



## SOUTH LOS ANGELES AHEC

[www.ccalac.org](http://www.ccalac.org)

The South Los Angeles AHEC is hosted by the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County, representing 54 non-profit community and free clinics with over 200 sites in Los Angeles County that serve over 1 million patients each year. Recognizing the daunting challenges faced by community clinics in recruiting and retaining highly-qualified clinical staff, the South LA AHEC actively engages with its members and partners to develop strategies to address critical workforce issues. Especially among local medical schools, the AHEC has built key relationships with many local school leaders, and we are recognized as a highly effective workforce development asset for community clinics.

Through the AHEC, efforts are focused on recruiting primary care physicians, midlevel providers, nurses, dentists and mental health providers. Through outreach to regional schools and training centers, CCALAC recruits clinicians for current member clinic openings and builds up the 'pipeline' for graduating students to enter primary care careers. Building up this pipeline includes presentations about community clinics to students and professors, dissemination of information about careers in community clinics to schools and information about scholarship and loan repayment programs available to those choosing to work in underserved sites. In general, many medical, mid-level and nursing students have had very little, if any, exposure to community clinics and many presentation participants are eager to pursue a community clinic career. The AHEC collects student/resident information and matches the information to vacancies within the CCALAC system. This year, through this process, 15 clinicians have been matched with open vacancies within the community health centers and free clinics.



*Annual Health Symposium*



*HealthCorps members educating community members about available health insurance coverage*

The South Los Angeles AHEC also hosts two cohorts of Community HealthCorps members each year. The HealthCorps members work in community health centers and free clinics doing outreach and enrollment for Covered California, and provide community health information to patients at the clinics. A large percentage of the past members have gone on to medical or other health professions training programs.

### OUTCOMES 2013-14:

- 15 clinicians were hired in member CHCs from AHEC presentations and referrals
- 23 Community HealthCorps members participated in 700 hours of community health education and worked as health exchange outreach and education assistants, certified enrollment counselors and community health educators
- 16 Community HealthCorps members are pursuing health professions education after graduation
- 170 health professions students and residents received education about working in CHCs and NHSC loan repayment/scholarship programs
- 179 CHC providers received continuing medical education

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