Nebraska SEARCH Program

Examples of Community Projects

The SEARCH program requires that students participate in one (or more) community projects during their rotation. These projects should focus on the community by providing education, services, and/or information to individuals beyond those encountered during regular clinical work. The projects should have a broad impact.

Listed below are just a small number of suggestions for projects. The Nebraska SEARCH program provides great flexibility and allows students to be creative so that the project is interesting and enjoyable to them, as well as to their audience.

- Assist with Summer Health Careers Camps provided by the AHECs.
- Present health career information to school groups/classes—K-12 and undergraduates.
- Provide “Lunch and Learn” sessions with community groups – seniors, new parents, parents with special needs children, etc.
- Work with community to develop walking or biking trails.
- Organize a Bicycle Rodeo and Helmet Safety day for kids in the community.
- Provide educational sessions on topics such as advanced directives; Medicare pharmacy benefit; qualifying for Medicaid; accessing services in the community, etc.
- Assist with health fairs/health screenings.
- Assist with community assessments to determine gaps in health coverage or other unmet needs.
- Make presentations at places like Geneva and Kearney Youth Rehabilitation and Training facilities; county juvenile detention centers, etc.
- Provide in-service training with daycare providers – working with children with special needs.
- Help organize or be a judge at regional science meets organized by the AHECs.
- Plan and implement some type of community awareness/education event.
- Develop a directory of health resources in area.

The Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) located across the state are your partners in developing, planning and implementing these events. They are great resources, so use them!

Central Nebraska AHEC–Grand Island
Sarah Cunningham, Executive Director
sarah@cn-ahec.org

Nebraska Panhandle AHEC-Scottsbluff
Gary Hastings, Executive Director
garyh@np-ahec.org

Northern Nebraska AHEC – Norfolk
Gretchen Forsell, Executive Director
gforsell@nnahec.org

Omaha Urban AHEC – Omaha
Dell Gines, Executive Director
dgines@ahecomaha.org

Southeast Nebraska AHEC – Beatrice
Robyn Henderson, Executive Director
rhenderson@se-ahec.org

Nebraska RHEN/AHEC Program Office
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Lili Bronner – LBronner@unmc.edu