CT AHEC Network Supports National Health Literacy Month

During National Health Literacy Month in October and throughout the year, each CT AHEC regional center supports advocacy and programming focused on improving the health literacy of community members, patients and future health care providers.

One important statewide initiative is Conectando La Comunidad "Connecting Communities", half-
day regional trainings funded by the Connecticut Health Foundation and led by Eastern AHEC. These events promote enrollment in health care coverage, health and health insurance literacy training and technical assistance to Connecticut community organizations. Conectando La Comunidad improves the capacity of Hispanic persons of color to navigate the health care system and gain access to appropriate primary care, behavioral health and prevention services.

On a national level, during the past year, five AHECs from around the U.S., including CT AHEC, participated in a learning collaborative funded by the National Library of Medicine (NLM). This project, which addresses health information literacy among youth and trains young health advocates, is predicated on the fact that the ability to find, interpret and use reliable sources of health information can have a direct positive impact on an individual’s health. To improve health outcomes across life spans, the NLM and its partners teach these skills to members of diverse populations early in their lives while their personal habits are being developed.

We invite you to become a Health Literacy Hero! Find out how your organization can participate at [https://health.gov/communication/initiatives/health-literacy-action-plan.asp](https://health.gov/communication/initiatives/health-literacy-action-plan.asp).

The statewide Connecticut Area Health Education Center (CT AHEC) Network, based at UConn Health, is implemented through four regional centers which enable the CT AHEC Network to provide high-quality, efficient, effective and flexible services that meet local needs. Thank you for your continued support of the CT AHEC Network.

Call us at 860-679-7969 or visit: [www.publichealth.uconn.edu/ct-ahec.html](http://www.publichealth.uconn.edu/ct-ahec.html)