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SOWEGA-AHEC Regional Nursing Workforce Summit Local Challenges – Local Strategies – Local Solutions

Southwest Georgia Area Health Education Center’s (SOWEGA-AHEC), #1 Goal for the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan is to **Improve nursing pipeline, reduce shortages, improve quality, and increase retention**. With the support of Senators Dean Burke and Freddie Powell-Sims, and based on the success of the Georgia Statewide AHEC’s Primary Care Summit that developed the Preceptor Tax Incentive Program, we plan to convene a similar summit to address the nursing workforce challenges specific to our 38 county region.

The Virtual Summit format will be a series of facilitated meetings, including Data Chats to review survey and focus group data, Strategy Sessions to identify gaps and formulate recommendations and strategies, then end with the Summit to prioritize recommendations and strategies. See [Agenda & Dates](#) for more details.

VISION: Convene regional stakeholders engaged in educating, training, employing, and working as nurses and, through open dialogue, identify and prioritize Southwest Georgia’s primary deficits and challenges. Develop a long term strategy to enhance the pipeline and increase the number of nurses, their ability to transition from academics to care, and develop environments that promote retention.

- ✓ Evidenced-based strategies
- ✓ Long term commitment, not a single event

OUTCOME: Engaged stakeholders actively collaborating to eliminate traditional barriers and new workplace challenges to increase the nursing pipeline and meet the regional staffing needs with students and nurses committed to Southwest Georgia.

- ✓ Create evidence-based strategies with measurable outcomes
- ✓ Strategies to include policy, budget and legislative solutions
- ✓ Collaborative work plan with mutually beneficial recommendations and strategy

WHAT: Series of facilitated meetings that will help identify and prioritize key issues, and begin to develop short and long term actions in response to the issues.

- ✓ Understand the Southwest Georgia nursing workforce and education pipeline through survey and focus group data collection
- ✓ Discussion vs. Lecture-based meetings

DETAILS:

- ✓ Invitation and Registration Required
- ✓ No limit on the number of virtual sessions invitees can attend and contribute
- ✓ Registration opens and links to register will be emailed January 8, 2021
- ✓ Pre-reading materials will be sent in advance of each session. Please come prepared having read the materials and investigated best practices.

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TARGET AUDIENCE: Within SOWEGA-AHEC's 38 county region, Nurse Educators from USG, TCSG, and private nursing programs; Nurse Employers, CEOs, CNOs and HR Directors from hospitals and CHCs; Regional and industry leaders; Individuals invited based on existing expertise in the field; and Diverse voices actively engaged in aligning resources and people.

Continue to check this site for the most up to date information. If you have questions, please contact Laura Calhoun. We look forward to working with you to help improve the nursing workforce in Southwest Georgia and improve the health outcomes in the region.

Sincerely,



Laura Calhoun, MHA
Executive Director

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Georgia Statewide AHEC Network, Senators Burke and Sims, Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce, Georgia Community Foundation, Georgia Hospital Association Center for Rural Health, Georgia Nursing Association, Georgia Rural Health Innovation Center, Georgia Rural Prosperity Center, Carl Vincent Institute, Georgia Center for Nonprofits plus academic and employer partners.