



TESTIMONIALS

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA AHEC SCHOLARS PROGRAM
<https://sowega-ahec.org/southwest-georgia-ahec-scholars-program/>

ALBANY, GA
229-439-7185



PHARMD SCHOLAR – COHORT #1 GRADUATE



“I have never been a part of a program quite like the **Southwest Georgia (SOWEGA) AHEC Scholars**. As a pharmacy student, this program provided me such unique experiences to unify with other healthcare professions to provide patient care to the medically underserved population. The **SOWEGA AHEC Scholars** gave me the opportunity to participate in farmworkers projects, which was a week-long outreach program where healthcare professionals would set up daily morning and evening clinics for farmers. This experience broadened my understanding of healthcare disparities and allowed me to hone my communication towards less literate patients.

Additionally, the program allowed me to obtain mental health first aid certification and telehealth certification. Both of certifications shined, during the past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic as healthcare interactions started to utilize telehealth and as social distancing and isolation created concern for mental health. The experiences and training that the **SOWEGA AHEC Scholars Program** provided me has provided me a unique skillset, allowed me to be flexible interacting with other healthcare professionals, and has made me well equipped for taking care of patients with various socioeconomic backgrounds.

Through this program’s unique opportunities, I have become an overall better healthcare professional. By continuing this program, I have no doubt that future AHEC scholars will grow to become stellar healthcare professionals, who place great emphasis on interprofessional patient care.”

Brian T.



BSN SCHOLAR – COHORT #1 GRADUATE



“I was a part of the **Southwest Georgia AHEC Scholars Program** and graduated from GSW’s nursing program in May of 2020. The program is very beneficial and will aid you in your nursing career. I learned so much in the **AHEC Scholars Program** as a student and I am now putting all the knowledge that I gained to use as a nurse right now, especially while in a pandemic.

I highly recommend this program as it will teach you how to collaborate with a wide range of medical professionals, to provide optimal care to your patients, and to treat each patient as an individual and not just a number. I really enjoyed the team bonding activities we did and participating in the South Georgia Farmworker Project. It was truly eye opening.

You will have so much fun in this program and it can be done while you are in nursing school!”

Christina C.



BSN SCHOLAR – COHORT #1 GRADUATE



“Joining the **Southwest Georgia AHEC Scholars Program** impacted my nursing career for the better. What caught my eye was learning about things that I hadn’t even thought about in caring for a diverse population and being able to use that with the hands-on experience offered with **AHEC**. I feel it gave me an advantage when interacting with patients.

You’re also able to meet many others from different backgrounds in healthcare. It really gives you a different perspective on how you view things. I know how much time it takes to study for tests, clinicals and other things but this is a great opportunity you won’t regret. If I could do it, so can you!!

So, I definitely recommend joining the **AHEC Scholars** family.”



MD SCHOLAR – COHORT #2 GRADUATE



“The **SOWEGA AHEC Scholars Program** was a valuable part of the clinical years of my medical education which I chose to spend in Southwest Georgia. This program fostered discussions around current frontiers in healthcare with a special focus on impact on rural and underserved areas. I was able to interact with students from other healthcare disciplines, and we worked together to address issues such as behavioral health, telemedicine, disaster preparedness, human trafficking, and more.

The leadership of the program made me feel like I always had a family looking out for me during my time in Albany, and they kept us supplied with opportunities to really dig in and make an impact on the underserved populations around us that we learned about. I feel that through the **AHEC Scholars Program**, I got a more in depth look at the issues facing my community and gained an appreciation for the specific needs that I can help serve in my future career as a physician – and I got to have fun while doing it!

I would recommend the **SOWEGA AHEC Scholars Program** to any healthcare professions student who has the privilege of spending their clinical years in Southwest Georgia.”



BSN SCHOLAR – COHORT #2 GRADUATE



“Being a part of the diverse team of future nurses, pharmacists and physicians helped sculpt me into the nurse I am today.

With each **Southwest Georgia AHEC Scholars Program** seminar and training, I not only learned a lot about myself but a lot about every corner of my community.

Healthcare is one of the most diverse and rewarding careers you can pursue and the **AHEC** helped me get a head start on becoming the successful nurse I am today.”



BSN SCHOLAR – COHORT #2 GRADUATE



“I’m so grateful that I had the opportunity to participate in the **Southwest Georgia AHEC Scholars Program**. I can honestly say that it made me a better nurse.

The program opened my eyes to the health disparities in this community and taught me how important interdisciplinary health care practices are to patient success. The content studied was interesting and relevant and allowed students the chance to be involved in big picture conversations about health care going on today.

I strongly encourage nursing students to participate! These experiences will absolutely better prepare you for your nursing career. Plus, the activities that Michelle Huskey Program Coordinator plans are so much fun!”



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