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From: Missouri Area Health Education Centers

### **Focus on East Central Missouri AHEC**

The ECMO AHEC region has extensive programming, which serves 151 high school and 45 middle school students from fourteen area schools.

The Healthcare Career Clubs (HCC) program is funded by the Federal SLU subcontract, the Missouri State DHSS contract and the Jefferson Memorial Community Foundation (in Jefferson County). We focus on four in-school programs and one Saturday program:

- At the Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience (CSMB) Saint Louis Public Schools (SLPS), we are in the second year, and serve 52 sophomores.
- At Cardinal Ritter College Prep (St. Louis City), we are in the fifth year, and serve 52 juniors and seniors.
- At Trinity (Hazelwood) we are in the fifth year, and serve 18 sophomores, juniors and seniors.
- At the Area Technical School (ATS) at Jefferson College in Hillsboro, we are in the first year, and serve 27 juniors and seniors from nine different high schools.
- At the Saturday Jefferson College program in Arnold, we are in the first year, and serve 18 students from various high schools in Jefferson County.

Students participate in workshops which include: healthcare exploration, hands-on healthcare activities, science and math enrichment, college access and success presentations, healthcare panel discussions, medical terminology, and dissections.

This program also includes group mentoring, student leadership projects, a summer enrichment program (Camp Scrubs) and an internship component.

The Middle School HOSA project, funded by the Missouri Foundation for Health, is in its third year. We have two HOSA programs, at SLPS Compton Drew, ILC and Hazelwood Central Middle.

Students participate in various activities which include: dissections (oral cavity and body), healthcare exploration, and student presentations about healthcare professions, science enrichment (e.g. DNA and CSI Forensics), preventable chronic diseases, good oral health, and understanding medical terminology.

The Missouri Oral Health Workforce Initiative is in the first year of a three-year program. In collaboration with the other MAHEC regions, we have developed a detailed curriculum. This program provides resources and training on oral health with the focus being: the exploration of all dental professions and acquiring and maintaining good oral health.

We look forward to expanding our program in St. Charles County with the support of the CEO of Crider Health Center, Laura Heebner, who has recently joined our board. We are also excited about new programs with Grace Hill and the new dental school at ATSU (MOSDOH).

*Students learn about oral health careers through East Central Missouri AHEC school-based programming.*

*MAHEC is a partnership of seven locally-governed organizations and three university-based health professions education programs working statewide to increase the numbers of Missouri youth entering stable, high-paying jobs as healthcare professionals and the numbers of professionals caring for underserved populations.*

*The MAHEC partners include:*

- A.T. Still University – Kirksville
- University of Missouri – Columbia
- Saint Louis University
- Northeast Missouri AHEC – Kirksville
- Northwest Missouri AHEC – St. Joseph
- West Central Missouri AHEC – Lexington
- Mid-Missouri AHEC – Rolla
- East Central Missouri AHEC – St. Louis
- Southeastern Missouri AHEC – Poplar Bluff
- Southwest Missouri AHEC – Springfield