



# Area L AHEC

Part of the NC AHEC Program

Recruit • Train • Retain

## The Connection NEWSLETTER

Winter/Spring 2022

### ***Area L AHEC receives \$280,000.00 from The Duke Endowment***

Area L AHEC has received a \$280,000.00, 3-year grant from The Duke Endowment to implement a Community Paramedic Program with Wilson County Emergency Medical Services (EMS). This program will focus on four areas affecting residents of Wilson County: falls, Post Overdose Response Team (PORT), readmission reduction, and community wellness.

“Community paramedicine has been a vision for Wilson County for quite some time. This opportunity from the Duke Endowment and the partnership with Area L AHEC is the perfect opportunity to provide this level of service to our residents. Wilson County Government and Area L AHEC believe in partnerships that make a positive impact on lives and community paramedicine will do just that.” Michael Cobb, EMS Director



Dr. Debby Futrell, President/CEO of Area L AHEC stated, “Area L AHEC was established as one of the first AHECs in the country in 1972 and we are fortunate to have great partners in our region to help us accomplish our mission. We are excited to begin working with Wilson County EMS on the implementation of the Community Paramedic Program. This program will provide valuable services and resources to the residents in Wilson County.”

Based in Charlotte and established in 1924 by industrialist and philanthropist James B. Duke, The Duke Endowment is a private foundation that strengthens communities in North Carolina and South Carolina by nurturing children, promoting health, educating minds, and enriching spirits. Since its founding, it has distributed more than \$4 billion in grants. The Endowment shares a name with Duke University and Duke Energy, but all are separate organizations.

### **Rural Opportunity Institute Launches New Resiliency Educational Program with NC AHEC and Barton College**



This collaboration will create the first statewide online training for students to learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Trauma, and the healing practices associated with resilience skills. In response to COVID-19, Area L AHEC and Barton College partnered to create online modules that could be substituted for in-person student clinical experiences. Rural Opportunity Institute and fourteen of its Certified Resiliency Educators will film and produce modules focused on trauma awareness. The virtual clinical experience will provide:

- 40 hours of instruction, including 6.5 hours of critical trauma-informed education, for the future healthcare professionals of North Carolina who are currently enrolled, full-time, in a health-degree program
- Case examples of trauma-informed community interactions across various professions
- Groundwork for other states and communities across the country to leverage the training within their own education and advocacy programs

© Rural Opportunity Institute

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### Live Webinar

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Amid  
COVID-19: Reflection, Response, and Resiliency  
January 20

SPICE for the Dental Office  
February 4

Next Generation NCLEX: Deans/Directors: Is Your  
Plan Ready?  
February 15

The Impact of Toxic Stress on Health and Your Role  
in Resilience  
February 28

Workplace Bullying  
March 23

The 34th Annual Aging Symposium: COVID-19  
and the Aging Population  
April 5

Mental Health First Aid  
April 27

Ethics and Spirituality  
May 26

Critical Thinking/Preceptor Development  
June 2

### In-Person Programs

OSHA Laws: Annual Spring Bloodborne  
Pathogens and Hazcom Update  
April 1

Pharmacy Law Update (Webinar Option  
Available)  
April 7



**RN Refresher Program**

*Return to Nursing or  
Reactivate your License*

[nurserefresher.web.unc.edu](http://nurserefresher.web.unc.edu)

Area 1  
AHEC  
Recruit • Train • Retain

### Stay Connected



Scan QR Code



Continuing Education  
Calendar

### Online Self-Paced Learning

Understanding Stimulant Use in Youth,  
Adolescents, and Young Adults

Pain Management and MAT

## PRACTICE SUPPORT SERVICES

### Happy New Year!

Area L Practice Support is here to help you start your new year. We are committed to helping practices position themselves for new payment models, incentive programs, and other healthcare reforms while focusing on patient-centered care. For more information please visit our website [www.areasahc.org/services/practice-support/](http://www.areasahc.org/services/practice-support/). You can also view the **NC AHEC Practice Support Flyer** located under Resources on the Practice Support page.

## Medicaid Managed Care

### Advanced Medical Home Provider Manual 2.2 Released

NC Medicaid has released the *Advanced Medical Home (AMH) Provider Manual 2.2* which reflects North Carolina's Integrated Care for Kids (InCK) pilot program expectations along with some changes that impact *Advanced Medical Home (AMH) Tier 3* contracts with Standard Plans. **Only select AMH Tier 3s are impacted by this change.** For more information, please visit <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/blog/2021/12/17/advanced-medical-home-provider-manual-22-released>

### 2022 Performance Improvement Projects (PIPs)

Standard plans are required to conduct at least two PIPs annually that must be approved by the Department of Health Benefits. The State has determined the following as the 2022 required PIPs:

- Childhood Immunization Status (CIS) Combo 10
- Timeliness of Prenatal Care
- Hemoglobin A1c Testing

NC Medicaid Fact Sheets can be found at:  
<https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/providers/provider-playbook-medicare-managed-care/fact-sheets#medicaid-transformation>

These PIPs are part of the overall DHHS NC Medicaid Managed Care Quality Strategy. For an overview of the quality strategy, you may download the Quality Strategy Executive Summary at <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/media/9955/download?attachment>. You may also find it helpful to review the recording from the 10/12/2021 Virtual Quality Forum. [https://mega.nz/file/VwUCUBbR#Qp-bQIcWnmDej-LXB8PnF2pPgvBM0kTVN\\_KXvKqxCsY](https://mega.nz/file/VwUCUBbR#Qp-bQIcWnmDej-LXB8PnF2pPgvBM0kTVN_KXvKqxCsY)

## COVID-19

Medical office providers can be reimbursed for COVID-19 specimen collection using CPT code 99211 (ESTABLISHED PATIENT OFFICE OR OTHER OUTPATIENT VISIT, TYPICALLY FIVE MINUTES) with modifier CR. CMS has approved the use of this code for new patients, as well as established patients, when used for specimen collection. Laboratory codes for COVID-19 testing can be found at: <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/blog/2021/01/19/special-bulletin-covid-19-151-laboratory-codes-covid-19-testing>

## NC AHEC's Role with Tailored Care Management (TCM)

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Benefits (DHB) has partnered with NC AHEC to provide statewide practice support, education, and technical assistance to Advanced Medical Home Plus (AMH+) and Care Management Agency (CMA) organizations who pass the TCM desk review component of the service certification process. The purpose of AHEC's technical assistance is to enable AMH+/CMA candidate organizations to successfully complete organizational site reviews and achieve certification. AHEC's program is also designed to equip TCM candidates with the tools and knowledge to effectively provide care management services to North Carolina's Tailored Plan beneficiaries.

### 10 Years of Service



Shannon Cambra

### Newest Team Member Practice Support TCM Coach



Ivy Williams

Your Practice Support Team

“

From our team at CFHC we want to say **THANK YOU** for the amazing job you did on the lock boxes! They're perfect and will be so useful for our patients. Thank you again! -Carolina Family Health Centers, Inc



## Support for the Community

Thanks to a grant from The Duke Endowment, focused on treating acute and chronic pain with reduced opioid prescriptions, Area L is able to provide lock boxes to the community.

If you are interested in receiving a lock box, please email Lindsay Farmer at [Lindsay.Farmer@arealahec.org](mailto:Lindsay.Farmer@arealahec.org) or call (252) 972 - 6958.

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Wilson, NC  
Permit # 507

P.O. Drawer 7368  
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

**Area L AHEC**  
Part of the NC AHEC Program  
Recruit • Train • Retain

