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About Indiana AHEC

A healthy Indiana needs healthy communities. And it needs health care professionals located in all areas of the state from the inner cities to the rural neighborhoods prepared to help educate citizens about health problems and issues and to provide quality service. Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) play an important role in providing communities with health care professionals prepared to meet their needs.

Today, 54 **AHEC programs** with more than 200 centers operate in almost every state and the District of Columbia. An AHEC is a network of regional "centers" that are coordinated through a central "program" office. Each regional center is locally grown and is designed to assess and meet the needs of citizens in that specific region. AHECs perform four basic functions:

- **Assist in the ambulatory training of health professionals.** Health professionals who train in underserved communities are much more likely to serve those populations when their training is completed.
- **Provide continuing education, especially for providers to the underserved.** Continuing education programs improve the quality of care and enhance professional satisfaction, both of which contribute to provider retention.
- **Recruit minority students into the health professions careers.** Minority health professionals are substantially more likely to serve vulnerable populations than their majority counterparts.
- **Respond to emerging health issues** by distributing information necessary for practitioners and facilities to address critical health issues and threats in a timely way.

In accomplishing these goals, the AHEC can improve the quality of health care, especially primary and preventative care.

Indiana AHEC's Mission

The mission of the Indiana AHEC Network is to improve health by recruiting, educating and retaining healthcare professionals for underserved communities in Indiana.

Indiana AHEC's Goals

Improve the distribution of health care professionals in underserved areas of Indiana. Improve the diversity of the health care workforce in Indiana. Improve the quality of health care professions education in Indiana.

Indiana AHEC's Regional Centers

The Program Office is located within the Department of Family Medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicines. There are eight independent regional offices that work to serve Hoosiers living in their designated counties.

- **East Indiana Area Health Education Center (EI-AHEC)**
The East Indiana Area Health Education Center includes the 14 counties of Bartholomew, Dearborn, Decatur, Fayette, Franklin, Henry, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Rush, Union, Wayne and Switzerland.
- **Metropolitan Indianapolis/Central Indiana Area Health Education Center (MICI-AHEC)**
The Metropolitan Indianapolis/Central Indiana Area Health Education Center, which includes the 9 counties of Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Madison, Marion, Morgan, and Shelby.
- **North Central Indiana Area Health Education Center (NCI-AHEC)**
The North Central Indiana Area Health Education Center includes the 13 counties of Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fulton, Howard, Miami, Pulaski, Tippecanoe, Tipton, and White.
- **Northeast Indiana Area Health Education Center (NEI-AHEC)**
The Northeast Indiana Area Health Education Center includes the 17 counties of Adams, Allen, Blackford, DeKalb, Delaware, Elkhart, Grant, Huntington, Jay, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Noble, Randolph, Steuben, Wabash, Wells, and Whitley.
- **Northwest Indiana Area Health Education Center (NWI-AHEC)**
The Northwest Indiana Area Education Center includes the 8 counties of Jasper, Lake, LaPorte, Marshall, Newton, Porter, St. Joseph, and Starke.
- **South Central Indiana Area Health Education Center (SCI-AHEC)**
The South Central Indiana Area Health Education Center includes the 12 counties of Brown, Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Harrison, Jackson, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Scott, and Washington.
- **Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center (SWI-AHEC)**
Our newest AHEC, the Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center, includes the 10 counties of Daviess, DuBois, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick.
- **West Central Indiana Area Health Education Center (WCI-AHEC)**
The West Central Indiana Area Health Education Center includes the 9 counties of Clay, Fountain, Greene, Montgomery, Owen, Parke, Putnam, Sullivan, Vermillion, Vigo, and Warren.



