

## South Carolina Center for **Rural and Primary Healthcare**

### Educational Partnerships & Workforce Development

The SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare works to expand capacity for rural clinical training sites to increase healthcare students interest in rural practice. We help develop infrastructure, physician support, and model multidisciplinary practices at rural practice sites in South Carolina to support resident electives, student rotations, and multidisciplinary health education.

#### Impact

**5** **First-year medical student research opportunities**

in rural health through the SOAR program

**41** healthcare student **members of the Rural Health Interest Group** at the UofSC School of Medicine - Columbia

**150+** **Health professionals and students** trained in rural health practice and skills

**15** **Rural physicians** receiving **ultrasound training** through educational workshops and loaner handheld ultrasound units

#### On-Demand Rural Health Education

Through a grant from the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare, the UofSC College of Social Work created and implemented new in-person and online course modules related to rural health. Course topics were determined through a needs assessment of SC rural practitioners. The "Growing a Sustainable Rural Health Workforce" training was conducted in four SC counties with over 50 total attendees. Their newest training "Empowering Rural Providers: Caring for Vulnerable Populations" is being rolled out through AHEC's online learning platform.

It aims to:

- 1** Identify demographics and related characteristics of vulnerable populations in rural South Carolina.
- 2** Provide specific examples of health disparities experienced by vulnerable populations in rural South Carolina.
- 3** Identify community strengths, assets, and resources you can use when engaging with patients or clients in need.

**To increase healthcare students' interest in rural practice, we collaborate with partners throughout the state to provide rural experiential learning opportunities.**

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## Current Programs

### **Ultrasound Institute**

Offers new ultrasound technology to physicians in rural settings through educational workshops and loaner handheld ultrasound units in order to help newborns with cardiac problems and their families.

### **PAIRED with PEEP/PAIRED to ExCEL in Rural Communities**

Provides interactive didactic and experiential opportunities across the third and fourth year of the pharmacy curriculum as well as equips pharmacy students to become healthcare providers to ensure better health outcomes in rural communities.

### **Building Capacity for CHWs in Rural and Primary Healthcare**

Develops a CHW Model Best Practice Implementation Toolkit and creates targeted training modules for CHWs working in or preparing for work in rural and primary healthcare settings throughout the state based on the needs of these clinics and the populations they serve.

### **Collaborative Social Worker Implementation**

Addresses rural healthcare needs in South Carolina by promoting the recruitment and retention of health providers, providing resource development opportunities, and training health profession students in the unique needs of rural residents in South Carolina.

### **MUSC College of Dental Medicine – Dental Services in Rural**

Provides additional dental services to rural clinics in the low country. This will include student rotations, residency support, and training facilitation.

### **Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative- South Carolina (ASC-SC)**

Improves the productivity of antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASPs) across South Carolina through the Project ECHO™ tele-mentoring model.

### **Bachelor of Nursing - UofSC Aiken Sumter Campus**

Implements the USC Aiken Bachelor of Science in Nursing program on the USC Sumter campus and will help address the documented nursing shortage throughout South Carolina, but especially in underserved and vulnerable populations.

### **SC Rural Interprofessional Practice Transformation Project (AHEC Scripts)**

Works with partners to identify and prepare health professions students through interprofessional training opportunities to become “boots on the ground” primary care providers, especially in rural and underserved communities

### **Rural Health Student Interest Group**

A student organized interdisciplinary group at the UofSC School of Medicine that meets to learn about and discuss rural health issues, rural practice, and recruitment. Speakers are faculty, staff, and rural health providers

### **Student Opportunities for Academic Achievement through Research (SOAR)**

Provides summer research experiences based in rural areas or rural programs for first-year medical students at University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Columbia