



CT AHEC FYI

Connecticut Area Health Education Center Network

Connecting students to careers, professionals to communities and communities to better health.



Supporting Primary Care Workforce Development in Connecticut By:

- ▶ Promoting Strong Community/Academic Partnerships
- ▶ Creating Pipeline Programs for Pre-Health Professions Students
- ▶ Supporting Health Careers Awareness Programming
- ▶ Providing Community-Based Training for Health Professions Students
- ▶ Supporting Community-Based Health Education and Screenings
- ▶ Promoting Strategies to Address Health Disparities

CT AHEC Network Regional Centers:

Central AHEC, Inc. (Hartford, Middlesex and Tolland Counties, Meriden and Wallingford)

www.centralctahec.org

Eastern AHEC, Inc.

CT AHEC Promotes Primary Care Workforce Development

The UConn School of Medicine’s national rank for graduates pursuing residencies in primary care programs continues to increase, and CT AHEC’s Urban Service Track/AHEC Scholars (UST/AS) Program is leading the way. Since its inception in 2007, the UST/AS Program has endeavored to nurture and develop a group of health professionals trained to deliver care to Connecticut’s vulnerable, underserved communities.

Guided by health care professionals experienced at providing care to the underserved, Urban Health/AHEC Scholars take part in enhanced training opportunities that include providing service, working with

(Windham and New London Counties)

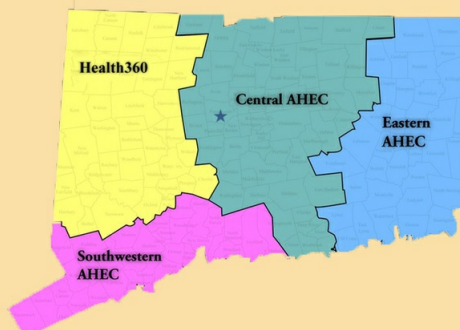
www.easternctahec.org

Health360, Inc.
(Greater Waterbury, Greater Danbury and Litchfield County)

www.health360.org

Southwestern AHEC, Inc.
(Southern Fairfield and New Haven Counties)

www.swctahec.org



community partners, and first-hand exposure to rural and urban communities.

Annual surveys of graduates show that they are strongly invested in caring for vulnerable patients and communities. Since 2011, 70 of 122 Urban Health/AHEC Scholars have continued their training in primary care as the focus of their residency program. 65% of Urban Health/AHEC Scholar medical students who graduated in May 2019 will enter primary care residency training programs (i.e., pediatrics, family and internal medicine).

One of those recent graduates, **Jessica Malcolm, MD**, shared her story: "Prior to starting medical school, I was always interested in caring for vulnerable populations. Through UST/AS, that interest turned into a passion as I was able to care for refugees, migrant farm workers, homeless individuals, and other underserved populations.... My [UST/AS] mentors were all primary care physicians such as internists, family physicians, and pediatricians. Although I knew that you could care and advocate for underserved populations in any specialty, I realized that doing it in primary care was the ideal pathway for me."

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:**
h.uconn.edu/ct-ahec

