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From: Missouri Area Health Education Centers

SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Several Missouri AHEC centers across the state coordinated summer programs for middle school and/or high school students. The purpose is to provide early exposure to health careers and academic enrichment for students who are interested in becoming practicing health professionals. Agendas include presentations by practicing health care providers as well as university faculty and staff, tours of health care institutions and service providers, hours of job shadowing, and lots of fun hands-on activities!

Suturing, dissections, injections, proper hand washing, CPR, basic first-aid, taking vital signs, patient simulations, and disaster preparedness are common hands-on activities at the camps. Students had the opportunity to learn a bit about nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, medicine, public health, radiology, physical therapy, phlebotomy, and much more. Some heard presentations on anti-bullying, leadership, and self-motivation techniques. Others were able to visit ambulance districts and see air evacuation helicopters.

Every youth camp experience is a collaborative effort between the regional AHEC, community partners, and often academic institutions. The camps geared for middle school level students were sponsored at least in part by the **Missouri Foundation for Health**.

COMMUNITY AND ACADEMIC PARTNERS:

Southeastern Missouri AHEC: Twin Rivers Regional Medical Center, Kennett and Three Rivers College Nursing School, Poplar Bluff

Northeast Missouri AHEC: Lincoln County Medical Center, Troy and Brookfield Middle School, Brookfield

East Central Missouri AHEC: SSM Health Care (St. Mary's, Cardinal Glennon, DePaul), Christian Northeast Hospital, BJC Healthcare and Grace Hill Health Centers

Southwest Missouri AHEC: Missouri State University and Cox College of Nursing, Springfield, Cox Monett Hospital, Monett, and Missouri Southern State University, Joplin

Mid-Missouri AHEC: Phelps County Regional Medical Center, Rolla

West Central Missouri AHEC and Northwest Missouri AHEC jointly coordinated the STAT! workshop at Heartland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph.



Air Evac Lifeteam with students in Northeast Missouri

MAHEC is a partnership of seven locally-governed organizations and three university-based health professions education programs working statewide to increase the numbers of Missouri youth entering stable, high-paying jobs as healthcare professionals and the numbers of professionals caring for underserved populations.

The MAHEC partners include:

- A.T. Still University – Kirksville
- University of Missouri – Columbia
- Saint Louis University
- Northeast Missouri AHEC – Kirksville
- Northwest Missouri AHEC – St. Joseph
- West Central Missouri AHEC – Lexington
- Mid-Missouri AHEC – Rolla
- East Central Missouri AHEC – St. Louis
- Southeastern Missouri AHEC – Poplar Bluff
- Southwest Missouri AHEC – Springfield

MAHEC: Connecting students to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health