



IE AHEC SCHOLARS 2022-2023

Program Wrap-Up

CALIFORNIA AHEC PROGRAM
A Member of the National AHEC Organization



AHEC
SCHOLARS



Community Health Association
Inland Southern Region

ABOUT THE SCHOLARS PROGRAM



The California AHEC Scholars Program in Community Health is a two-year, longitudinal, interdisciplinary curriculum divided into three components: community-oriented education, clinical training, and community-based hands-on activities that supplement students' existing health programs. The goal of the AHEC Scholars Program in Community Health is to provide health profession students with a comprehensive experience of working in community health to ultimately encourage them to pursue careers serving rural and/or underserved communities. The program will equip students with the knowledge and the skills for them to be successful in the primary care health system and to deliver high-quality care to patients, especially in rural and underserved areas. The program year runs from July to June. This wrap up will cover data from the last program year based on surveys completed by students and data gathered by the state AHEC office.



Our Local Partners



AZUSA PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN BERNARDINO
College of Natural Sciences



California University
of Science and Medicine
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



Western
University
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

College of
Dental Medicine



El Sol
NEIGHBORHOOD EDUCATIONAL CENTER



UC RIVERSIDE | School of Medicine



REACH OUT
Strengthening Communities



4P
Primary care
Psychology
Pipeline
Program

Loma Linda University

In the 2022-2023 program year, the Inland Empire AHEC partnered with seven local educational institutions: Azusa Pacific University, CSU San Bernardino, California University of Science and Medicine, El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center, Loma Linda University, UC Riverside School of Medicine, and Western University.

The newest partnership was developed in early March 2023 with El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center. The AHEC team presented for their community health worker (CHW) program about our services as a health consortium and our scholars program. They shared information and distributed AHEC flyers. About half of the class chose to apply and we graciously accepted those that were eligible. Moving forward, we will be presenting for their upcoming cohorts, but will also connect them with opportunities that may be valuable to them, such as job opportunities at our members' sites and community partners seeking to educate their employees to become CHWs. Additionally, we are working closely with Reach Out, a local community organization to provide pipeline opportunities to high school students. In particular, we are collaborating together to lead a pilot program that will educate high school students upon graduation to be certified CHWs.

All of our partners share our vision and ultimate goal, to encourage students to continue working in our underserved communities and help address the need for health professionals in the Inland Empire.



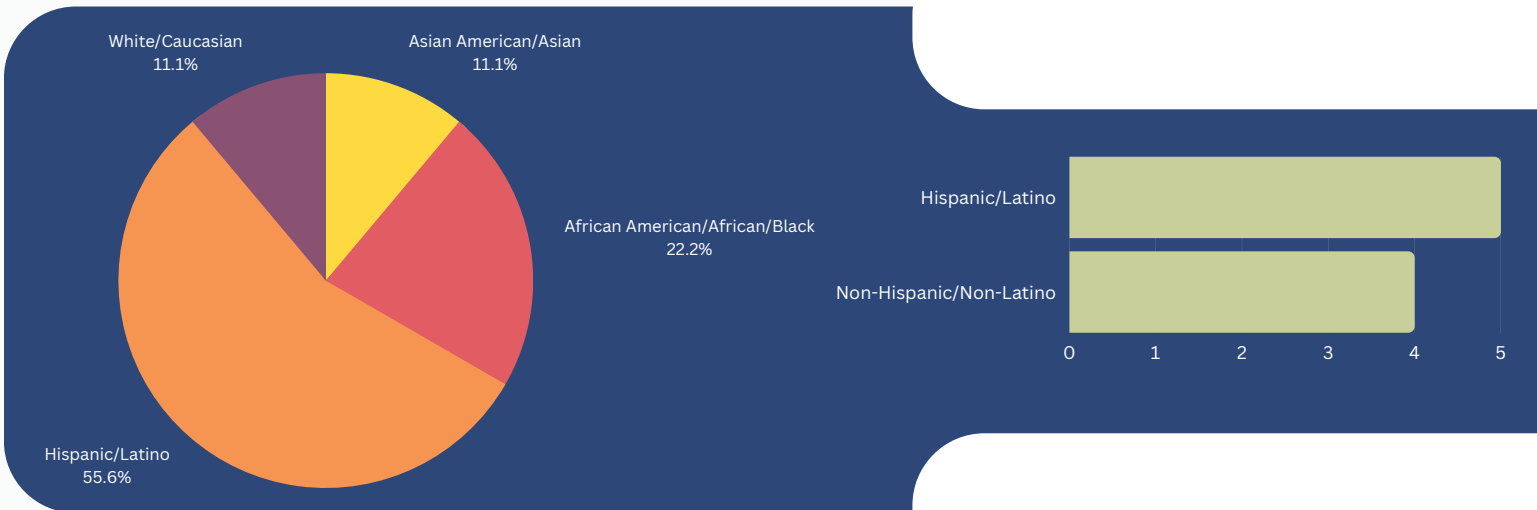


Community Health Workers Scholars

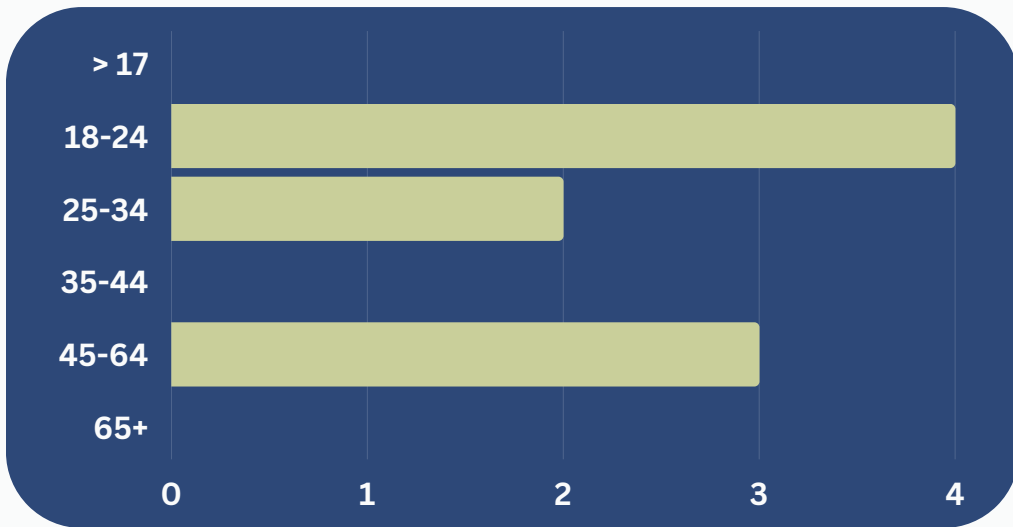




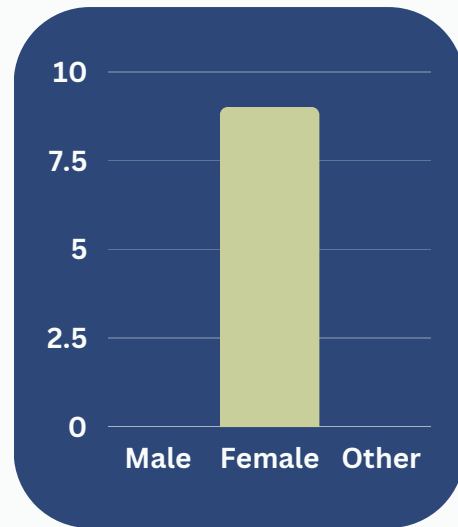
DIVERSITY OF ONE YEAR CHW SCHOLARS



AGE RANGE OF ONE YEAR CHW SCHOLARS



GENDER OF ONE YEAR CHW SCHOLARS



COMPLETION NUMBER OF ALL SCHOLARS (California vs. Inland Empire)

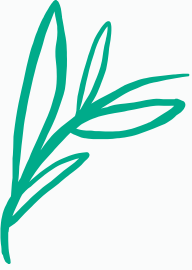
	# of All Other Completed Students in CA (excluding IE)	# of Completed IE AHEC Students	% of CA Total Belonging to IE
One-Year CHW Students	71	9	~13%



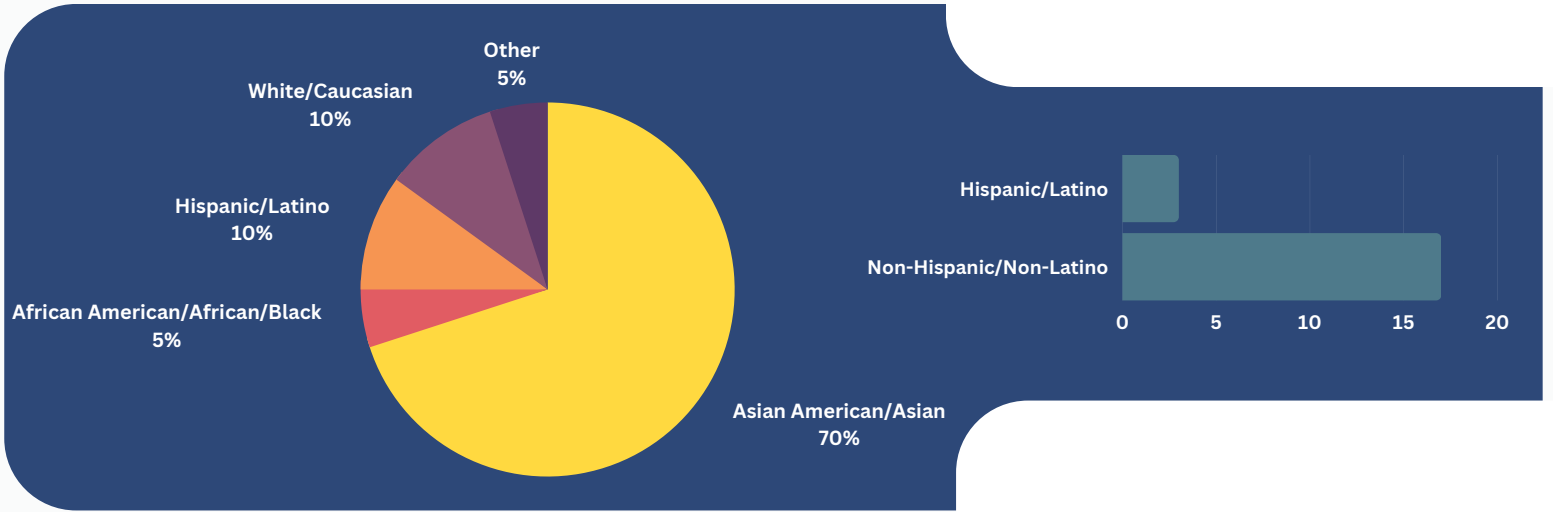


1st Year Scholars

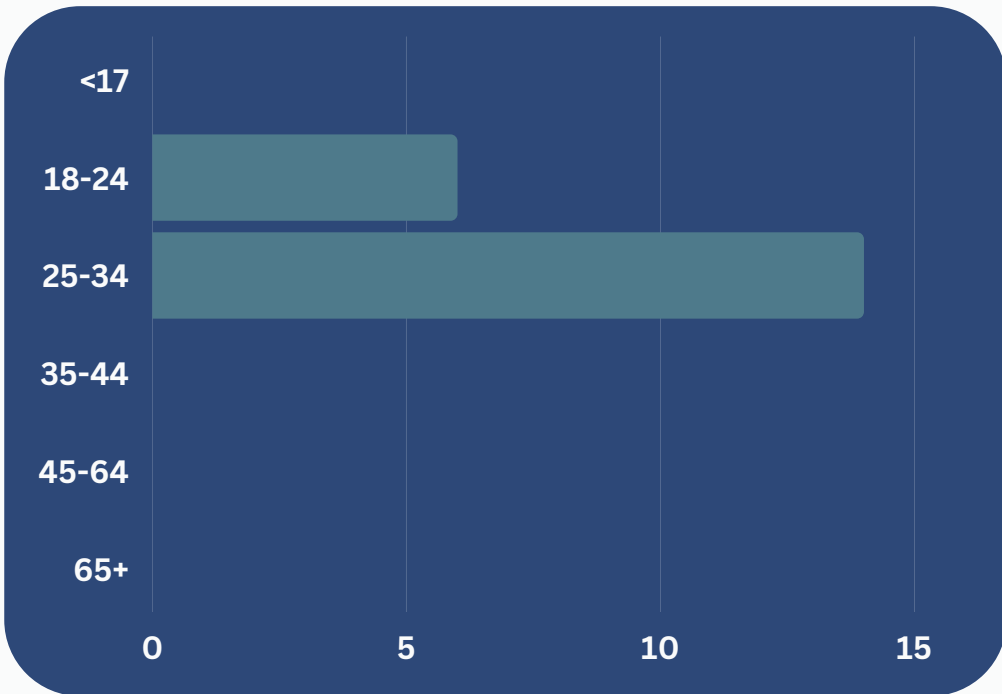




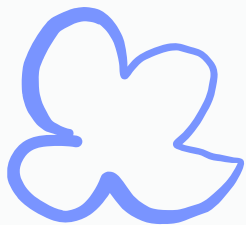
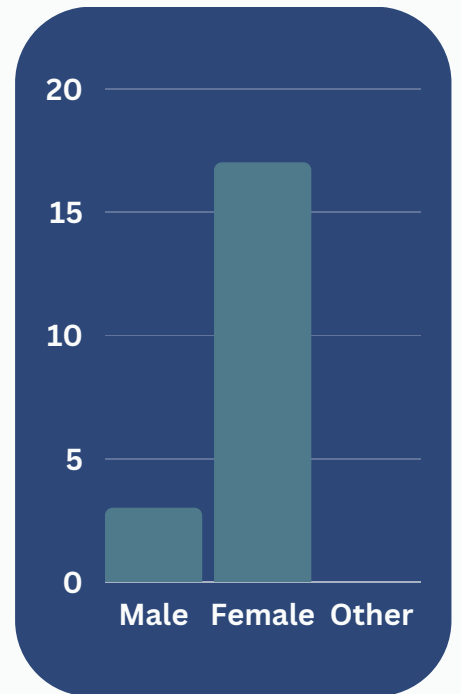
DIVERSITY OF YEAR 1 SCHOLARS



AGE RANGE OF YEAR 1 SCHOLARS



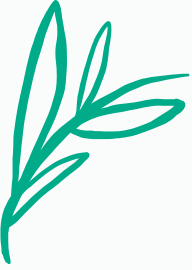
GENDER OF YEAR 1 SCHOLARS



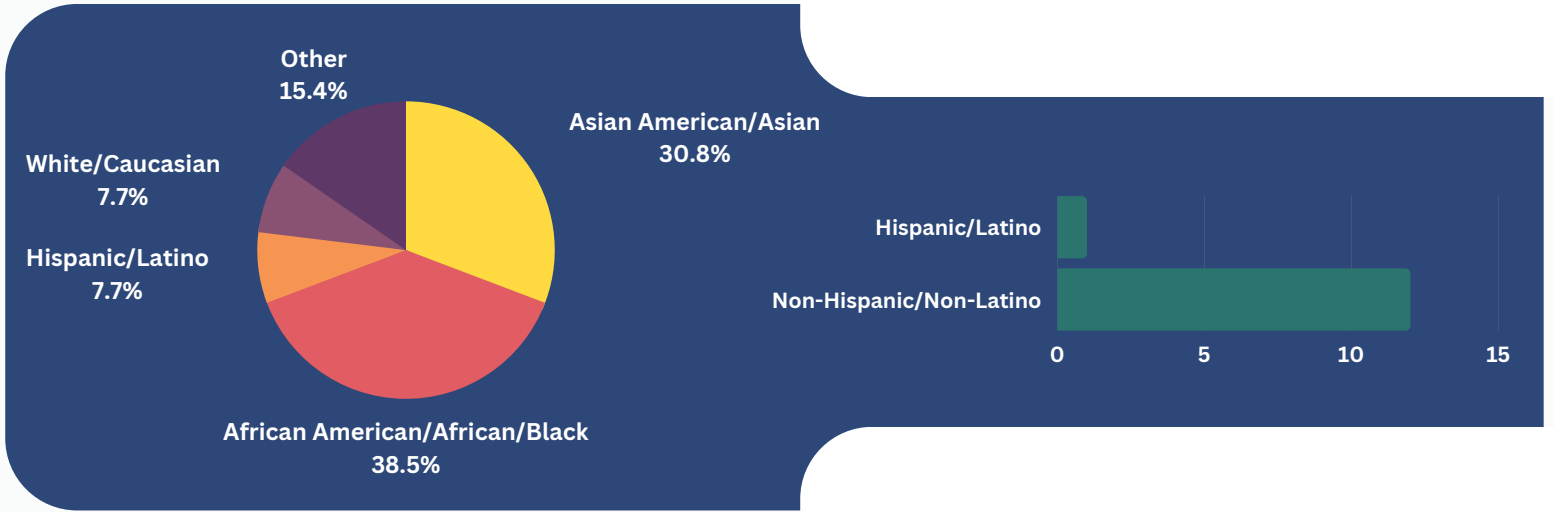


2nd Year Scholars

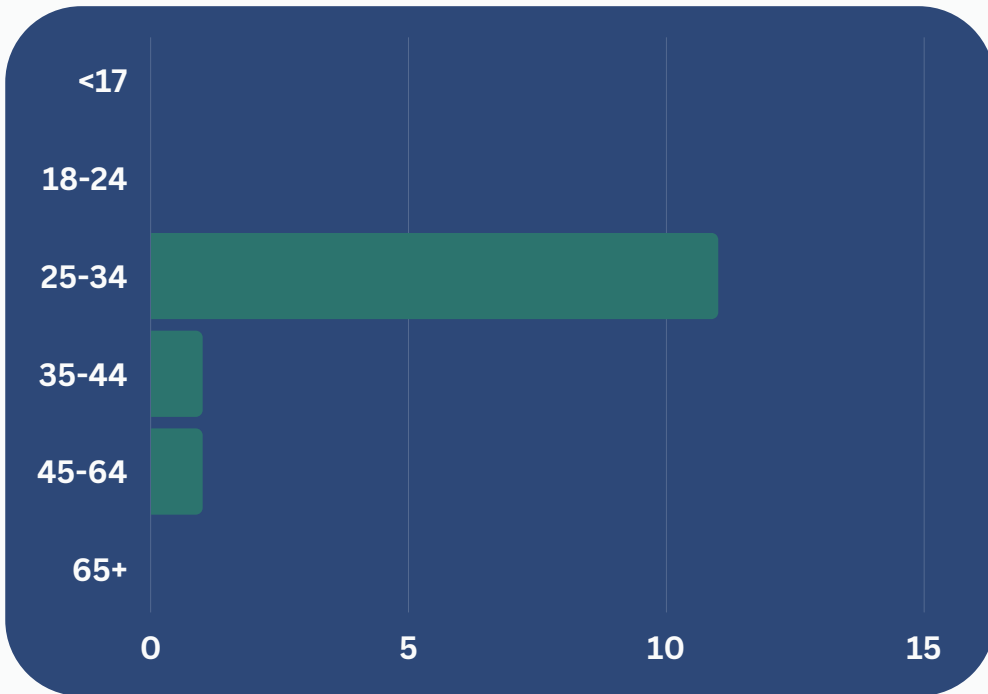




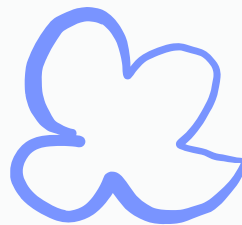
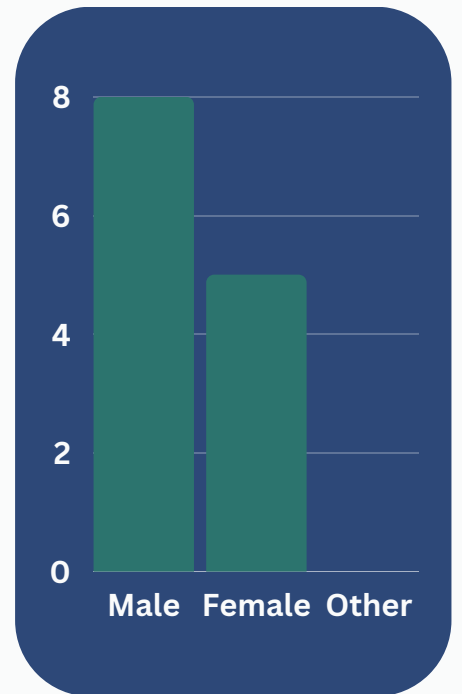
DIVERSITY OF YEAR 2 SCHOLARS



AGE RANGE OF YEAR 2 SCHOLARS



GENDER OF YEAR 2 SCHOLARS





HEALTH PROFESSIONS OF YEAR 1 STUDENTS

HEALTH PROFESSIONS OF YEAR 2 STUDENTS

Dental	1
Medical	19
Nursing	0
Psychology	0
Public Health	1

Dental	4
Medical	6
Nursing	2
Psychology	1
Public Health	0

In the 2022-2023, the Inland Empire AHEC office recruited its largest cohort thus far. The special partnerships established with UC Riverside School of Medicine and California University of Science and Medicine continued to help with this by providing a steady flow of students. Both of these universities created special programs that embedded the AHEC curriculum and allowed students to get school credit for their participation in the scholars program, thus encouraging more students to apply for the program. The Inland Empire thrived and achieved a 100% completion rate for another consecutive year with the students that stayed enrolled in the program. This year there was an increase in student enrollment due to the new developed partnership with El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center.



COMPLETION RATE OF YEAR 1 STUDENTS

Completed	21
Withdrawn	16

COMPLETION RATE OF YEAR 2 STUDENTS

Completed	13
Withdrawn	0

COMPLETION NUMBER OF ALL SCHOLARS (California vs. Inland Empire)

	<i># of All Other Completed Students in CA (excluding IE)</i>	<i># of Completed IE AHEC Students</i>	<i>% of CA Total Belonging to IE</i>
Year 1 Students	86	21	~24%
Year 2 Students	27	13	~48%

Student Satisfaction & Confidence

After students complete the scholars program, they are required to fill out a post survey tracked by the California AHEC office that measures their satisfaction with the program and confidence with their abilities. Below is a chart that summarizes the findings from the collected surveys.

1 = Not at all confident to 5 = Completely Confident
How confident were/are you in your ability to...

Question	Average Answer BEFORE	Average Answer AFTER
1. Describe the responsibilities of other professionals (health care & others) on the health team?	4	5
2. Demonstrate how the skills and knowledge of inter-professional team members complement and overlap?	3	4
3. Describe how social determinants affect the health of a community or a population (e.g. equity, income, education, environment, etc.)?	4	5
4. Use common public health methods that prevent or address health issues in vulnerable populations?	3	5
5. Reflect on and describe your perceptions/biases of individuals who are from different professional or cultural backgrounds?	3	5
6. Respond appropriately to the needs of others based on a sensitivity to, and respect or, their cultural/ethnic backgrounds or socioeconomic status?	4	5
7. Describe how a patients behavioral/mental health needs may affect their care?	3	5
8. Describe the importance of integrating behavioral health and primary care?	3	5
9. Advocate for the health care needs of a community based on current policy trends (system, local, state, or national level)?	3	4
10. Demonstrate leadership skills (e.g., effectively communicate, inspire others, resolve conflict, accept feedback, etc.)?	3	5
11. Work collaboratively with patients, communities, or other health professionals?	3	5
12. Utilize the knowledge and skills gained from the AHEC Scholars Program to provide health care in a rural, medically underserved, or vulnerable population?	3	5



Student Satisfaction & Confidence



Students responded to this next question freely:

"How did the Scholars Program influence your clinical practice?"

- "The AHEC Scholars program profoundly influenced my clinical practice by providing comprehensive interdisciplinary training, fostering collaboration among healthcare professionals, and equipping me with invaluable skills to deliver patient-centered care."
- "It helped give me perspectives that I would have not received elsewhere."
- "In many ways, to have more communication with my team, the provider, and Patients. Understand patients' needs, culture, and diversity. Understand the patients and be a better listener and advocate, bridge and resources for their healthcare problems."
- "The Scholars Program influenced my clinical practice in providing resources and knowledge beyond what is provided in my clinical training and courses. As a psychology doctoral student, it was great to see the inclusion of providing culturally competent care for patients. It is so important and deserves more attention from all healthcare providers."
- "The scholars program boost my communication skills, level of interactions and collaborations with other care professionals, robust ways of care planning and inclusion of the patients and families, as well as a deep knowledge of the community-based public health issues and care delivery."
- "As a community health worker, being able to learn more about the medicinal side of providing care has strengthened my understanding of public health and advocacy when it comes to being the voice of resources and support through services. I am better able to coordinate well-rounded care that is patient-centered."
- "Improved my understanding of patient-centered care and the overlap between different services as well as how these services can collaborate to better serve the individual and address social determinants of health."
- "I am more aware of the social situations that surround my patients and I know to keep this in mind when I am treating them."
- "Taught me how to incorporate new perspectives and work with integrated teams to reach a common goal of helping patients/communities."
- "My overall knowledge and competence grew immensely throughout my education with AHEC. The modules were applicable and useful."



Scholar Testimonials



"As a Community Health Worker and an aspiring physician, I have gained knowledge about coordination between healthcare teams, holistic patient-centered care, and how social determinants of health impact the health outcomes of those medically underserved – all of which are applicable in a clinical setting."

- **Osatohannwen "Princess" Egiebor, Community Health Worker from El Sol**

"Based on my experiences, participating in the community health training program as a dental school student has had a profound impact on my clinical practice. The experience exposed me to the diverse needs and challenges faced by underserved communities, highlighting the crucial role oral health plays in overall well-being. Engaging with individuals from different backgrounds, some lacking access to basic dental care, has emphasized the importance of empathy and cultural sensitivity in providing effective treatment. Moreover, the program fostered a deeper understanding of preventive dentistry and the significance of oral health education in promoting long-term wellness. Witnessing the positive outcomes of community-based interventions has inspired me to incorporate a more comprehensive approach to patient care, where I prioritize outreach, education, and collaboration with other healthcare professionals."

- **Jiawei Liu, Western University Dental Student**



"AHEC was a great opportunity to meet other future leaders in my community. It was also a great opportunity to reflect on the role I can all play as future physician and gain the skills needed to be a community leader interested in the equitable distribution of healthcare services."

- **Jeffery Ezennia, UCR School of Medicine Student**



"As a community health worker, being able to learn more about the medicinal side of providing care has strengthened my understanding of public health and advocacy when it comes to being the voice of resources and support through services. I am better able to coordinate well-rounded care that is patient-centered."

- **Astin Medina Carranza, Community Health Worker from El Sol**



"The Scholars Program has allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of public health needs in vulnerable and underserved populations. In addition, the training has made me more aware of how to improve access to quality health care to those in need and what I can do as a future provider. Through various modules I got to learn different ideas such as team-based care, social determinants of health, and even ways to reach quality improvements. The Scholars Program has influenced my clinical practice by allowing me to become a stronger clinician and be more aware of my skills and limitations to serve others."

- **William "Billy" Nguyen, Western University Dental Student**

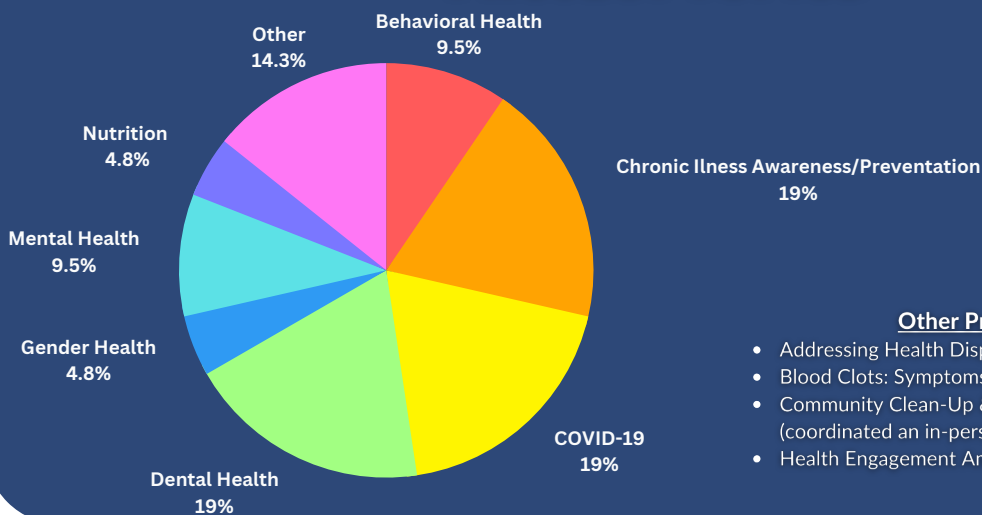


Scholar Project Highlights

During this program, the majority of students submitted a group project. We had a few that chose to work individually. Topics included mental health, chronic illnesses, transgender care, oral health, food insecurity, and COVID-19 among other topics. Below are three scholar projects that stood out to our team.

Navya Chauhan and Alia Mohamed are UCR medical students that focused their project on gender-inclusive health education on pelvic health. Their core objective was to educate the community about the human papillomavirus (HPV) prevention and promotion of Pap tests. They chose to create a health education resource after learning that there is a health disparity that transgender and nonbinary patients face. Their resource aims to be gender inclusive and uses an effective level of health literacy based on the community served. They distributed the resource at the office of their preceptors so that the material could be shared with patients. Leo Taylor, a Western University dental student, created a project that focused on transgender care at dental practices. He designed a brochure that is gender inclusive, but also informative about how dental health professionals can address the needs of their transgender youth patients. Additionally, his brochure highlights the health equity gaps faced by this group. This brochure will be distributed at Western University and its partner clinics. Rahul Tuli, a UCR medical student worked with the San Bernardino Free Clinic and was active student in their project that aimed to outline a model for student-run free clinic to promote nutritious eating in underserved communities. They partnered with Overflow Farms, UCR R'Garden, and Feeding America Riverside to provide nutritious food to patients at their clinics. From January to December 2022, it was recorded that a total of 234 produce bags provided by Overflow Farms and R'Garden along with 126 boxes from Feeding America were distributed to 544 patients. This project collaboration can serve as encouragement for other student-run health organizations to build partnerships that can positively impact food insecurity in the Inland Empire.

DIVERSITY OF SCHOLARS' COMMUNITY PROJECT TOPICS



Other Project Topics:

- Addressing Health Disparities within the Community
- Blood Clots: Symptoms, Identification, and Treatment
- Community Clean-Up & Shade Tree Giveaway (coordinated an in-person event)
- Health Engagement Among the Youth

Scholar Accomplishments

During this past year, we had two achievements we want to make note of. This was the first year, the CA AHEC office hosted a statewide scholar symposium. The scholar symposium was open for attendance to the community, other scholars, and AHEC centers. Applications for presenters were submitted and one of our community health workers (CHW), Cindy Nguyen, was selected. She is a one-year scholar who attended El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center's CHW program. She presented her project that focused on blood clots prevention. She chose this as her topic since the Inland Empire has a high rate of diabetes and one of the major causes of death are blood clot complications. She presented blood clot education to members of the Inland Empire community to bring awareness and shared information that they could take with them. Her symposium presentation focused on this project and her survey findings.

Secondly, three Western University dental students (Barbara Clyburn, Julianne Soria, and Leo Taylor), were awarded a National Health Services Corps (NHSC) scholarship. Julianne is a first-year scholar and Leo and Barbara are second-year scholars. They are active in school activities and help their community when they can. NHSC scholarships are awarded to students who pursue primary care health professions and must commit to two years of full-time service at NHSC-approved site in a health professional shortage area. This scholarship helps to pay for up to four years of educational expenses and other additional costs such as tuition, eligible fees, and living expenses.

We are proud of these scholars and know they will be trailblazers in their fields!



Cindy Nguyen



Barbara Clyburn



Julianne Soria



Leo Taylor



"I learned so much about community health through the Scholars Program and have since decided to pursue a career in community health as a dentist."

-Leo Taylor

CHAISR Center Accomplishments



During this past year, the Inland Empire AHEC has grown astronomically. We hired Stacey Huynh, a CSUSB intern, to come on board as an assistant program coordinator. One of her assignments was to work closely with the community health workers, which essentially proved to be fruitful as they needed us to provide more guidance. One of our greatest accomplishments this year was establishing a partnership with El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center, which granted us the opportunity to work with community health workers and officially have one-year scholars. As a center, we strongly focused on working with two year scholars and this new addition helped us branch out. We look forward to working with more community health workers and seeking other local partnerships that will allow us to work with one year scholars. Additionally, Athena Montiel, the center director, attended her first ever National AHEC Organization Conference that took place in Salt Lake City, Utah. So much was learned and new ideas are in the works, we can't wait to see more growth! This program year, Athena joined CSUSB's public health advisory board and helped with their Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accreditation. She also takes part in CA AHEC's curriculum committee and DEI committee. Lastly, California had 236 students that completed the program year. 43 of these students belonged to our center. A wonderful achievement that could have not been done without the work of our AHEC team. We look forward to the next year!

Congratulations to the Completed Scholars!



Gabrielle Celaya



Navya Chauhan



Barbara Clyburn



Daniel Eke



**Osatohanmwon
"Princess" Egiebor**



Jefferey Ezennia



Roberto Flores



Estrella Garcia



**Yuliana Guillen
Valenzuela**



**Laura Hernandez
Flores**



Jiawei Liu



Elizabeth McSwain

Congratulations to the Completed Scholars!



Astin Medina Carranza



Alia Mohamed



Cindy Nguyen



William "Billy" Nguyen



Genevieve Otuonye



Brian Sangalang



Leo Taylor



Jacqueline Tovar Sandoval

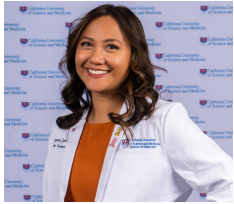


Rahul Tuli



Larysa Turchynovych

Get To Know Our Newest Scholars



Cheyenne Canizares

- **Fun fact:** I briefly made a podcast with one of my best friends from college.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to allow me to understand the health inequities that exist in the IE and to learn how I can best help the community I was born and raised in.



Andreana Chen

- **Fun fact:** I love orcas!
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to become better equipped to address the unique health inequities & obstacles patients of underserved populations face.



Kimberly De Guzman

- **Fun fact:** My older sister named me after the pink power ranger from the television show.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to give back to learn alongside and engage with the communities that I hope to serve as a physician in the future.



Abigail Gopez

- **Fun fact:** I almost made it on Jeopardy, and in the future I would like to try again and make it.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to eventually practice medicine for the underserved in the Coachella Valley, where I grew up.



Nicole Jacobs

- **Fun fact:** I had a horse while growing up.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to give back to learn more about how to address and reduce health disparities within the Inland Empire.



Adelle Kanan

- **Fun fact:** I've lived in 5 different cities (and 3 different states)!
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to gain more tools to further health equity in our communities.



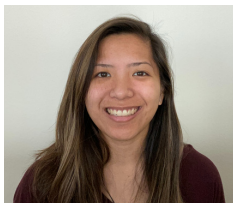
William Liao

- **Fun fact:** I am a coin-collecting hobbyist. I have been doing so since I was ten.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to become a more versatile and resourceful physician who can better address my patients' needs beyond the clinic setting.



Aparna Manoj

- **Fun fact:** love dancing and started training when I was 5 years old.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to work together with my future patients to address local health inequities and improve overall health outcomes.



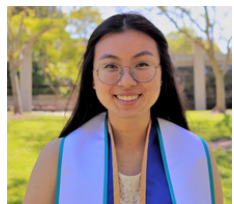
Elizabeth Marie Go

- **Fun fact:** I love snowboarding
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to partner with community leaders to improve health outcomes in the Inland Empire.



Negar Moghaddasijahromi

- **Fun fact:** I have an allergy to shrimp but enjoy cooking them.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to advocate for underserved areas who do not have proper access to dental care.



Namphuong Nguyen

- **Fun fact:** I know how to do calligraphy!
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars because I wanted to be more involved in the area I grew up in and give back through my learned knowledge and experiences.



Sabrina Nguyen

- **Fun fact:** I have 3 dogs and they're all crazy!
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars because I want my community to feel at home when they are accessing healthcare.

Get To Know Our Newest Scholars



Diana Ortiz

- **Fun fact:** I really like "The Office" TV show. I watch it at least once per year.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to continue growing and learning how to best serve the medically underserved, and I believe this program will help me accomplish this goal.



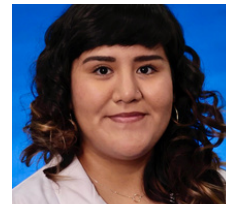
Destiny Prudhomme

- **Fun fact:** I spent a semester in Australia helping with spider research!
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars as part of an effort to ensure I will become a well-rounded, community-minded primary physician with an ability to provide a sense of cultural safety to future patients.



Denzil Robinson

- **Fun fact:** I grew up in Canada.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars because from my past work experiences I noticed the health inequalities that can exist in the IE and I would like to be able to address them.



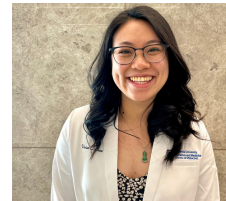
Joslyn Santana

- **Fun fact:** I have 2 mixed poodle dogs, unofficial chef skills, and love reading Bell Hooks' books.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to give back to the community that raised me, and become more involved with health care in the local region.



Julianne Soria

- **Fun fact:** My middle name is just the letter "T" by accident.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars because it directly aligns with my goals of improving individual and community health in underserved communities - I would like to accomplish that through oral health education, instruction, and public awareness.



Vivian Tieu

- **Fun fact:** I enjoy hiking, crocheting, and exploring new coffee shops!
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to further educate myself on the health inequities that plague our country, work to find tangible solutions for the underserved, and learn from the communities I will serve one day.



Johny Tran

- **Fun fact:** I have traveled to over 20 countries.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars to work directly with the underserved, allowing me to provide healthcare for communities that need it the most.



Christina Trinh

- **Fun fact:** I learned how to sign the American alphabet in second grade and I've never forgotten how to since then.
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars because having grown up seeing how medically underprivileged communities suffer from lack of adequate health care drives my desire to learn how to best respond to their health needs.



Karina Vega

- **Fun fact:** I enjoy desserts and hiking (but not at the same time).
- I joined IE AHEC Scholars because I'm interested in primary care, and I hope that being a part of this program will help me understand how I can better serve my future patients in the community.



Community Health Association
Inland Southern Region



We want to thank our scholars for all of their hard work and being great leaders within the Inland Empire. We would also like to thank our partners for their collaboration and sharing our vision. Lastly, but not least, we would like to thank the CA AHEC office for their continuous efforts to support our center and ensure our community's needs are met.

BRAVO!