



Connecting students to careers, professionals to communities and communities to better health.



Photo by Allison Pettengill

Supporting Primary Care Workforce Development in Connecticut By:

- ▶ Promoting Strong Community/Academic Partnerships
- ▶ Creating Pipeline Programs for Pre-Health Professions Students
- ▶ Supporting Health Careers Awareness Programming
- ▶ Providing Community-Based Training for Health Professions Students
- ▶ Supporting Community-Based Health Education and Screenings

CT AHEC Engages Secondary Students at STEM Symposium

CT AHEC and UConn Health in Farmington recently hosted over 150 outstanding high school students from thirty-five schools for the annual 54th Connecticut Regional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (CT-JSHS). Part of the CT AHEC Network's health careers awareness initiative, the symposium provided secondary students interested in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) with a forum to

► Promoting Strategies to Address Health Disparities

CT AHEC Network Regional Centers:

Central AHEC, Inc.
(Hartford area)

www.centralctahec.org

Eastern AHEC, Inc. (Willimantic-New London area)

www.easternctahec.org

Health360, Inc. (Waterbury area) www.health360.org

Southwestern AHEC, Inc. (Stamford-Bridgeport-New Haven area)

www.swctahec.org

share their ideas, research and accomplishments, and to learn about careers in health and research fields.

At the symposium participants presented their own original research. Five of the top competitors earned an expenses-paid trip to present their research at the National JSHS in San Diego, CA this April.

The students, both competitors and observers, toured UConn Health's research and virtual anatomy labs, participated in hands-on science activities, and learned more about careers in health and research. According to a self-assessment survey taken after the symposium, participants' interest in pursuing health careers and scientific research increased by 55% and 69% on average, respectively.

Joy Erickson, the director of CT-JSHS, says "JSHS brings some amazing young minds to campus and helps prepare them for a career in science by giving them experiences comparable to those of professionals in the field."

JSHS is organized by the Academy of Applied Sciences with the sponsorship of the U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force to encourage young people to pursue careers in STEM.

The statewide Connecticut Area Health Education Center (CT AHEC) Network, based at UConn Health, is implemented through four regional centers which enable the CT AHEC Network to provide high-quality, efficient, effective and flexible services that meet local needs. Thank you for your continued support of the CT AHEC Network.

Call us at 860-679-7969 or visit:
www.publichealth.uconn.edu/ct-ahec.html

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