

"Transforming healthcare through education"

ANNUAL REPORT

2025 – 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Message from The Director	3
AHEC Mission	4
Budget 2025 – 2026	5
Our Staff & Board	6

K-12 OUTREACH & RECRUITMENT

High School & Middle School Health Careers Awareness	8
Internships	8
Health Care Careers Fairs	9
Health Science Program Tours	10
American Dental Education Association Grant	11
Pre-Health Summer Program	12
Student Scholarships	16
K-12 Outreach Summary	17

UNDERGRADUATE/PRE-PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

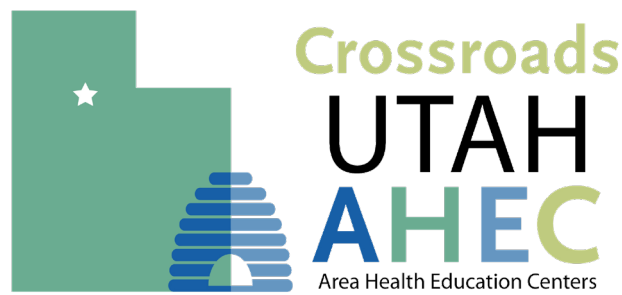
SLCC Students at HOSA	19
------------------------------	----

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

AHEC Scholars	20
----------------------	----

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Preventing HPV Cancers: The Role of Dental Professionals	21
---	----



MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

As we reflect on the past year, one word comes to mind: **resilience**. It was a year marked by unexpected challenges, uncertainty, and change, yet it was also a year filled with remarkable accomplishments, strong partnerships, and meaningful impact.

We began the year facing the news that our federal grant funding had been reduced, despite receiving full appropriations. Through grassroots advocacy efforts across the nation and the dedication of our local champions within the AUCH network, we were ultimately notified that our full federal funding had been restored. We are deeply grateful for the bipartisan support the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) program continues to receive and for the shared recognition of the critical role these programs play in strengthening the healthcare workforce pathway.

Throughout much of the year, our center operated with a smaller-than-ideal staff. Despite these challenges, our team remained committed to our mission, and thanks to the extraordinary support of our partners and collaborators, we continued to make a significant impact across our service region. Together, we reached thousands of students, expanded opportunities for aspiring healthcare professionals, and strengthened pathways into health careers.

We are especially grateful for the ongoing support of our local partners, including those represented on our Advisory Board and the many organizations with whom we collaborate through committees, programs, and initiatives. Their dedication and partnership are essential to our success. Without these valuable relationships, we would not be able to fulfill the commitments outlined in our grants and contracts or achieve the outcomes highlighted throughout this report.

Highlights of the Past Year

- **128 applications** received for the Pre-Health Summer Program, with **30 students selected**
- **106 certificates of completion** awarded through our structured educational programs
- **Two successful internship programs** conducted during Fall 2025 and Spring 2026, resulting in **82 program completers**
- **244 outreach events** delivered, reaching **9,060 students** throughout our service area
- **One continuing education opportunity** provided, serving **80 participants**

One of the most rewarding aspects of this work is witnessing the long-term impact of our programs. The journey from introducing a student to healthcare careers in high school to seeing them apply to a health sciences program can take years. Today, we are beginning to see the results of those investments. More students are completing prerequisite coursework and utilizing their program certificates to pursue admission into Salt Lake Community College Health Sciences programs.

In fact, later in this annual report, you will read about a truly special full-circle moment. We share the story of a student who participated in our very first Pre-Health Summer Program and where she is today on her healthcare career journey. Her story serves as a powerful reminder of why this work matters and the lasting impact these opportunities can have on future healthcare professionals.

As always, I extend my deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff, Advisory Board, partners, and supporters. While our team may be small, our impact is amplified through the strength of our collaborations and the shared commitment of those who believe in our mission. Thank you for your continued support of Crossroads AHEC and for helping us inspire, educate, and develop the next generation of healthcare professionals.



MINDY BATEMAN
DIRECTOR

AHEC MISSION

MISSION

Crossroads Utah AHEC helps current and future health professionals acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to practice in a transformed health system for not yet reached rural and urban populations. It does so through strategic partnerships with academic programs and professional organizations to improve:

- The geographic distribution of health professionals
- The demographic and professional outlook of health professionals
- Transformation of health systems to enhance wellbeing, quality and efficiency of care



Utah AHEC fulfills this mission by engaging individuals at 5 phases of the health professions pathway:

Phase 1: K-12 Outreach & Recruitment

- Grade 7 -8 College & Career Awareness Presentations
- Grade 9-12 Classroom Dissection Presentations
- Health Care Career Fairs
- Campus Tours
- Educator Conferences
- Pre-Health Summer Program
- Mentor Program
- Internships
- ADEA Dental Programs

Phase 2: Undergraduate/Pre- Professional Training

- SLCC HOSA Advisor

Phase 3: Medical/Health Professional Training

- IPE Training
 - Offered for current health professions students
- AHEC Scholars

Phase 4: Residency/Practical Field Placement

- Medical Resident Rural Rotations
- Pharmacy Rural Rotations
- Medical Student Rural Rotations
- Physician Assistant Rural Rotations

Phase 5: Continuing Education/ Professional Development

- HPV Training
- Mountain West Transforming Care Conference
- Utah One Health Symposium
- PACT Training

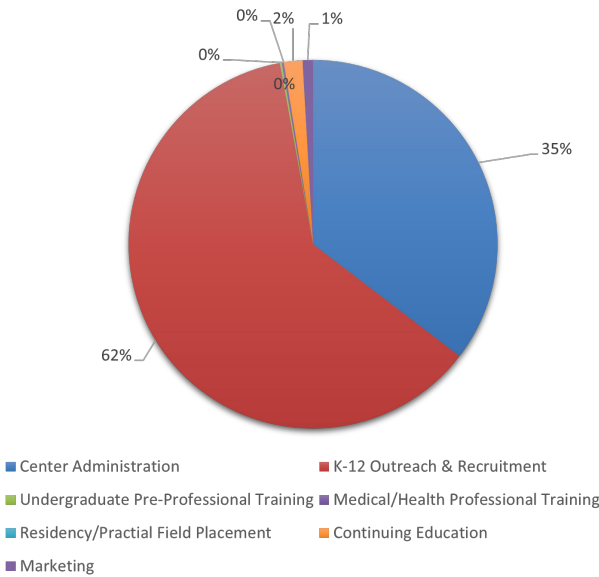
BUDGET FOR 2025 – 2026

CROSSROADS UTAH AHEC

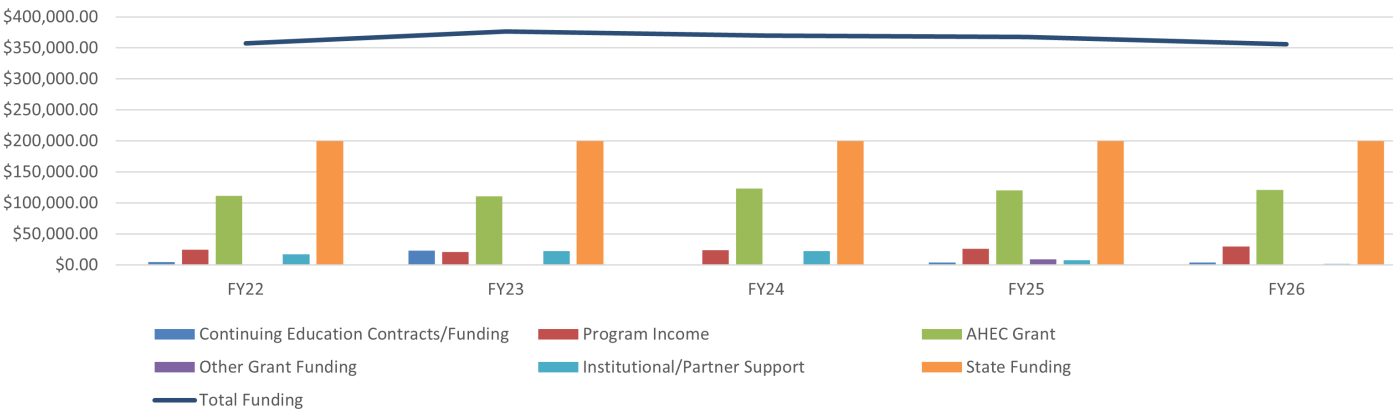
Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

Crossroads AHEC remains firmly committed to partnering with state and local stakeholders to secure funding that supports the education and training of current and future healthcare professionals. Our funding portfolio has remained strong and stable over the past five years, reflecting both the confidence of our funding partners and our ongoing commitment to addressing workforce needs across the region. While individual funding sources have experienced fluctuations from year to year, we have successfully maintained overall funding levels through diversification of revenue streams, including grants, contracts, program income, and state support. This financial stability enables us to continue expanding educational programs, strengthening community partnerships, and creating opportunities for students and healthcare professionals. Through these efforts, Crossroads AHEC remains focused on healthcare workforce shortages and improving access to quality care throughout the communities we serve.

EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



5 YEAR FUND HISTORY



OUR STAFF



MINDY BATEMAN

Director

Over the past year, Mindy experienced significant personal and professional growth. On a personal level, her family welcomed a second grandchild, adding a grandson to a family that already included two daughters and a granddaughter. This new addition brought a joyful change in family traditions, including a shift from shopping for princess-themed gifts to selecting cars, trucks, and construction-themed toys.

Professionally, Mindy achieved the significant milestone of earning a Master of Science in Management and Leadership. Completing the degree required substantial dedication and commitment, making the transition to evenings free from classes, studying, and coursework a notable adjustment. The accomplishment was especially meaningful because it coincided with the successful completion of two grant-funded projects that resulted in published research papers. Having the opportunity to include the “M.S.” credential on those publications served as a rewarding acknowledgment of the hard work and perseverance



ARELY GUARNEROS LOPEZ

Health Career Program Coordinator

As a proud Crossroads Utah AHEC alumna, Arely joined the CRAHEC team in October 2025 as a part-time Program Associate. In this role, she led interactive presentations that introduced students to a variety of healthcare careers through exploration and hands-on learning experiences. After several months, Arely transitioned into a full-time Program Coordinator position, where she expanded her responsibilities to lead the Mentor Program, Pre-Health Summer Program, and support other student-focused initiatives. Her goal is to create a welcoming and supportive environment where students feel empowered to pursue their educational and career aspirations. Arely is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Public Health and Spanish at Utah Valley University. In 2026, she attended the National AHEC Organization Conference in Washington, D.C., where she participated in advocacy efforts and shared her experience as both an AHEC alumna and staff member.



LINDSEY EVANS

Secretary

During the 2025-2026 fiscal year, Lindsey celebrated her one-year anniversary with Crossroads Utah AHEC. As CRAHEC's Secretary, she has continued to grow in her role, taking on new responsibilities and supporting several programs.

In February, Lindsey traveled to Washington, D.C. with Mindy to attend training for a new grant awarded through the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). After assisting with the grant proposal, she helped learn the curriculum and supported the implementation process. Lindsey also played an important role in supporting our largest intern cohort to date and completing the fifth year of the Pre-Health Summer Program. In addition to her professional accomplishments, Lindsey has continued working toward her Business Administration degree. She also celebrated a major personal milestone this year: getting married!!

CROSSROADS UTAH

BOARD MEMBERS



MEGAN NEUF
BOARD CHAIR
VOICES FOR UTAH CHILDREN



SANDRA DEBRY
CHAIR ELECT
ASSOCIATION FOR UTAH COMMUNITY HEALTH



DUANE WINDEN
PAST CHAIR
ROSEMAN



CHANTEL OLSEN
MURRAY SCHOOL DISTRICT



CASEY HIMMELSBACH
NOORDA



ROBERT BEELER
SLCC NURSING



JESS CARTER
ALPINE SCHOOL DISTRICT



IVETTE LOPEZ
UTAH AHEC PROGRAM OFFICE



KAREN MULITALO
UVU PA PROGRAM



JUAN CARLOS NEGRETTE
U OF U GLOBAL HEALTH



ROBERT W. PETTITT
SLCC HEALTH SCIENCE



KAITLYNN ROGERS
NURSING STUDENT



NICHOLAS COX
U OF U COLLEGE OF PHARMACY



TATIANA ALLEN-WEBB
COMMUNITY FACES OF UTAH



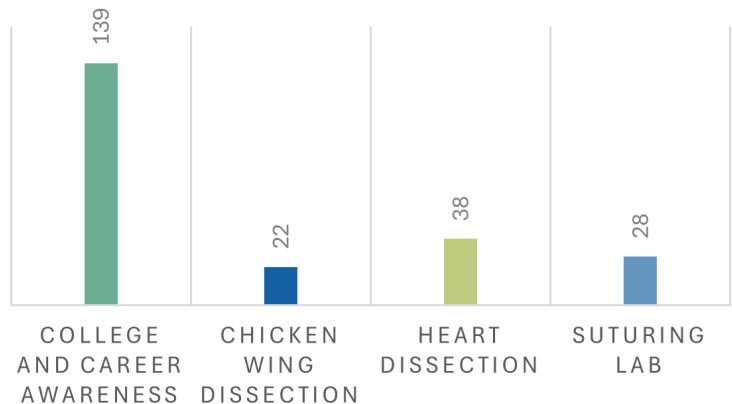
ANGELA CHAVEZ
INTERMOUNTAIN HEALTH

OUTREACH & RECRUITMENT

K – 12

HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

Over the past academic year, our team delivered **227 classroom presentations**, reaching **5,973 middle and high school students** in our service area. These presentations combine interactive lessons on human anatomy and body systems with information about healthcare careers related to each topic, helping students connect classroom learning to real-world opportunities in healthcare. We begin engaging students as early as 7th grade through College and Career Awareness (CCA) classes, introducing them to healthcare concepts and career pathways during an important stage of their academic development. Many students are familiar with careers such as doctors, nurses, and surgeons, but are often unaware of the wide range of opportunities available within the healthcare field. By providing early exposure to these diverse career options, we aim to spark curiosity, broaden students' understanding of healthcare professions, and encourage them to explore future careers in the field.



INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Our Internship Program continues to grow each academic year, providing opportunities for students from public and charter schools across the Wasatch Front. This spring we welcomed our largest cohort to date with **50 students**. Through partnerships with organizations such as Intermountain Health, Roseman University School of Dentistry and College of Nursing, Shriners Children's Hospital, the University of Utah Medical Lab Sciences, Salt Lake Community College, the Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH), and many other partners, students gain hands-on experience in a variety of healthcare careers. The program concludes with a career panel where healthcare professionals share their experiences and answer student questions. The impact has been inspiring. Students **gain early exposure** to healthcare professions, **build confidence**, and **explore potential career pathways**, helping to strengthen the future workforce by expanding awareness of the many career opportunities.



WATCH OUR INTERNSHIP HIGHLIGHT VIDEO TO SEE MORE OF THE WORK THAT WE DO!



"Through the Crossroads Utah AHEC Internship, I had the opportunity to discover a whole new side of healthcare. As a passionate high school student wanting to pursue a career in healthcare, this experience allowed me to learn from professionals, explore different areas of the healthcare field, and ask questions that helped me grow. The hands-on experiences and connections I made throughout this internship helped me increase my confidence and strengthened my determination for my future in healthcare. I'm so grateful for everything I learned through this program and would encourage any student interested in healthcare to take advantage of this incredible opportunity!"

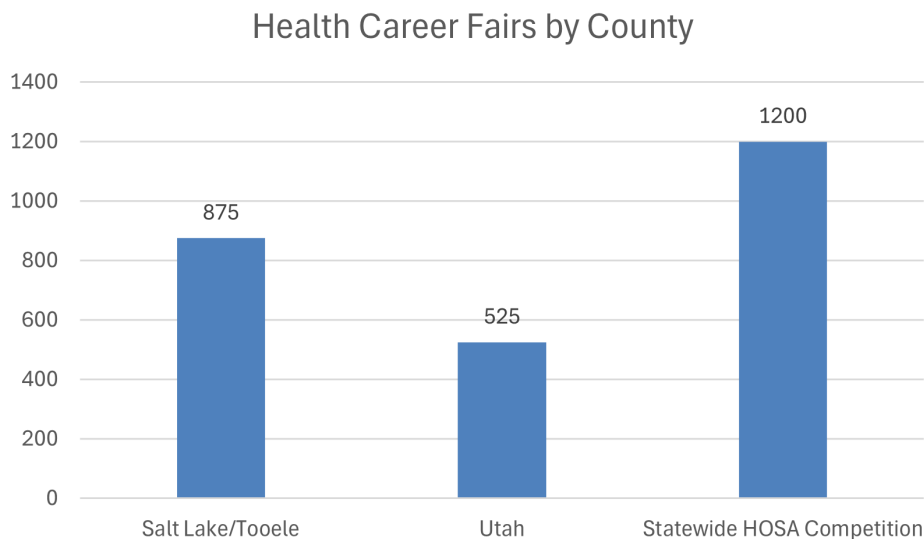
— Camilynn Hollander

HEALTH CAREER FAIRS & TABLING EVENTS

We had the opportunity to participate in local healthcare career fairs alongside our school district and industry partners. These events connect students to a variety of healthcare professions representing **22 – 24 different career pathways**. Healthcare professionals shared valuable information about their fields, including educational requirements, job outlook, and salary expectations. Many presenters also incorporated hands-on activities, giving students a more engaging and realistic look at their daily responsibilities. Students were able to explore up to three different healthcare careers during each event, helping them make **informed decisions** about their future education and career goals.

In addition, our tabling efforts at events such as the GTI Open House and the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) National Career Development Conference allowed us to connect with even more students. These events provided opportunities to share information about our programs and the broader AHEC network with students from across the country. We extend our sincere gratitude to our school districts, industry partners, and other organizations for their continued trust and support in making these opportunities possible.

REGIONAL HEALTH CAREER FAIRS BY COUNTY



STATE HOSA CONFERENCE

Our participation in the Utah HOSA State Leadership Conference provided a unique opportunity to connect with about **1,200 students from across Utah**. Through our outreach and tabling efforts, we shared information about our programs, engaged students in meaningful conversations about healthcare careers, and **reconnected with CRAHEC alumni**. Seeing former participants continue their educational journeys and pursue healthcare careers highlights the lasting impact of our programs and serves as an inspiration to future students. In addition, CRAHEC hosted two educational symposiums featuring a heart dissection workshop that provided **more than 100 students with a hands-on learning experience**. These activities helped increase student interest in healthcare education and broaden awareness of the many career pathways available within the healthcare field.



HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAM TOURS

In collaboration with the Outreach Coordinator for Salt Lake Community College's School of Health Sciences, we were able to offer campus tours to **373 high school students** this past year. These tours provide a valuable opportunity for students to explore the 9 healthcare programs housed on the Jordan Campus and gain firsthand insight into potential career pathways. During the tours, students learn about admission requirements, cohort sizes, the holistic admissions process, and other key factors to consider when pursuing a healthcare career. Whenever possible, faculty members and current students share their experiences, discuss why they chose their respective programs, and answer questions, helping students make informed decisions about their educational and career goals.

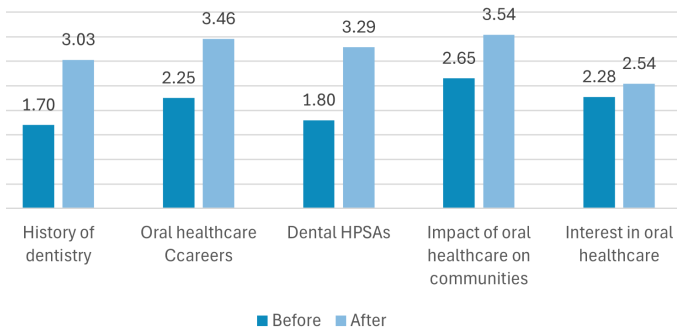


AMERICAN DENTAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (ADEA) GRANT

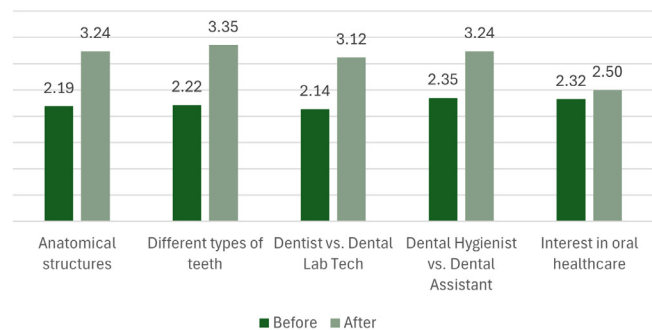
Crossroads Utah AHEC was selected as **one of 26 AHECs** nationwide to receive the ADEA Bridging Pathways to Oral Health Careers Grant, an initiative focused on strengthening the oral health workforce in rural and underserved communities. After receiving training in Washington, D.C., staff implemented the curriculum through two dental career exploration events, reaching **41 students**. One event was offered as a standalone program, while the other was incorporated into the Pre-Health Summer Program.

Participants engaged in a variety of **hands-on learning activities**, including dental scaling, tooth carving, and clay tooth modeling. Students also learned proper brushing and flossing techniques, explored strategies for educating others about oral health, and gained exposure to a wide range of oral health professions. Throughout the program, students reinforced their knowledge by teaching their peers and practicing oral health education skills. Lessons learned from these initial implementations will guide future programming, including a planned fall cohort in partnership with the Roseman University College of Dental Medicine. The graphs illustrate students' self-reported knowledge of oral health topics before and after participating in each curriculum unit. Results demonstrate **increased awareness and understanding of oral health careers** and related concepts following program participation.

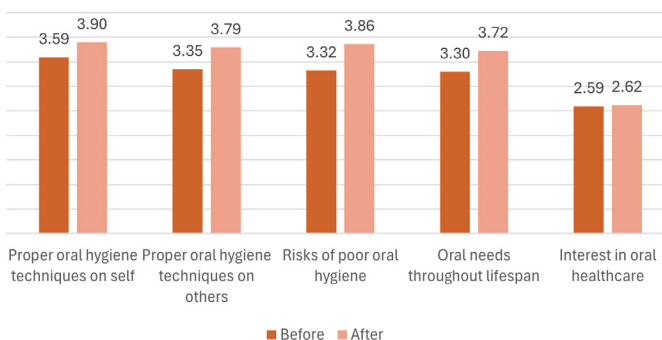
ADEA Unit 1



ADEA Unit 2



ADEA Unit 3



MESSAGE FROM PROGRAM COORDINATOR

As a first-generation college student and a **proud participant of the 2022 Pre-Health Summer Program**, I am honored to now serve as the Program Coordinator for Crossroads Utah AHEC. The program that once inspired me to explore opportunities in healthcare and higher education is now the program I have the privilege of leading. This full-circle journey has been incredibly meaningful, and I am thrilled to share the achievements and impact our programs have made over the past year.

Our 2026 Pre-Health Summer Program received an impressive **128 applications**, from which we welcomed **30 dedicated students** to participate. Throughout the program, students prepared for college-level coursework, gained hands-on experience in healthcare settings, connected with healthcare professionals, and built a strong sense of community with their peers. A key component of the program was the Community Health Project, which challenged students to identify and explore health disparities within their own communities. This experience encouraged students to think critically about local health issues while fostering personal growth, leadership, and community engagement.

This year, we also introduced **peer mentors** into the classroom, welcoming former Pre-Health Summer Program participants back to support the new cohort. Their guidance and relatability helped create a welcoming and encouraging environment that students greatly appreciated. To further strengthen community and student engagement, we implemented a "Spirit Week" featuring optional themes such as Pajama Day, Fandom Day, and Team Theme Day. Participation was overwhelmingly positive, with students enthusiastically embracing the activities and helping create a fun, welcoming, and **positive program environment**.

Another highlight of the year was the CRAHEC Mentor Program, which connects high school students with mentors who are currently enrolled in health profession programs. This initiative has proven to be an invaluable resource, supporting students as they explore healthcare careers, navigate the college preparation process, and develop both personally and socially. Although this year's cohort was small, I witnessed firsthand how meaningful mentorship can help students set goals, build confidence, and make informed decisions about their futures.

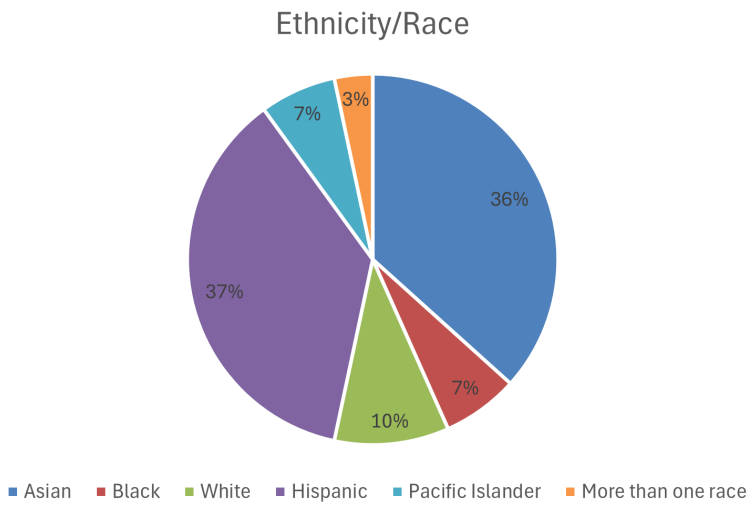
I also supported the CRAHEC Internship Program, a 15-week experience that introduced high school students to healthcare careers through visits to healthcare and educational institutions. In addition, I had the opportunity to lead hands-on learning activities, including heart dissections, chicken wing dissections, and suturing workshops. These experiences provided students with valuable exposure to healthcare professions and helped broaden their understanding of the many opportunities available within the field.

I truly believe these programs and initiatives are making a meaningful difference in the lives of high school students and throughout our communities. I am grateful to everyone who has contributed to and supported our mission at Crossroads Utah AHEC. I look forward to building on this success and expanding our impact in the year ahead.



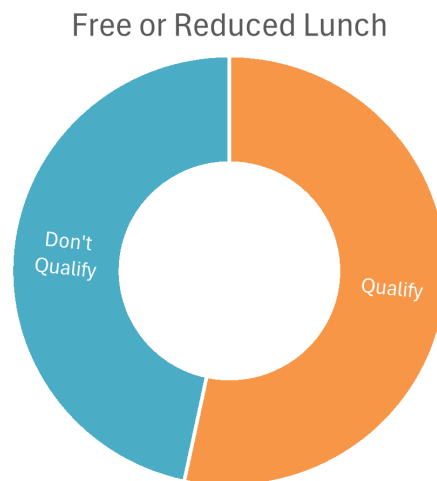
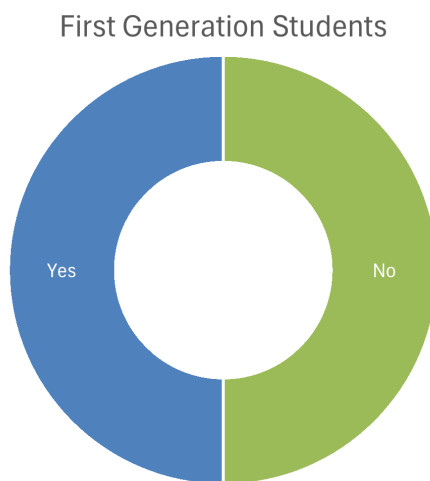
ARELY GUARNEROS LOPEZ
HEALTH CAREER PROGRAM COORDINATOR

PRE-HEALTH SUMMER PROGRAM DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION



The Pre-Health Summer program strives to increase interest in the healthcare workforce and improve employment opportunities for students. While race and ethnicity are not considered as an admitting factor for the S Pre-Health Summer Program, due to legislative changes, demographic information is still collected for reporting purposes to demonstrate the program's reach and impact across our service area. This chart shows the racial and ethnic demographics of participants in the 2026 program.

PRE-HEALTH SUMMER PROGRAM SOCIAL ECONOMIC INFORMATION



The Pre-Health Summer Program application includes four essay-style questions that are reviewed and scored by our staff using a standardized rubric:

1. What interests you most about this opportunity?
2. Please describe any health science or science-related courses and activities you have participated in during the past few years, including experiences that have influenced your academic interests or career goals.
3. What personal qualities or strengths do you possess that would make you a successful healthcare professional (e.g., caring, responsible, collaborative)?
4. What outcomes are you hoping to gain from participating in this program?

In addition to these questions, several other admissions factors are considered during the application review process. Students are asked whether they qualify for free or reduced lunch and whether they are first-generation college students. Among students in the 2026 PHSP cohort, **50% were first-generation college students, and 53% qualified for free or reduced lunch.** The graph above illustrates these findings.

PRE-HEALTH SUMMER PROGRAM EVALUATIONS

The following results summarize participant program evaluation findings for the 2026 Pre-Health Summer Program. These findings provide an overview of the program's participant satisfaction, and educational outcomes during the six-week program.

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
How satisfied are you with the Pre-Health Summer Program?	0	2	1	17	10
How satisfied are you with program presentations/ guest speakers?	0	1	1	11	17
How satisfied are you with program field trips?	0	0	0	8	22

Out of all the 30 students that participated in the program, 93.3% said they would recommend the Pre-Health Summer Program to other students. As you can see in the table above, overall satisfaction was high, with most participants rating the program, guest speakers, and field trips as either satisfied or very satisfied and no very dissatisfied responses reported. Field trips received the highest ratings, with all students indicating they were satisfied or very satisfied.

Subject	Confidence Before	Confidence After
How confident did you feel about science?	22	30
How confident did you feel about English?	27	28
How confident did you feel about math?	10	17

This table illustrates the increased knowledge, skills and confidence students in the 2026 Pre-Health Summer Program gained over the 6-week program. Using a retrospective pre-post survey using a 5-point scale, where 1 = Extremely Not Confident, 2 = Somewhat Not Confident, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Somewhat Confident, and 5 = Extremely Confident. Responses were grouped into two categories: Not Yet Confident/Neutral and Confident. Results indicate that the program positively impacted students' academic confidence across all subject areas. The largest gains were observed in science, where confidence increased from 73% to 100%. In English confidence increased from 90% to 93% while confidence in math increased from 33% to 57%.

Subject	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increase
Science	37.40%	66.10%	28.70%
English	71.80%	90.60%	18.80%
Math	54.50%	58.60%	4.10%

As part of the PHSP curriculum, pre- and post-tests were administered across all subject areas. The positive results clearly demonstrate the effectiveness of this approach. Science showed the greatest improvement, with average scores increasing by 28.7%, followed by English at 18.8%, and math at 4.1%.

College Readiness Classes

Over the course of six weeks, students participated in college readiness courses in math, science, and English. The curriculum was designed to prepare students for success in higher education, concurrent enrollment courses, and future health science programs by building a strong academic foundation. The image shows Pre-Health Summer Program students participating in a Socratic seminar during the English portion of the program. This activity provided students with an opportunity to share their perspectives, engage in meaningful discussions, and strengthen their communication and critical thinking skills.

"The Socratic seminar in English was fun because I got to hear everyone's opinion." - PHSP Student



Community Health

One of the most impactful experiences of the program was the community health project. Students worked in teams based on their local communities to identify health disparities. Through research and collaboration, students developed thoughtful presentations that proposed innovative solutions and programs to improve community health. Their final presentations showcased not only their knowledge and critical thinking skills, but also their passion for creating healthier communities. A distinguished panel of judges, including the Utah AHEC Program Director, CRAHEC Board Members, and Salt Lake Community College colleagues, selected a winning team whose project demonstrated the positive impact

"I honestly really enjoyed the community health project time. I've met some people who will stay my friends after." - PHSP Student



Field Trips

Our weekly field trips, gave students the opportunity not only to observe and learn from healthcare professionals, but to experience healthcare firsthand. From participating in hands-on activities at Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine, to learning how to take vital signs at Community Health Centers' (CHC) Oquirrh View Clinic, to performing mock dental procedures at Roseman College of Dental Medicine, students were immersed in a variety of healthcare settings. These experiences sparked excitement and curiosity about the many career opportunities available in healthcare. We are grateful to our community healthcare partners for helping make these experiences meaningful and memorable for our students.

"My favorite moment during the summer program would be talking to the med students at Noorda, I felt like I could really relate to them, and they had a lot of good stories and advice." - PHSP Student



Classroom Presentations

A unique feature of the program was the daily 30-minute presentations from healthcare professionals. Students had the opportunity to explore different healthcare careers, hear firsthand experiences, and engage with speakers through questions and discussion. Professionals from public health, pharmacy, nursing, physical therapy, radiology, and many other fields shared their knowledge and career journeys with our students.

"The speakers were able to teach us a lot about their careers and how adult life is going to work in general. That was very helpful." - PHSP Student

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the generosity of community members, partners, and friends who supported the silent auction during our 25th Anniversary Celebration, Crossroads Utah AHEC was proud to award its first-ever Alumni Scholarships to five outstanding students. Scholarship recipients were selected through a competitive application process, with applications reviewed and scored by our Board of Directors. These scholarships recognize students who have demonstrated commitment to their educational and healthcare career goals through participation in AHEC programs. We congratulate this year's recipients and look forward to following their continued success:

- **Isabella Alderete**
- **Sophia Reed**
- **Kimberly Ayala Sandoval**
- **Lauren Johnson** (not pictured)
- **Tracy Pham** (not pictured)



MAKE A DONATION TODAY

We hope to sustain this scholarship as an annual opportunity for future Crossroads Utah AHEC alumni, helping to support their continued educational and professional development. If you would like to support future students and help expand scholarship opportunities, please scan the QR code to visit our donation page. Your generosity helps invest in the next generation of healthcare professionals, and we sincerely appreciate your support and commitment to advancing our students' futures.

K-12 OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

The table below summarizes combined participation data from the 2025-2026 academic year, reflecting a total of **9,060 students served** through our initiatives across the region. CRAHEC is dedicated to connecting students with meaningful opportunities to explore healthcare careers through a variety of educational and outreach programs. Our mission is to **expand awareness of healthcare professions and strengthen access** to educational and career pathways for qualified individuals throughout our service area. By encouraging interest in healthcare fields and providing supportive resources, we help develop a stronger healthcare workforce.

	Total Students	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	African American	Pacific Islander	White	More than one race	Not Available
Student participants from presentations	5973	893	29	119	112	128	4518	121	50
% of Total		14.95%	0.49%	1.99%	1.88%	2.14%	75.64%	2.03%	0.84%
Student participants from Tours	373	121	0	17	17	12	206	0	0
% of Total		32.44%	0.00%	4.56%	4.56%	3.22%	55.23%	0.00%	0.00%
# of Students participants from Career Fairs	2600	550	20	87	44	36	1753	110	0
% of Total		21.15%	0.77%	3.35%	1.69%	1.38%	67.42%	4.23%	0.00%
# of Students participants from Internship Program	84	18	0	17	0	3	44	2	0
% of Total		21.43%	0.00%	20.24%	0.00%	3.57%	52.38%	2.38%	0.00%
# of Students participants from Pre-health Summer Program	30	11	0	11	2	2	3	1	0
% of Total		36.67%	0.00%	36.67%	6.67%	6.67%	10.00%	3.33%	0.00%
Total Student Participants	9060	1593	49	251	175	181	6524	234	50
% of Total		17.58%	0.54%	2.77%	1.93%	2.00%	72.01%	2.58%	0.55%

“Being part of the Pre-health summer program was such a meaningful experience to me. I was able to learn many new things, find lots of friends and have many social interactions. The program helped me learn more about healthcare and gave me a better understanding of what I want to pursue in the future. I'm really grateful for all the opportunities and memories this program gave me!!!”

- PHSP Student

K – 12 OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT SUMMARY

The table below illustrates the increase in **knowledge, attitude and skills** students enrolled in our structured programs acquired during the 2025-2026 academic year. Using a retrospective pre-post-evaluation form, students were asked to respond using a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 representing very poor and 5 as excellent. **Eighty-five students** completed the program evaluations. The table below shows the number of students who responded very good (4) or excellent (5) with an average increase in knowledge, attitude, and skills of **48.5%** during the program.

Evaluation Questions	Before	After
My knowledge in the role of providers (clinicians, hospitals, and/or health centers) in the health care system	13 (15%)	59 (69%)
My understanding of the impact that social determinants of health play in healthcare	18 (21%)	55 (65%)
My awareness of the importance of lifestyle choices and how they affect a person's overall health	31 (36%)	58 (68%)
My ability to identify health issues that affect teenagers and young adults	16 (19%)	48 (56%)
My awareness of healthcare career options	13 (15%)	62 (73%)
My interest in healthcare careers	42 (49%)	62 (73%)
My understanding of the skills associated with team-based care in healthcare	21 (25%)	55 (65%)
My ability to communicate effectively with peers and instructors	34 (40%)	54 (64%)
My knowledge on how to prepare for a healthcare career, including application and education requirements	12 (14%)	55 (65%)
My intention to pursue college or training in a health profession	45 (53%)	63 (74%)

" My journey with AHEC has been truly life changing. The experiences, guidance, and connections I've gained have prepared me to pursue a career in healthcare with confidence while teaching me the value of empathy, leadership, and serving others. Qualities that have made me a better person both inside and outside of medicine."

- Sophia Reed

UNDERGRADUATE/ PRE-PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

SLCC STUDENTS AT HOSA



Four Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) students, accompanied by Mindy (HOSA advisor), represented the college at the Utah State HOSA Leadership Conference and Competition. The students demonstrated their knowledge, skills, and commitment to healthcare careers while competing against peers from across Utah. Their efforts earned **medals in four competitive events**, reflecting their preparation, professionalism, and academic achievement.

We congratulate these outstanding students on their accomplishments and are proud of the way they represented SLCC at the state level. Their success highlights the **talent and potential of Utah's future healthcare workforce**.

SLCC STUDENTS AT ILC

As one of the HOSA advisors, Mindy had the opportunity to travel with two HOSA students to the International HOSA Leadership Conference and Competition in Indianapolis, Indiana, in June. This weeklong event brought together more than 15,000 students from around the world to compete in over 75 competitive events at both the secondary and post-secondary levels.

SLCC student Ethan Killpack proudly represented the college by earning **1st place in Respiratory Therapy**. Congratulations, Ethan, on this outstanding achievement and for representing not only your program, but also Salt Lake Community College and the state of Utah with excellence!



MEDICAL/HEALTH PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

AHEC SCHOLARS

Although the Utah AHEC Scholars Program is administered as part of a statewide initiative through the program office at the University of Utah, we continue to provide close support to participating students at our host institution, Salt Lake Community College, and at one of our valued partners, Roseman University of Health Sciences. Throughout the year, we collaborated with both institutions to recognize AHEC Scholars graduates during key milestone events, including awards banquets at Roseman University and pinning ceremonies at SLCC. The picture below highlights students who successfully completed both their health sciences program and the Utah AHEC Scholars Program.

Completing the Scholars Program in addition to an already rigorous health sciences curriculum is a significant accomplishment. We congratulate these students on their dedication, perseverance, and commitment to serving their communities through healthcare. This achievement is something they should be incredibly proud of.



Roseman University College of Dental Medicine
Students: Go Zalyan, Azniv Libaryan, and Jennifer
Lacayo (not pictured).



Occupational Therapy Assistant Student:
Ashton Tidwell



Radiologic Technology: Rose Siete-Martinez



Nursing Student: Austin Tang

CONTINUING ED/ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

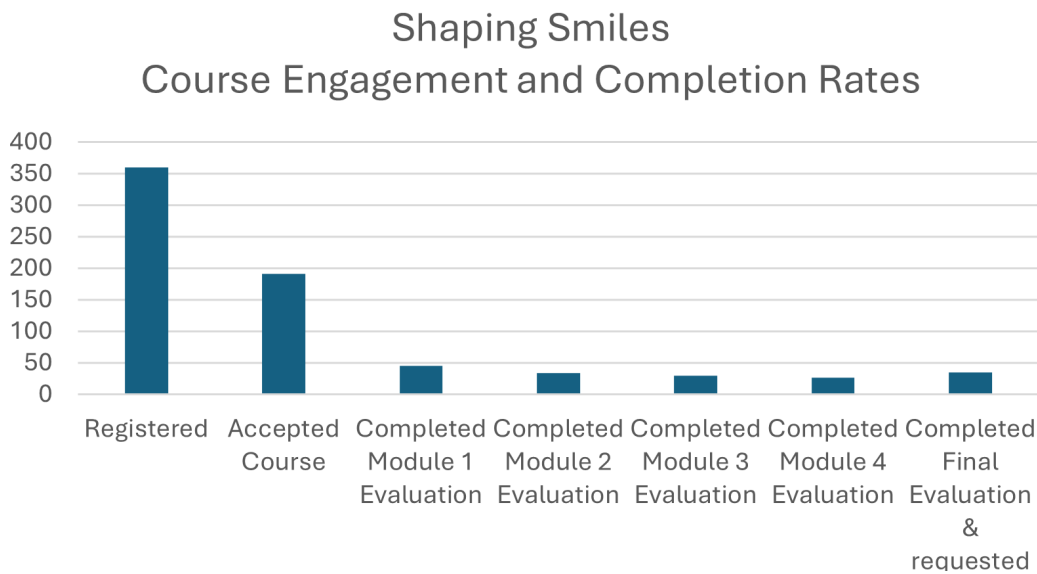
HPV TRAINING

SHAPING SMILES, PREVENTING CANCER: THE ORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL'S GUIDE TO HPV VACCINATION

Crossroads AHEC continues to provide continuing education opportunities on the importance of the **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**.

This year, Crossroads AHEC partnered with the American Cancer Society and the National Network for Oral Health Access to deliver the four-part asynchronous training series, **Shaping Smiles, Preventing Cancer: The Oral Health Professional's Guide to HPV Vaccination**. Designed for oral health professionals, the series provides expert-led education on HPV-related diseases, oral cancer screening and prevention, treatment and survivorship, and current HPV vaccination recommendations. Through self-paced learning, participants gained knowledge and practical strategies to support patient education, promote HPV vaccination, and strengthen oral cancer prevention efforts. This report summarizes **participant outcomes and evaluation findings across all four modules**.

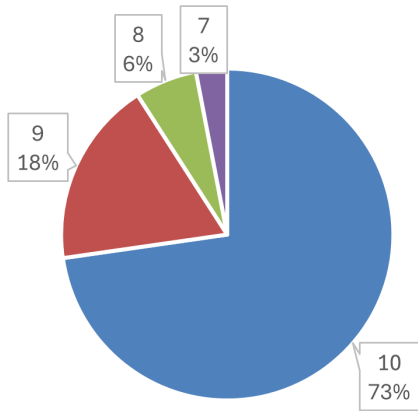
Although the asynchronous course is ongoing, the numbers reflect participation from its launch in February 2025 through the end of the academic year 2026.



It is important to note that evaluation completion may not fully reflect actual course completion. Because continuing education credits are optional, **some participants may complete one or more modules without submitting evaluations or requesting CEUs**. As a result, the evaluation data likely represent a conservative estimate of learner completion, and actual engagement with course content may be higher than reflected in the reported numbers.

HPV TRAINING

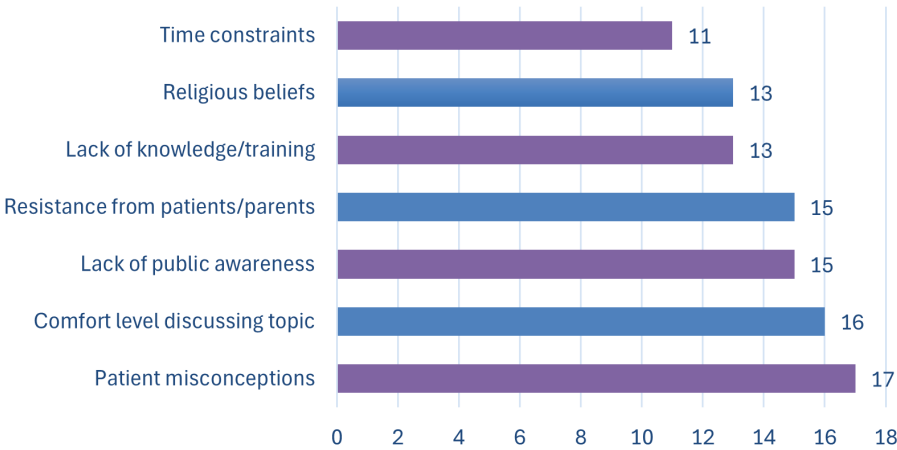
SHAPING SMILES, PREVENTING CANCER: THE ORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL'S GUIDE TO HPV VACCINATION



The HPV continuing education initiative successfully reached a broad audience of oral health professionals. Participant feedback demonstrated a high level of satisfaction, with an **average recommendation score of 9.5 out of 10**. Evaluation results also identified common challenges providers face when discussing HPV vaccination, including patient misconceptions, provider comfort with HPV-related conversations, limited public awareness, and resistance from patients or parents. These findings underscore the continued need for educational opportunities that equip oral health professionals with the knowledge and communication skills necessary to support HPV vaccination and cancer prevention efforts.

Participants selected **barriers they currently experience or anticipate encountering** when discussing HPV vaccination. Common themes were grouped together in the following table.

HPV Vaccination Barriers



Given the continued interest in HPV-related education, **Crossroads AHEC will offer this continuing education opportunity through December 31, 2026**. Interested participants may use the QR code below to register and access the training series.

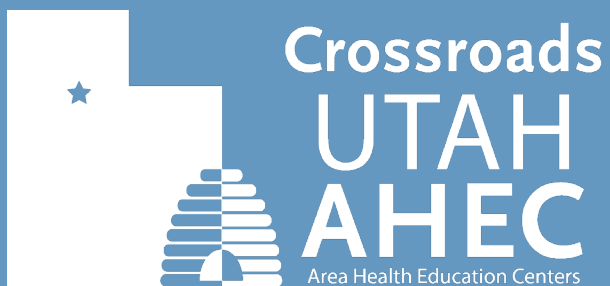
CONTINUING EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER IF YOU ARE INTERESTED
IN UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!





"Transforming healthcare through education"

Phone

801-957-6291

Address

3491 Wights Fort Road
JHS 120A
West Jordan, UT 84088

Email

mindy.bateman@slcc.edu

Website

slcc.edu/crossroadscenter/