more information or if you want to donate, please contact: Growinglittlehands@gmail.com

Year 1 EI-AHEC Scholars

The 2019-2021 EI-AHEC Scholars kicked off with Orientation at Margaret Mary Health on September 6th, 2019. The cohort of 14 students from BSN, ASN, LPN, DO, Pharmacy, and Public Health programs broke into teams to begin working on Community Projects that will culminate in April 2021.

Each team was assigned to a town within our region where they travelled to conduct a windshield survey. This lets Scholars get to know a community on a deeper level, utilizing both quantitative data as well as in-person conversations and visits to resources within the community. This activity is designed to help Scholars identify, think about, and plan for their Community Projects that are aimed toward enhancing the quality of healthcare within the East Indiana AHEC region.

<p>Team Batesville visits Osgood</p> 	<p>Team Columbus visits Hope</p> 	<p>Team Richmond visits New Castle</p> 
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Do you have a student learning opportunity or staff development project in collaboration with East Indiana AHEC that you'd like us to highlight in a future newsletter? We'd love to hear from you!

Send article ideas or photos to info@eiahec.org!