

**2019 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS**

**HB 1402**

# 2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

HB1402  
1/31/2019  
31861

- ☐ Subcommittee  
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Risa Bergquist
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### Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

**A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for health care workforce needs in rural areas of the state.**

### Minutes:

Attachments 1-5
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**Chairman Delzer:** Call meeting to order, we will start with HB 1402

**2:40-9:00 Denise Address, Director, Western Area Health Education Center: (Attachment 1)**

**Chairman Delzer:** How long have you been active in North Dakota?

**Ms. Address:** North Dakota AHEC started in 2008, it started in Mayville the western AHEC started in about 2009 because of recruitment of staff.

**Chairman Delzer:** Where you receiving any money from congress?

**Ms. Address:** We didn't get any money from the state until 2013 we were on federal funds from 2008-2013. We have federal funds for another 5 years. Each center right now is getting 77 thousand 250 dollars. Sometimes that varies depending on the competitive status of the AHEC on the federal program and what states are getting them. There is center in Mayville and in Hettinger, we separate our regions with the river.

**Chairman Delzer:** What's the match? And where else do you match money other than from the state?

**Ms. Address:** 1 to 1 from the state, we have some programs that the center of rural health because they are a program office can match funds, I've gotten private funds from Bremer in the past, we also receive money from Sanford Health and then we get some other funds through the feds.

**11:50 Chairman Delzer:** So how much are you getting from other sources?

**Ms. Address:** We get 12 thousand a year from Sanford, right now we have an opioid funding from the federal government that is around 50 thousand and then that 77,250 to our regional centers and then the department of Commerce last year was 300 so we broke that up between the centers. The state funds only go to the regional centers; it does not go the program office in Grand Forks. That is a onetime funding

**Chairman Delzer:** The 50 thousand from the opioid, can that be used for match on the federal side?

**Ms. Address:** Yes, and that is a onetime funding and the funds have to be used by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Chairman Delzer:** How much have you already used?

**Ms. Address:** We just started that program and it will stop on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Representative Schmidt:** Looking at the bill, organization assisting in the recruitment distribution and supply, what are your performance measures for the money?

**Ms. Address:** What we have set with the department of Commerce on the state funds is that we do a chart for them and report numbers. We report how many visits we have had with health care organizations, how many host students we have, how many students we helped with clinical rotations and now with some of the rural nursing programs, it's hard to rate that but we are working on how quickly and how many students those programs are getting out.

**Representative Schmidt:** Do you have a number or goal of nurses to go to rural North Dakota?

**Ms. Address:** 278 thousand dollars to get a nursing program up and running so a breakeven of about 3.4 students but we are hoping for 6 to 8 students. That doesn't sound like that many but 6 nurses in a rural area is really important. They recruit those students.

**Chairman Delzer:** Has the mission changed? I thought you were going out and trying to get young students interested in nursing, now it seems like you are looking at college age.

**Ms. Address:** We focus from Kindergarten through college. We are really looking at junior high and high school and that's with our HOSA program. Back in 2013 we had a hundred or so students and now we are peaking at 658, we are now looking at a partnership with CTE to utilize our experience with health care and their experience with the state run high school programs.

**Chairman Delzer:** Have you always tracked those numbers?

**Ms. Address:** Yes, we have and that information is in with the stuff I handed out.

**18:20 Representative Meier:** Besides your directors how many other paid staff do you have?

**Ms. Address:** We have two directors, one in each center and then there is one more paid staff in my office.

**Representative Kempenich:** Any other questions for Denise? How much cooperation is there between the two centers?

**Ms. Address:** Because we have such small staff we have to work together or we'd get nothing done.

**22:05-24:15 Kailey Weigel, Senior at Legacy High School: (see attachment 2)**

**Representative Holman:** What got you into the program?

**Ms. Weigel:** Sophomore year I joined a medical related careers class and my teacher was the advisor for HOSA and she suggested me to join.

**Representative Holman:** Future plans?

**Ms. Weigel:** I'm a senior so next year I will be attending UND and want to pursue a major in nursing and become a nurse practitioner or I will go the premed route, either way I will work in orthopedics.

**Representative Kempenich:** Any other questions by the committee?

**25:50 Mellissa Hauer, North Dakota Hospital Association:** We are in support of HB 1402 and I would like to introduce Matt Shahan, CEO of West River Health Services.

**26:10-30:00 Matt Shahan: (see attachment 3)**

**Representative J. Nelson:** Do you do an analysis of how many of those nurses are home grown?

**Mr. Shahan:** I can tell you that in our nursing staff and in the acute care setting I believe all but 2 were trained at a North Dakota facility, and any of them that are under the age of 30 were trained in North Dakota schools are telling us that they were involved in HOSA. Right now we are seeing the benefits from our physicians.

**Representative J. Nelson:** There's a lot of pieces that need to fill these needs in rural areas.

**36:00-41:00 Cherie Roshau, on behalf of the Killdeer Public School HOSA (see attachment 4)**

**Representative Kempenich:** Any question?



**41:25-42:15 Shelly Peterson, North Dakota Long Term Care Association:** I just wanted to speak up so you know we are on board supporting this program and this bill before you. As you know work force is the number 1 issue in long term care. 82% of our nursing home rely on contract nursing because we don't sufficient staff. We have a lot of RNs and LPNs and our largest pool of people that we contract with are CNAs. This is a great program.

**Representative Kempenich:** Any further question? Any opposition? Any Neutral?

**Attachment 5** are all letters of support to the bill, they were passed out but not addressed in the meeting.

# 2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

HB 1402  
2/6/2019  
32271

- ☐ Subcommittee  
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Risa Bergquist

### Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

**A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for health care workforce needs in rural areas of the state.**

Minutes:

**Chairman Delzer:** HB 1402 is AHEC of 300 thousand, this would go the department of commerce, it's for matching funds, it a 1 to 1 match. It's for the origination and recruitment distribution and supply and enhancing the quality and efficiency to provide health services in the rural areas of the state. After visiting the Representative Kempenich, it sounds like they would be happy with 200 thousand. What are your wishes?

**Representative Monson:** I would move that we amend this to 200 thousand

**Representative Sanford:** Second

**Chairman Delzer:** Discussion on the motion to amend?

**Voice vote; All in Favor? Motion Carries**

**Representative Monson:** I would make the motion for a Do Pass as Amended

**Representative Holman:** Second

**Chairman Delzer:** Do we have any further discussion? If not, we will take a roll call vote.

**A Roll Call vote was taken. Yea: 17 Nay: 2 Absent: 2**

**Representative Holman will carry the bill.**

DA 2/7/19

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1402

Page 1, line 5, replace "\$300,000" with "\$200,000"

Renumber accordingly

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

This amendment decreases an appropriation from the general fund to the Department of Commerce for rural health care worker matching funds by \$100,000, from \$300,000 to \$200,000.

Date: 2/6/2019  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1402**

House Appropriations Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 200 Thousand

Recommendation: ☒ Adopt Amendment  
☐ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation  
☐ As Amended ☐ Rerefer to Appropriations  
☐ Place on Consent Calendar  
Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Representative Monson Seconded By Representative Sanford

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Delzer					
Representative Kempenich					
Representative Anderson			Representative Schobinger		
Representative Beadle			Representative Vigesaa		
Representative Bellew					
Representative Brandenburg					
Representative Howe			Representative Boe		
Representative Kreidt			Representative Holman		
Representative Martinson			Representative Mock		
Representative Meier					
Representative Monson					
Representative Nathe					
Representative J. Nelson					
Representative Sanford					
Representative Schatz					
Representative Schmidt					

Total (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

**Voice Vote, Motion Carries**

Date: 2/6/2019  
Roll Call Vote #: 2

**2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1402**

House Appropriations Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation: ☐ Adopt Amendment  
☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation  
☒ As Amended ☐ Rerefer to Appropriations  
☐ Place on Consent Calendar  
Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Representative Monson Seconded By Representative Holman

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Delzer		X			
Representative Kempenich	A				
Representative Anderson	X		Representative Schobinger		X
Representative Beadle	X		Representative Vigessaa	X	
Representative Bellew	X				
Representative Brandenburg	A				
Representative Howe	X		Representative Boe	X	
Representative Kreidt	X		Representative Holman	X	
Representative Martinson	X		Representative Mock	X	
Representative Meier	X				
Representative Monson	X				
Representative Nathe	X				
Representative J. Nelson	X				
Representative Sanford	X				
Representative Schatz	X				
Representative Schmidt	X				

Total (Yes) 17 No 2

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Representative Holman

**Motion Carries**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1402: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Delzer, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (17 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1402 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 5, replace "\$300,000" with "\$200,000"

Renumber accordingly

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

This amendment decreases an appropriation from the general fund to the Department of Commerce for rural health care worker matching funds by \$100,000, from \$300,000 to \$200,000.

**2019 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS**

**HB 1402**

# 2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations Committee Harvest Room, State Capitol

HB 1402  
3/5/2019  
Job # 33171

☐ Subcommittee  
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk: Rose Laning / Marne Johnson
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### Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for health care workforce needs in rural areas of the state.

### Minutes:

Testimony 1 - 25
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Legislative Council: Alex Cronquist  
OMB: Becky Deichert

**Chairman Holmberg:** Called the committee to order on HB 1402. Roll call was taken. Senators Poolman, Hogue, and Robinson were absent.

### **(2:10) Denise Andress, Director, Western ND Area Health Education Center (AHEC), Hettinger, ND**

North Dakota Area Health Education Center testimony on HB 1402 - **Attached # 1**. Summarized the history of AHEC and highlighted three areas they are focusing on, high school programs, establishing new rural clinical rotations, and new rural nursing programs. Supplied additionally is information on AHEC and HOSA – Future Healthcare Professionals.

### **(10:45) Representative Keith Kempenich, District 39, Bill Sponsor.**

This is aimed at rural health care and getting younger people involved in the medical care. I am one of the board members of the Western AHEC and I believe it has helped foster the goals we set down. I urge support of this bill.

**(11:45) Senator Dever:** I was curious if there was some rationale purpose for the reduction made in the House?

**Representative Kempenich:** No. We began the process early on with \$200,000 and last biennium went to \$300,000 when it was demonstrated they could use more. It got reduced to what we have here. That's the only rationale, it was to reduce.

**Senator Krebsbach:** I noticed that this is coming through the Dept. of Commerce. Have they been approached to include it in their budget?



**Representative Kempenich.** We have looked at that. In the past we've usually had a standalone bill. We like to at least approach it that way. There's a Senate bill in the House right now and will probably get shoved into the budget. It's how the different chambers work.

**(13:50) Cherie Roshau, HOSA Advisor, Killdeer**

Testimony in support of HB 1402 - **Attached # 2.** Highlighted the role HOSA has played in her community.

**(18:54) Senator Krebsbach:** What does HOSA stand for?

**Cherie Roshau:** It's an acronym that's no longer used; Health Occupations Students of America; usually called HOSA-Future Healthcare Professionals.

**(19:32) Kailey Weigel, Legacy High School Student, Bismarck**

Testimony in support of HB 1402 - **Attached # 3.**

Firsthand testimony of how HOSA is shaping her career choices; and mentioned the organizations her chapter is networking with to raise money and awareness for healthcare.

**(21:55) Gracie Doe, Killdeer Public School, 8<sup>th</sup> grader**

Testimony in support of HB 1402 - **Attached # 4**

Firsthand testimony of HOSA experience as a middle school student.

**(23:47) Senator Mathern:** A major problem for keeping healthcare providers in rural area is when young folks go to big city and don't want to go back. If you became a healthcare professional, what would motivate you to go back to western North Dakota to practice your healthcare profession?

**Gracie Doe:** I'd come back here because it's my home state. I don't really know.

**Senator Mathern:** It's a challenge and something to think about.

**(25:26) Ainsley Hayden, Killdeer Public School, 8<sup>th</sup> grader**

Testimony in support of HB 1402- **Attached # 5.**

Firsthand testimony of HOSA experience.

**(27:30) Brendon Gibson, ND HOSA President Elect**

Testimony in support of HB 1402 - **Attached # 6.**

Firsthand testimony of HOSA experience.

**(29:15) Senator Dever:** In another bill, we have placed a study of the delivery of healthcare services across the state. We recognize that there are challenges, particularly with Critical Access Hospitals, among other things. The study is for the purpose of pulling all that together and developing a vision for the future. Would you be interested in being part of that study?

**Brendon Gibson:** Most definitely. For HOSA students, healthcare is the main prospect of our organization. Helping is our main goal. Senator Mathern asked about the large areas versus the small area. I believe with the funding and the opportunities for the rural areas,

there's a possibility we can up our availability and go over the rural areas; at this time, we don't have those opportunities.

**(31:20) Melissa Hauer, General Counsel for ND Hospital Association (Lobbyist 122)**  
Introduced Matt Shahan.

**(31:50) Matt Shahan, CEO, West River Health Services, Hettinger**

Testimony in support of HB1402 - **Attached # 7.**

**(36:34)** Wanted to point out the direct correlation of AHEC to physicians in the state, these young students get involved in healthcare at an early age, it's the foundation of later getting involved in pre-med, medical school, the RUM program, which trains medical students in a rural area, and potentially even the rural training track, which is where we take residency students and train them in a rural area. Hettinger is fortunate, we train 2-3 residents a year in a rural setting, so that hopefully they will buy in and become a rural physician and stay here in North Dakota. This program has a direct correlation on our ability to provide proper healthcare to the aging population of North Dakota.

**Senator Robinson:** How many physicians and PAs do you have at Hettinger?

**Matt Shahan:** Right now we have 14 physicians and 14 MPs and Pas, we are recruiting 4 more positions. We've been recruiting a general surgeon for over 10 years.

**Chairman Holmberg** closed the hearing on HB 1402.

Letters of testimony also submitted in favor of HB 1402:

**Bobbie Johnson, DHS Health Science Instructor, Dickinson, ND - Attached # 8.**

**Sidney Seamands, Legacy High School HOSA President, Bismarck, ND - Attached # 9.**

**Trina Schilling, RN/BSN, MGMT, MBA, DNPP-S, Bismarck, ND – Attached # 10.**

**Michael Curtis, Chief Administrative Officer, McKenzie County Healthcare Systems, Inc. – Attached # 11.**

**Mara Jiran, CEO & Dr. Jackie Nord, DDS, Valley Community Health Centers, Grand Forks, ND – Attached # 12.**

**Wayde Sick, State Director, Dept. of Career and Technical Education, Bismarck, ND – Attached # 13.**

**Jac McTaggart, Senior Director, Sanford Health, Hillsboro/Mayville – Attached # 14.**

**Julie Traynor, MS, Renee Nelson, Director, Dakota Nursing Program, Devils Lake, ND – Attached # 15.**

**Heather Frey, Medical Related Careers Instructor, HOSA Advisor, Bismarck, ND – Attached #16.**

**Joelean Lowman, Medical Related Careers Instruction, LHS HOSA Advisor, Bismarck, ND – Attached # 17.**

**Theresa Will, Administrator, City-County Health District, Valley City, ND – Attached # 18.**

**Patricia Moulton, PhD, Executive Director, ND Center for Nursing, Fargo, ND 58104 – Attached 19.**

**Trina Taszarek-Schilling, RN/BSN/MMGT/MBA/DNP-S, Wishek, ND – Attached # 20.**

**Preeti Chemiti, ND HOSA State President – Attached # 21.**

**Bryan S. Delage, MD, FAAFP, City Director ROME & Family Medicine Clerkship, Grand Forks, ND – Attached # 22.**

**T. McKay, Addiction Counselor Trainee, Coal Country Community Health Center, Beulah, ND – Attached # 23.**

**Dr. Brian Van Horn, President, & Dr. Keith Stenehjem, VP for Academic Affairs, Mayville State University – Attached # 24.**

**Kamille S. Sherman, M.D. FAAFP, Co-Director, Dept. of Family & Community Medicine, University of North Dakota – Attached # 25.**

# 2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations Committee Harvest Room, State Capitol

HB 1402  
4/10/2019  
JOB # 34665

- ☐ Subcommittee  
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk: Alice Delzer
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### Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for health care workforce needs in rural areas of the state. (Do Not Pass.)

### Minutes:

No testimony submitted.
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**Chairman Holmberg:** called the Committee to order on HB 1402. All committee members were present. Adam Mathiak, Legislative Council and Becky Deichert, OMB were also present.

**Chairman Holmberg:** This bill has to do with the healthcare needs in rural areas, called the AHEC. (Area Health Educational Center) they are in the towns of Mayville and Hettinger. We did not have a lot of issues with the bill, except for the fact that they also go into the commerce bill and get their funding. So we thought let's just roll this into the commerce bill rather than have two separate lines to the funding mechanism.

**Senator Bekkedahl:** I move a do not pass on HB 1402. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Senator Robinson.

**Senator Robinson:** In addition to this funding that will be in the discretionary line in commerce, we've added several hundred thousand in nursing type programs, recruitment, training, incentives, so they will have sufficient dollars. We were assured that they will have sufficient dollars, more than before. So the DO NOT PASS is warranted. We were assured that this program will be taken care of.

**Chairman Holmberg:** Some of the amendments that we will see when we do commerce are from some work that Senator Hogue did on that particular area.

**Chairman Holmberg:** Would you call the roll on do not pass on 1402.

**A Roll Call vote was taken. Yea: 12, Nay: 2. Absent:0. Senator Robinson will carry the bill.**

The hearing was closed on HB 1402

Date: 4-10-19  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE**  
**ROLL CALL VOTES**  
**BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1402**

Senate Appropriations Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation: ☐ Adopt Amendment  
☐ Do Pass ☒ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation  
☐ As Amended ☐ Rerefer to Appropriations  
☐ Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Bekkedahl Seconded By Robinson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Holmberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Senator Mathern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Senator Krebsbach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Senator Grabinger		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Senator Wanzek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Senator Robinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator Erbele	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senator Poolman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senator Bekkedahl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senator G. Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senator Dever	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senator Sorvaag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senator Oehlke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senator Hogue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

Total (Yes) 12 No 2

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Robinson

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1402, as engrossed: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO NOT PASS** (12 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).  
Engrossed HB 1402 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

**2019 TESTIMONY**

**HB 1402**



**Stands for Jobs**

WESTERN NORTH DAKOTA AHEC

P.O. Box 615 109 South Main Hettinger, ND 58639 • 701.637.0177  
western.ndahec.org

HB1402

Attachment 1

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

**North Dakota Area Health Education Center Testimony on HB 1402**

**January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

**House Appropriations Committee**

**Room: Roughrider**

**Representative Monson, Chairman**

**Denise Andress – Director, Western Area Health Education Center**

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Denise Andress. I am a registered nurse and Director of the Western North Dakota Area Health Education Center.

The North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (ND AHEC), based on federal guidelines, must be housed in rural areas, where citizens served by the ND AHEC reside. The regional centers based in Mayville, ND and Hettinger, ND provide the rural opportunities at the grass roots level separated from the major urban areas of ND (Bismarck, Minot, Fargo, and Grand Forks). The ND AHEC has leveraged dollars from Federal, state and private funds for rural health care programs. The ND AHEC has three core focus areas: Kindergarten through college, rural clinical rotations for health profession students, and continuing education for health care professionals. Each of these core areas is vital for meeting the health care workforce needs of rural North Dakota.

I am excited to share the accomplishments since the last biennium, ND AHEC has:

- Reached over 19,500 participants and in every county in ND;
- Supported \$80,000 in health occupation activities for students;
- Assisted 102 students in rural clinical rotations;
- Contributed towards continuing education for health professionals; and
- Increased the number of HOSA-Future Health Professionals student led high school organization chapters from 10 to 16; and student membership grew from 191 to 658 with 21 advisors.

In the last three biennium our funding for the ND AHEC has been placed in the Department of Commerce, Workforce Division (NDDOC). In these years, we have met the contractual requirements of the program requests. Within the Workforce Division of the NDDOC, ND AHEC has been the healthcare component identifying the workforce needs in rural areas. The following is a list of the biennium with financial state contributions as follow to provide health care development, employment and recruitment:

- 2013-2015 Biennium: \$400,000
- 2015-2017 Biennium: \$200,000
- 2017-2019 Biennium: \$0 allocated from the legislature; \$300,000 provided from North Dakota Department of Commerce - Commissioners Discretionary funds

We are very proud of our accomplishments because of the funding we have received.



I will highlight three key programs:

HB1402

HOSA-Future Health Professionals is a student led high school organization. It is the ONLY health care specific student organization in the state. As I previously mentioned, we currently are working with 658 students and have begun tracking them as they participate in HOSA activities. Currently, in the 167 public high schools in the state, only 46 offer a health career course; with only 34 health career instructors; 24 of which are in our four large or urban communities and only 10 serving rural. HOSA-Future Health Professionals program fills the gap in rural communities by utilizing rural health care professionals to mentor students. Through this program we are working to grow the pipeline of students who become health care providers in the state of North Dakota.

Attachment 1  
Jan 31st 2019

ND AHEC also supports health profession students in existing rural experiences and also assists with arranging new rural clinical rotations. More importantly, we work directly with these students to engage them in local activities outside of work. Recruitment of health care providers is easier if they have had the opportunity to 'live local' and get to know the people and the community environment. We are also tracking these students in an effort to identify what health care related activities they participated in and where they put roots down. This program is becoming more critical to the healthcare organizations in our state. We have had several critical access hospitals requesting housing and travel support for healthcare students. Because of an increase of locum travel support, increase demands on preceptors and unavailability of housing for students, some students are having to pay to live in these areas. As you can imagine, the student may look unfavorable to this site as a place they would want to accept a position. With legislative support, the ND AHEC could expand this program to support students going to rural areas where the healthcare professionals are in critical need.

The nursing shortage that we are experiencing is much more crucial in our rural areas than in our urban counterparts. The ND AHEC is working with our rural healthcare facilities to consider implementing a rural nursing program. We work with the facilities and make connections with academic institutions to bring the rural nursing program to their community. We are making that link. Watford City and Hettinger are adding to the list of community based technical nursing programs to "grow their own". We are working with these facilities to plan ahead and solve this nursing shortage. We help them to identify community resource and local talent so our rural students can continue to work for their facility, make an income and be with their families. We are asking too much of them to travel miles from their home for an education when we can bring it right to their home town. Programs like the Dakota Nursing program can assist these communities in development of the rural nursing program. It is imperative that we are out there to work with these communities.

With all of our additional programs, we are continuously evaluating them to ensure effectiveness in achieving our mission. We are working with students in high school and college to identify what health care career path they are pursuing, and whether they would like to work in primary care or in a rural and/or an underserved community. To receive federal funds we are obligated to report specific program data; however, we have expanded our data collection efforts to better identify the reach of the AHEC and to best meet the needs of our rural communities.

A sincere thank you, for your support in the last legislative session. In order to continue the successful work of North Dakota AHEC, and on behalf of our rural communities, please support House Bill 1402.

If you have questions at this time, I would be more than happy to discuss them with you.

## Who is AHEC?

The North Dakota Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is comprised of a program office, located at the Center for Rural Health, at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Grand Forks with two regional centers. The Eastern Area Health Education Center is located in Mayville and serves 381,377 people in 28 counties. The Western Area Health Education Center is located in Hettinger and serves 291,214 people in 25 counties. Each regional center is strategically located to support the healthcare workforce development in rural and underserved communities.

## What Does AHEC Do?

### Connects Students to Health Careers

- Introduce students, kindergarten through college (K-16), to the variety in health careers through school visits, career fairs, R-COOL Scrubs Academy and Camps, and HOSA-Future Health Professionals events;
- Invest in our rural youth, through education and experiential learning opportunities, to inspire and grow our own future healthcare workforce.

### Connects Health Profession Students to Communities

- Provide community-based clinical experiences in rural settings for health profession students;
- Identify communities interested in hosting healthcare profession students for rural rotations; and
- Educate current and potential students regarding scholarships and loan repayment opportunities.

### Connects Communities to Better Health

- Facilitate educational opportunities for practicing health professionals in rural and underserved communities.

### Funding allows the AHEC to develop and expand programs that support rural health workforce development to maintain quality healthcare to our rural communities and people. We have:

- Reached more than 19,515 participants across every county in North Dakota;
- Provided more than \$80,000 for health occupation activities for students;
- Contributed more than \$10,000 toward continuing education for health professionals; Assisted 102 students in rural clinical rotations (\$40,000) – medicine, nursing, psychology, pharmacy, dietetics, dentistry, social work, and physical therapy; and
- Leveraged state, federal, and private funding (\$70,000) to establish and grow the North Dakota HOSA-Future Health Professionals program, which currently has 598 members, 16 chapters, and 21 advisors.

## Why is AHEC Vital to Healthcare Workforce Development?

1. Serves as a lead organization for establishing programs to inform and inspire students about the variety of opportunities in health careers serving rural residents;
2. Supports existing, and develops new and innovative, clinical rotation experiences in rural healthcare organizations that support their recruitment efforts; and
3. Coordinates education and training for primary care providers, and other healthcare professionals, to enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities, and aid in the retention of a skilled healthcare workforce serving rural communities.

## What will AHEC do with future funding?

- Serve as a trusted resource for innovative solutions to address healthcare workforce development;
- Develop an AHEC Scholars Program that is an interdisciplinary community-based training model for health profession students to increase their interest in working in rural and underserved areas;
- Invest in our youth, by promoting careers in healthcare to students (K-12) in rural and underserved areas;
- Grow the number of HOSA chapters, for high school students, and increase awareness of opportunities in rural communities;
- Work in collaboration with statewide strategic partners to leverage resources, eliminate program duplication, and effectively and creatively address healthcare workforce needs in rural and underserved communities.

## Who are AHEC's strategic partners?

- UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences
  - Center for Rural Health
  - Department of Family and Community Medicine
- UND College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines
- North Dakota Department of Commerce
- Mayville State University
- North Dakota Center For Nursing
- North Dakota University System
  - Dakota Nursing Program-Lake Region State College
  - Dickinson State University Nursing Program
  - Mayville State University Nursing Program
- North Dakota Career and Technical Education
- North Dakota Department of Health, Primary Care Office
- North Dakota STEM Network
- North Dakota Rural Health Association
- North Dakota Hospital Association
- North Dakota Long Term Care Association
- Community Healthcare Association of the Dakotas
- University of Minnesota School of Dentistry
- Sanford Health
- Otto Bremer Foundation

## For more information, contact:

### AHEC Program Office

Center for Rural Health, University of North Dakota  
School of Medicine & Health Sciences  
Lynette Dickson, MS, RD, LRD, Associate Director  
[Lynette.dickson@med.und.edu](mailto:Lynette.dickson@med.und.edu) • 701-777-6471

### Eastern AHEC - Mayville

Brittany Ness, Director  
[brittany@ndahec.org](mailto:brittany@ndahec.org) • 701-788-4795

### Western AHEC - Hettinger

Denise Andress, MBA, RN Director  
[denise@ndahec.org](mailto:denise@ndahec.org) • 701.637.0177



[ndahec.org](http://ndahec.org)



# 2018-2019 State Profile

## Our Members

**658**

Future Health Professionals



## Did You Know?

The United States will need 5.6 million workers by 2020. HOSA- Future Health Professionals is the pipeline for tomorrow's health workforce.

## What is HOSA?

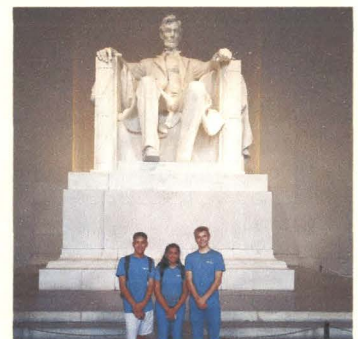
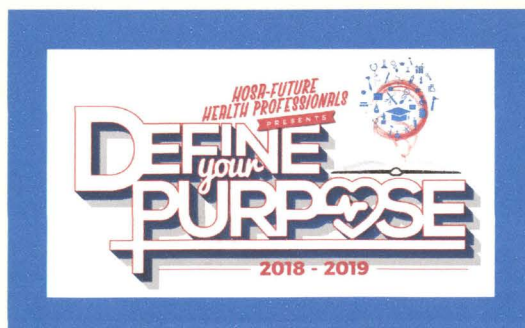
HOSA: Future Health Professionals is a national student organization that provides a unique program of leadership development, motivation and recognition exclusively for middle school, secondary, post-secondary, collegiate and adult students enrolled in health science classes.

**HOSA is 100% health care!**

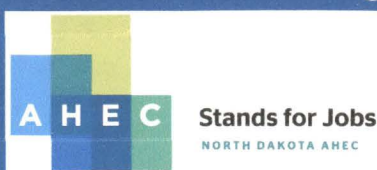
HOSA's competitive events program, aligned with the National Healthcare Skills Standards, helps students graduate and be career and college ready and offers six event categories including: (1) health science, (2) health professions, (3) emergency preparedness, (4) leadership, (5) teamwork, (6) recognition.

## Chapters

Bismarck High School  
Century High School (Bismarck)  
Fargo North High School  
Grand Forks High School  
Hettinger HOSA  
Killdeer Public Schools  
Langdon High School  
Legacy High School (Bismarck)  
Mandan High School  
Minot Public Schools  
Missouri River Area Career & Technology Center (Bismarck)  
North Valley Career & Technology Center (Grafton)  
Red River High School (Grand Forks)  
Sheyenne High School (West Fargo)  
Southeast Region Career & Technology Center (Oakes)  
West Fargo High School



## Contact North Dakota HOSA:



Katie Shahan, BSN, RN  
State Advisor  
katie@ndahec.org  
701.637.0178



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

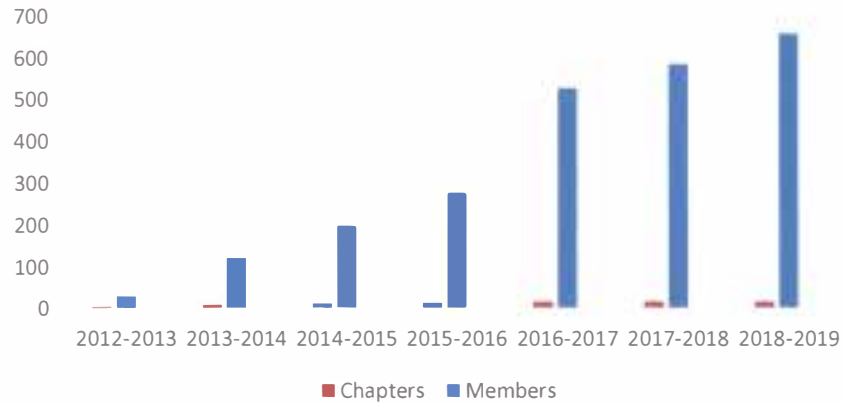


Membership Statistics			
Year	Chapters	Members	% Increase
2012-2013	4	30	n/a
2013-2014	8	122	306%
2014-2015	11	198	62%
2015-2016	13	278	40%
2016-2017	16	528	90%
2017-2018	16	585	11%
2018-2019	15	658	12%

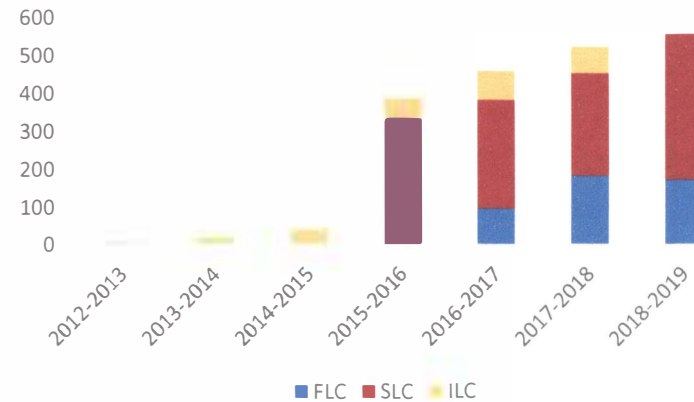
Conference Statistics			
Year	FLC	SLC	ILC
2012-2013	unsure	unsure	8
2013-2014	50*	60*	20
2014-2015	85*	180*	41
2015-2016	121	212	55
2016-2017	95	286	77
2017-2018	181	270	71
2018-2019	171	384	n/a

\*estimates

Membership Statistics



Conference Statistics



**January 31, 2019**  
**Testimony on HB 1402**  
**House Appropriations Committee – Chairman Monson**

HB1402  
Attachment 2  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

Mister Chairman, and members of the committee, my name is Kailey Weigel. I have been involved in my school's HOSA chapter for the past two years and currently hold the Historian position. HOSA is an important part of my educational journey, and plays a significant role in others' educational paths as well. Continued state funding will provide students with an environment to not only explore the medical field but improve their hands on skills, expand their knowledge, and make connections with people that have corresponding interests. Personally, HOSA has allowed me to delve into diverse areas of the medical field, and has really helped me narrow my interests heading into college. Opportunities to compete have taught me life skills such as work ethic, time management, and teamwork, as well as providing me with friends I plan to keep in contact with into the future. A few of my favorite moments of involvement have been listening to different presentations from health professionals, aiding in school service projects, and competing and placing at the state leadership conference in Jamestown in the areas of CPR/First Aid, and Sports Medicine.

Currently our chapter is partnering with Brave the Shave to organize North Dakota's first pediatric cancer walk. This shows that involvement in local chapters goes beyond the individual. It also benefits the school and community. Additionally, we are preparing to travel to Orlando for this year's International Leadership Conference. Here, students have the opportunity to build their leadership skills and further develop their awareness of places throughout the US by conversing with students from all over the nation.

Overall, with the help of state funding, HOSA will continue to enrich the lives of students like Sydney and myself. Whether that be in areas directly related to the health field, such as knowledge and experience, or it helps enrich students' life skills such as leadership, work habits, or communication and collaboration, HOSA will consistently manifest positive impacts. It plays a key role in bridging the gap between learning content in a text book and experiencing careers in real life. I can confidently say it has influenced my life and will undoubtedly continue to influence and assist the lives of future students.

I urge a do pass on House Bill 1402 and I would be happy to answer any questions. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Kailey Weigel  
HOSA Historian  
Legacy High School



# WEST RIVER HEALTH SERVICES

January 31, 2018

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

Good morning. My name is Matt Shahan and I am fortunate to serve as the CEO of West River Health Services in Hettinger. West River is a 5-time recipient of the Top 20 CAH designation, ranking us in the top 1.5% of CAHs in the county. We serve over 10,000 square miles of North and South Dakota, providing primary care, specialty care, and OB services. All these things said, my facility still faces many challenges in staffing physicians and nurses alike. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find, recruit, train, and retain qualified talent in our rural communities.

This is why today; I am here on behalf of the North Dakota Area Health Education Center and the work that they do on behalf of rural facilities across this great state. CAHs like mine are able to leverage the knowledge and expertise of the ND AHEC staff to introduce healthcare careers to students at an early age, identify potential candidates, implement internship programs, and provide continuing education opportunities, as well numerous other workforce related programs. With margins in hospitals already strained, we will continue to rely heavily on organizations like AHEC to assist in rebuilding the retiring workforce so that we can continue to serve our patients. As competition for workforce increases, it is imperative that students complete their in rural areas. There is a direct correlation in where someone performs their training and where they chose to settle in for their career. If rural communities are to continue providing healthcare, then we must train the future workforce in a rural setting. Programs such as HOSA and the Scrubs Camp are vital in energizing our youth and setting them on the path to a career in rural healthcare. If we are unable to be successful in recruiting and retaining young talent to fill our open positions, we will become increasingly reliant on temporary staffing. Rural facilities cannot remain viable in this model, making the work of AHEC even more important. ND Medicaid and Medicare also cannot support the drastically increased costs of locum physicians and travelling nurses. Increased reliability on these staffing models can double or triple normal operating costs.

This coming fall our facility will host our first class of LPN students through Bismarck State College and the Dakota Nursing Program. This program will be important for our ability to recruit and train nursing students close to home. Funding assistance in getting such a program up and running is vital to the overall success of our facility and the students. As a CAH we are "cost reimbursed" for certain expenses by CMS. However, I'm sure you know that cost reimbursed actually means cost plus 1%, minus 2% due to sequestration. We have to be extremely careful with every penny and make sure we are efficient stewards of our facilities, realizing the important role we play in the economic success of rural North Dakota. My facility alone provides nearly \$18M per year in economic impact. Training nurses locally in our facility drastically increases our potential to retain them upon graduation. Our facility has been creative in building relationships with students involved in medical related fields as they complete their education. The likelihood of that student returning to a rural facility after spending 2-4 years in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, etc., is very unlikely. The nursing shortage is serious enough that there will always be open positions in the larger tertiary facilities throughout our state. Meaning that there will always be an open position for them that does not require them to move out of their apartment or current living arrangement. The long-term plan for this program is to assist our LPN instructor, who has a BSN, in obtaining their MSN so that

HB 1402 1/31/19  
AH 3

we will be able to offer the RN program locally as well. However, the cost of putting them through an MSN program is prohibitive, especially when every nurse we take off the floor and move into an education or administrative position is another nurse not providing direct patient care.

My facility prides itself in "Providing Top Notch Healthcare Close to Home." This next year marks 70 years we have been doing just that. Success in the next 70 years will rely heavily on partnerships like the one we are proud to have with ND AHEC.

Thank you again for the important work that you all do on behalf of the citizens of North Dakota.

Matt Shahan, CEO  
WRHS, WRHSF, WHLC



## Testimony on HB 1402

HB1402  
Attachment 4  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

### House Appropriations Committee-Chairman, David Monson Thursday, January 31, 2019

Mister Chairman, and members of the committee, my name is Cherie Roshau, I am here to testify in favor of House Bill 1402 for these reasons:

On behalf of Killdeer Public School HOSA, I am testifying in support of the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

As one who has more than forty years of education experience, it is not difficult to recognize the importance of engaging our students in the various forms of learning, one being a "hands-on" approach. HOSA provides a phenomenal and engaging approach to hands-on learning experiences opening the door to a multitude health career possibilities. Though our Killdeer HOSA organization is young, it has been a source of exposure and interest for our developing future health careers. This year, ninety-six percent of our members became CPR certified. We invited our coaches and teachers to take part in the training as well. We have a dedicated staff at the Killdeer Ambulance who donated their time to provide our HOSA members with CPR training.

Our HOSA members raised \$15,000.00 for Howling Wolf family when their son, Benny, contracted West Nile encephalitis. Benny Howling Wolf (aged four) was hospitalized for over a month in Fargo, ND and is now on his road to recovery with his team of physical therapists and doctors in Bismarck, ND. Eight Killdeer Public School HOSA members qualified the 2018 HOSA International Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas; several Killdeer HOSA members became certified CNA and EMT and are working in nursing home and are working with the local ambulance; the Killdeer Public School HOSA sponsored a fund-raising event to help our principal's son who was born with "transposition of the great vessels". He was flown to Bismarck and then to Mayo Clinic. Our HOSA group raised \$7,000.00 for the "Krew Kleeman Medical Benefit"; Killdeer Public School HOSA sponsored several blood drives in which they were required to make phone calls to set up appointments, make arrangements with the school for the event and provide snacks for those donating blood. Note from United Blood Services: "The Killdeer HOSA group recruited 47 community heroes and of that number 36 were eligible to donate, which provided 45 products. A tremendous effort put forth by our future medical professionals and leaders of tomorrow! So much in fact that there were 28 new first-time donors." Camille Jones, Donor Recruiter United Blood Services; the Killdeer HOSA provided/sponsored a "taping" training seminar for coaches and athletes presented by CHI St. Joseph's Sports Medicine; the Killdeer High School HOSA members sponsored a visit from the Valley Med Flight which landed on the practice field by the school. Elementary students and HOSA members visited with crew including the pilot, flight nurse, and medical technician, along with employees from the Killdeer Ambulance; Killdeer High School HOSA member, Chelsea Morlock won the

Pin Design Contest for the state of North Dakota. The pin was used at the International Leadership HB1402 Conference; Killdeer High School HOSA member Keia Holding Eagle designed the winning state HOSA t-shirt. 4/

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

This is a short rendition of the accomplishments achieved by the Killdeer Public School membership. Comparatively, we are a small school. Our HOSA program has been active for four years. The question that I place before you is this, "if a small group of young people in western North Dakota are able to impact the world of health careers, what would happen if more schools, more education, more advisors and more financial support were afforded the possibilities? Could we close the gap and address health care workforce shortages through our students; the future of quality health care professionals.

AHEC has afforded the Killdeer HOSA group with financial and educational opportunities. Our rural North Dakota communities seem to spark health care interest through academics as well as the platform of volunteerism.

Through my role as a HOSA advisor, I have witnessed the promotion of teamwork and community service; encouraging health care education; and lighting the fire of imagination instilling a love of health care learning. None of this would be possible without the collaboration with ND AHEC.

In closing, we would like to say that Killdeer Public School HOSA is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota.

I urge a "Do Pass" on House Bill 1402, and would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cherie Roshau  
Killdeer HOSA Advisor

2



HB1402

Attachment 5

## DEPARTMENT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

January 2019

1/31/19

Wayde Sick  
STATE DIRECTOR &  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

January 25, 2019

State Capitol 15th Floor  
600 E Blvd Ave Dept 270  
Bismarck ND 58505-0610  
701-328-3180  
701-328-1255 (Fax)

[www.nd.gov/cte](http://www.nd.gov/cte)

E-mail: [cte@nd.gov](mailto:cte@nd.gov)

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Address  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Address,

On behalf of the Department of Career and Technical Education, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Presently, ND AHEC is engaged in the important work of advising the HOSA student organization. This gives students that are taking health science courses the same leadership opportunities provided in other Career Technical Student Organizations such as FFA or FBLA. The HOSA state officers are invited to attend the state leadership conference, hosted by the Department of Career and Technical Education.

In closing, we would like to say that the Department of Career and Technical Education is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Wayde Sick  
State Director



Bismarck State College • Dakota College at Bottineau • Lake Region State College • Williston State College

HB1402  
Attachment 5  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

January 24, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress;

On behalf of the Dakota Nursing Program, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and the Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

ND AHEC has assisted Dakota Nursing Program students financially as they travel to clinical sites within the state. They have assisted our programs with recruitment efforts by being involved with HOSA – Future Health Professionals and health career fairs. ND AHEC also donated simulation equipment that they were no longer using to our programs. This equipment is being put to good use in the nursing simulation labs. ND AHEC gives rural facilities information about nursing and allied health programs they can access in their communities. The Dakota Nursing Program has benefited from their advocacy in this area.

In closing, I would like to say that the Dakota Nursing Program is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and ND AHEC. I believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Julie Traynor, MS, RN  
Director  
Dakota Nursing Program  
1801 College Drive North  
Devils Lake, ND 58301

January 25, 2019

HB1402

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Attachment 5

Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

1/31/19

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Dickinson High School (DHS), we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

AHEC representatives, Denise Andress and Katie Shahan have traveled to visit DHS Health Science classes the last five years. Denise and Katie bring the students stethoscopes to listen to Jack. Jack is a Sims pediatric mannequin. Students get to auscultate Jack's heart, lung and bowel sounds. Jack can make vomiting, coughing, and moaning sounds. The students have fun and learn about physical examination techniques such as auscultation. Denise and Katie inform students about all the healthcare careers available to them in North Dakota. They do an outstanding job exposing students to the ND university programs that offer healthcare majors.

In closing, we would like to say that DHS is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Bobbie Johnson  
DHS Health Sciences Instructor

January 24, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Mayville State University, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

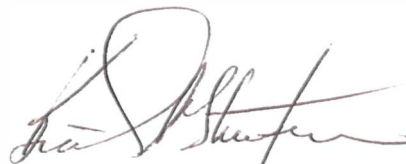
Over the past few years (2010-2018), Mayville State University (MaSU) has been a strong supporter and collaborator with the ND AHEC/E AHEC by agreeing to be the Recipient to the Contractor (University of North Dakota) to assist the performance of the Eastern ND AHEC scope of work. In the fall 2012 MaSU agreed to a similar relationship for the Western ND AHEC. In addition Mayville State University has supported ND AHEC through partnering with K-12 health career fairs, establishment of the Dakota Nursing Program of the Lake Region State College, Dakota Nursing Program, on the Mayville State University campus, and collaboration with MaSU STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) curriculum. Mayville State University also supports ND AHEC by being an Eastern AHEC and Western AHEC Advisory Board member.

In closing, we would like to say that Mayville State University is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,



Dr. Brian Van Horn, President  
Mayville State University



Dr. Keith Stenehjem, VP for Academic Affairs  
Mayville State University



BISMARCK



HIGH SCHOOL

HB1402

Attachment 5

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

January 24, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andres  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andres,

On behalf of Bismarck High School HOSA, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

As an instructor and advisor, I can say that HOSA has had a tremendous impact on students who wish to pursue a career in healthcare. Bismarck High School began our first chapter in 2012, but we would not have been able to do so without the partnership with our ND AHEC program. Since the start of the program, hundreds of students have been a part of HOSA – where they can develop leadership skills and learn more about various healthcare professions. Many students have participated in learning seminars during the ND fall leadership conference where they have had hands on learning opportunities that have impacted future career decisions. HOSA students also have the opportunity to develop leadership through the state and international HOSA competition. I have had several students earn national scholarships through their involvement with the HOSA organization. Many of these students go on to pursue careers in healthcare which is vital to filling our significant healthcare worker shortage in our state and nation. HOSA has positively impacted the lives of hundreds of students in my school over the years. None of this would be possible without the partnership and support of ND AHEC.

In closing, we would like to say that Bismarck High School HOSA is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Heather Frey  
Medical Related Careers Instructor  
HOSA advisor  
Bismarck High School



U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence 1999-2000

800 NORTH 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET • BISMARCK, ND 58501  
TEL. 701-323-4800 • FAX. 701-323-4805  
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PRINCIPAL: DAVID WISTHOFF  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: LYNETTE JOHNSON  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: RYAN JOHNSON  
DEAN OF STUDENTS: MARK GIBSON

COUNSELORS: JULIE BERG  
BARBARA COYLE

KAYLA BOEPPLE  
STEVEN MEIER



1/28/19

HB1402  
Healthcare with the community at heart.  
Attachment 5  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Address  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Address,

On behalf of my training consortium TAAP (Training Academy of Addiction Professionals), I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Approximately halfway through my consortium training to become an addiction counselor, I was required, as part of my clinical rotation, to spend approximately 3 months of my training at Coal Country CHC in Beulah, North Dakota. Having to put in 40 hours a week of training left me very little time to provide an income for my family, not to mention the drive from Bismarck to Beulah is approximately 85 miles one way. This forced me to only be available to work on the weekends at New Freedom Center, my former employer, but it also temporarily relocating me to Stanton, ND, to alleviate driving time and financial stress. The financial assistance/reimbursement that Western ND AHEC provided for me was beyond a blessing for myself and my family. Not only did it provide me with some financial relief but ultimately it led me to accepting a full-time position at Coal Country CHC as a licensed addiction counselor. I'm fairly confident that without this assistance from ND AHEC, I would not have been able to remain a part of the TAAP consortium's rotation.

In closing, we would like to say that myself and TAAP are pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. I believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

ADDICTION COUNSELOR TRAINEE (ACT)  
COAL COUNTRY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER  
1312 HWY 49 N  
BEULAH ND, 58523  
(701) 873-7788 EXT. 102

[TMCKAY@COALCOUNTRYHEALTH.COM](mailto:TMCKAY@COALCOUNTRYHEALTH.COM)

**Beulah Clinic**  
1312 Highway 49 N  
Beulah, ND 58523  
(701) 873-4445

**Center Clinic**  
111 East Main Street  
Center, ND 58530  
(701) 794-8798

**Hazen Clinic**  
510 8th Avenue NE  
Hazen, ND 58545  
(701) 748-2256

**Killdeer Clinic**  
220 4th Avenue SW  
Killdeer, ND 58640  
(701) 764-5822

6



January 23, 2019

HB1402  
Attachment 5  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639


Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Legacy High School HOSA, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

ND AHEC has been an amazing support to our program over the past years. NDAHEC has brought HOSA – future health professionals to the state. This organization provides opportunities to build medical knowledge and technical skills, as well as develop leadership necessary for a career in the health industry. HOSA helps students to learn about a variety of medical careers, to develop skills that will be essential to their future careers as healthcare providers, develop leadership skills and increase community awareness and participation.

In closing, I would like to say that Legacy High School HOSA is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

  
Joelean Lowman  
Medical Related Careers Instruction  
LHS HOSA Advisor



HB1402  
Attachment 5  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

January 24th, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of HOSA-Future Health Professionals, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC) as candidates for continued funding. These centers focus on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

HOSA's collaboration with ND AHEC has proven to be invaluable over the years. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the growth our organization has viewed since its inception and emphasize truly how much our relationship is valued. From a firsthand perspective, the expansion of our membership body is undeniable. To date, HOSA includes 629 students from across the state, as well as 21 advisors and 16 local chapters. Additionally, HOSA is the only future health professionals club offered in our state, showcasing how hundreds of students have the ability to build upon their inclinations towards a future health career through this unique opportunity. Not only does HOSA educate its members about the myriad of careers available to them, but it also provides an equitable stake in mentorship opportunities, hands-on competitive events, and much more. Simply put, HOSA unites our state's population of students interested in a health career, regardless of their geographic location, socioeconomic status, or any other factor, which is all contingent upon the passing of House Bill 1402. Beyond the state level, students even have the opportunity to compete at HOSA's International Leadership Conference competition, attend national leadership conferences, and assume leadership positions. These privileges build the foundation of strong youth leadership by instilling values such as a strong work ethic, public speaking skills, intrapersonal communication, and much more.

In closing, I would like to say that HOSA is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial among us, the North Dakota Area Health Education Program, and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. I believe that continued support is beyond justified once we consider how this partnership meets the needs of future health care students as well as professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Preeti Chemiti  
ND HOSA State President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Preeti Chemiti". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



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Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

January 29, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

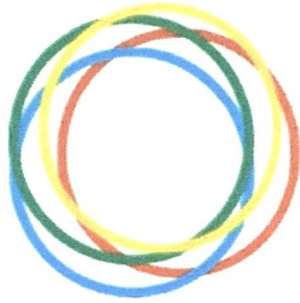
On behalf of McKenzie County Healthcare Systems, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Given the substantial need in western North Dakota for skilled labor, McKenzie County Healthcare Systems is actively working with ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC to promote health careers in the local high school as well as developing a local nursing program.

In closing, we would like to say that McKenzie County Healthcare Systems is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Michael Curtis  
Chief Administrative Officer  
McKenzie County Healthcare Systems, Inc.



# NORTH DAKOTA CENTER FOR NURSING

A unified voice for nursing excellence.

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Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

January 17, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of the ND Center for Nursing I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

The NDAHEC serves as a member of our board of directors as we work collaboratively together to address the nursing workforce shortage. We also help to coordinate recruitment efforts and the promotion of the nursing career with the HOSA program coordinated by the NDAHEC.

In closing, I would like to say that the ND Center for Nursing is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Patricia Moulton, PhD  
Executive Director  
ND Center for Nursing  
3523 45<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Fargo, ND 58104  
701-639-6548

[Patricia.moulton@ndcenterfornursing.org](mailto:Patricia.moulton@ndcenterfornursing.org)



1/31/19 HB 1402  
AH 5

James Buhr, M.D.  
Health Officer  
HB1402

Theresa Will, R.N., B.S.N., M.P.H.  
Administrator  
Jan. 31, 2019

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Valley City, ND 58072-3011  
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[www.citycountyhealth.org](http://www.citycountyhealth.org)

January 23, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of City-County Health District, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

City-County Health District (CCHD) in Valley City provides public health services to the Barnes County community. I currently serve on the advisory board at the area Sheyenne Valley Career & Technology Center, and health careers is one area of focus. As an Eastern ND AHEC board member, I am in a position to share information with the board regarding the AHEC program.

Serving as the administrator of CCHD, I know firsthand the problems faced by rural healthcare facilities when trying to hire medical professionals. Only through collaboration and education are we going to be able to continue to attract students to the healthcare workforce to meet the needs in rural and underserved communities in the future.

In closing, we would like to say that City-County Health District is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

*Theresa Will*  
Theresa Will, Administrator  
City-County Health District



**Sanford Hillsboro**

PO Box 409

12 Third St SE

Hillsboro, ND 58545-3609

Skilled Nursing Center Assisted Living

Business Office

Hospital

Care Center

fax

[sanfordhealth.org](http://sanfordhealth.org)

636-3266

636-3200

636-3219

636-3235

636-3206

**SANFORD**

HEALTH HB1402

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January 22, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Director-Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Sanford Health Hillsboro and Mayville, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Being rural, we find that The Scrubs Camps program, located at Mayville, is a great way to allow our local students to get a look into the opportunities to work in healthcare in our facilities. As a member of the Advisory Board, I will continue to support the work in helping connect students to rural communications and healthcare related career opportunities, thus creating a positive way to meet the needs in rural North Dakota.

In closing, we would like to say that Sanford Health Hillsboro and Mayville are pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,



Jac McTaggart

Senior Director

Sanford Health – Hillsboro/Mayville

Our Mission:  
Dedicated to the work of  
health and healing



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Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

January 21, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Valley Community Health Centers we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

In 2017 and 2018, ND AHEC partnered with Valley Community Health Centers and the Iowa College of Dentistry to provide housing for two 4<sup>th</sup> year dental students that lead to over 160 patients receiving care. This included over 100 patients on medical assistance and amounted to \$50,000+ in billable procedures. Both students who received financial support from ND AHEC were from North Dakota and have intent to return to the state upon graduation. Valley Community Health Centers has also partnered with ND AHEC to support limited radiology training for our rural and urban medical clinics.

Valley Community Health Centers whole heartedly supports a continued relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We sincerely believe ND AHEC various programs are worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Mara Jiran, CEO

Dr. Jackie Nord, DDS

Administration Office • 212 S. 4th St Suite 200 • Grand Forks, ND 58201

Larimore Clinic  
607 Towner Ave. • Larimore, ND 58251  
701-343-6418

Grand Forks Clinic  
212 S. 4th St., St. 301 • Grand Forks, ND 58201  
701-757-2100 ext. 1

Dental Clinic  
212 S. 4th St., St. 101 • Grand Forks, ND 58201  
701-757-2100 ext. 2

**Testimony on HB 1402**

HB1402  
Attachment 5  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

**House Appropriations Committee-Chairman, David Monson**  
**Thursday, January 31, 2019**

Good morning Mister Chairman, and members of the committee, my name is Trina Schilling, and I am here to testify in favor of House Bill 1402.

On behalf of myself, I am testifying in support of the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (NDAHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

I am currently a doctoral student at the University of Mary, Bismarck, in the Nurse Practitioner program and this past summer I completed my rotation of pediatrics in the rural healthcare setting of Sanford Health, Dickinson. I live in Wishek, ND and for a period of three weeks I traveled to Dickinson and stayed a period of three days each week in order to complete my clinical rotation. I was able to collaborate with ND AHEC to offset some of the endured mileage expenses through a grant opportunity offered to those students who complete clinical hours at a rural health setting. This was extremely helpful, as in this rigorous program your time and dedication is to your studies and not the ability to work or work additional hours to offset non-covered or unanticipated expenses by one's financial aid throughout the educational track of program completion.

In closing, I would like to say that I, personally, am pleased to continue a relationship that is not only beneficial to me, but also other future rural health students/providers and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. As a future Doctoral Prepared Nurse Practitioner, with a passion to serve rural North Dakota, I believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

I urge a "Do Pass" for House Bill 1402.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Trina Schilling, RN/BSN, MGMT, MBA, DNP-S  
DNP Student



**January 31, 2019**

**Testimony on HB 1402**

**House Appropriations Committee – Chairman Monson**

HB1402

Attachment 5

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

Mister Chairman and members of the committee,

Hello, my name is Sydney Seamands, I've been a member of Legacy HOSA for 3 years and I currently hold the position of president. HOSA for me, was a way to get involved with my school and community. It exposed me to some really great opportunities, like learning about new careers in the medical field and interacting with other students that are inspired by healthcare. Everyone involved in HOSA from the advisors, to the officers, to the students, are invested in creating a great environment for pursuing future healthcare careers. I've also been able to compete at the international level a couple of times.

International leadership conferences are some of my favorite experiences. Those who place at state are invited to compete at the international level, and we also get to attend tons of different symposiums about different health related topics. The information gained at these events has influenced important decisions in my life, such as where I plan to attend college, and how I plan to get into medical school. Attending ILC has allowed me to network with people from across the nation, and make friends that I would have never met otherwise. These competitions are a great way for students to learn about participation in professional settings, and gain the necessary skills for their future professions.

Creative opportunities are also offered to HOSA members. I have recently won North Dakota's pin design contest for the pins that will represent our state at ILC this summer. I created a pin that features a honey bear because North Dakota is the nation's leading producer of honey, and I think that states that receive our pin will probably not have known this in the past.

As a chapter we love to give back to our community, which is another reason why I enjoy being a part of HOSA. We get really great experiences volunteering, and organizing events for the benefit of our community. We host annual blood drives and have also worked with Be The Match in the past to help people join the national bone marrow registry. Currently we are working with Brave the Shave to host a community walk for pediatric cancer.

I urge a do pass on HB 1402. Thank you for this opportunity. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Sidney Seamands  
Legacy High School  
HOSA President  
Bismarck, ND

## Testimony on HB 1402

HB1402

**House Appropriations Committee-Chairman, David Monson**  
**Thursday, January 31, 2019**

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Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

Good morning, Chairman Monson and committee members. My name is Lynette Dickson, I am a registered dietitian, Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement, at the Center for Rural Health, located within the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS); which includes Director of the Area Health Education Center (AHEC). I would first like to thank you, and your fellow legislators, for providing support since 2013 for healthcare workforce development activities, supported by the AHEC.

As background, the federal AHEC grant program was developed by Congress in 1971 to recruit, train and retain a health professions workforce committed to underserved populations. North Dakota was actually classified as a “1<sup>st</sup> generation AHEC” as the School of Medicine had an AHEC grant in the mid-1970’s which was used to establish the four medical campuses that are still in operation. The federal grant dollars ended sometime in the early to mid-1980’s but were reinstated. Today, 46 AHEC programs with more than 261 centers operate across the country.

In 2008, the Center for Rural Health was awarded a new AHEC grant through the federal Bureau of Health Workforce, Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). AHECs have a continual focus on improving the health care system by working with academic institutions, health care settings, behavioral health practices, and community-based organizations and associations. Through these longstanding partnerships, the AHECs employ traditional and innovative approaches to develop and train a diverse health care workforce prepared to deliver high-quality, team-based care, with an emphasis on primary care for rural and underserved communities.

AHEC’ s are federally required to; 1) be administered through medical schools (unless there is not a medical school in the state); 2) obtain a 1:1 non-federal match; 3) establish regional centers off-campus in rural and/or underserved communities’ and 4) distribute 75% of the federal funds to the (two) regional centers. We have two regional centers. One located in Mayville and the other located in Hettinger. The Center for Rural Health, administers the federal grant and is designated as the AHEC State Program Office. The federal AHEC program guidelines task the Program Office with supporting and guiding the regional centers. The CRH uses the (25%) federal funds, which amounts to approximately \$50,000 (also requiring the 1:1 non-federal match), to support the regional centers with program activity/participant tracking, evaluation, graphic design, web design and maintenance, communication/promotion so they can utilize their time and resources for grass root programs which you will hear about today. It is important to note that the State funding received since 2013, administered through the ND Department of Commerce; as well as other non-federal funding is utilized only in the two regional centers.

We acknowledge and agree that recruiting and retaining primary care providers, and other health professionals, is the responsibility of local health care facilities. However, we also know the

reality of how very stretched the limited staff and finances are in our rural communities.

Therefore, the AHEC, and other statewide partners are integral to expand the reach of local recruiting efforts by coordinating activities and leveraging a variety of resources. As is common in most initiatives, building collaborative trust relationships is fundamental to success. The

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AHEC staff has successfully served as “the glue” that brings the needed resources to communities, local health organizations, health providers, schools (e.g. elementary/secondary/post-secondary), and others, to improve health workforce options and opportunities for all North Dakotans. As you will hear today, from the regional director’s, workforce development is multi-faceted and we cannot rely on any one agency, institution or program as THE solution. It is critical to approach this at various points along the workforce pipeline – ‘growing our own’ through K-12 activities; supporting health professional students in rural community-based learning opportunities; and assisting with recruitment of health professionals.

As a testament to the impact of the AHEC, we have included several letters of support and/or testimony from key stakeholders/partners.

Thank you for the past support and for the opportunity to present today.

***Lynette Dickson, MS, RD, LRD***

*Associate Director, Community Outreach and Engagement/Center for Rural Health*

*Director/Area Health Education Center(AHEC)*

*University of North Dakota, School of Medicine and Health Sciences*

*1301 N Columbia Rd. STOP 9037 /Grand Forks, North Dakota 58202-9037*

*701-777-6049 direct / main office 701-777-6779 / cell 218-779-6471*

*[lynette.dickson@med.und.edu](mailto:lynette.dickson@med.und.edu)*

01/31/2019

Legislative Testimony for House Bill 1402

House Appropriations Committee-Chairman, David Monson

HB1402

Attachment 5

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

Mister Chairman, and members of the committee, thank you for hearing us today. My name is Brittany Ness, Director of the Eastern ND Area Health Education Center (AHEC), I am here to testify in favor of House Bill 1402.

The public is well aware of the medical contributions that rural health providers deliver to rural residents but the economic contributions that rural health care provides to the local community are equally important. It is crucial that rural residents have access to quality health care. It is crucial to generate and retain health care services and health care jobs in rural areas.

Currently,

- Of the 10 largest employers in the state of North Dakota, 8 of 10 are related to healthcare. (Job Service, ND)
- 12 of 53 counties (population total of 24,449) do not currently have a primary care physician. (UND)
- There will be a shortage between 260-360 rural family practice physicians in North Dakota by 2025. (UND)
- Current estimates suggest the need for additions of more than 370 nurses per year for the next 10 years. The shortage is particularly acute in ND's most rural areas. (Governor's Nursing Shortage Taskforce)

Rural Health impact on a community:

- About 20% of the population lives in rural America, yet only 9% of the nation's physicians practice in rural communities.
- Quality rural health services in rural communities are needed for good paying jobs, rewarding employment, and "trickle" down local economics, enhance local education, vitality of Main Street, and create and attract business and industry.
- On average, 14% of the total employment in rural communities is attributed to the health sector. (Lisbon, ND, population 2000, has a health care workforce of over 650. Northwood, ND, population 900, has a health care workforce of 200, the largest employer in the community).

Rural Primary Care Physician impact:

- One primary care physician in a rural community creates 26.3 jobs annually.
- One primary care physician in a rural community generates \$1.4 million in wages, salaries and benefits.

- The total economic impact of a typical critical access hospital is 170 employees and \$11.4 million in payroll.

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Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

How do we attract and retain quality health care in rural North Dakota?

- By exciting students to explore, to study, and to become rural health care providers.
- By assisting colleges and universities to create clinical experience rotations and interprofessional experiences with rural health care organizations, critical access hospitals and rural health providers.
- By supporting continuing education for health care workers in rural areas.
- By creating policy to encourage and support admissions in health care professional education.

The first AHEC was established in 1972 at Duke University in North Carolina. Their many years of evaluation and research has shown that any student “touched” by the AHEC Programs and mission will have an 18% increase in returning to provide health care to rural communities.

An 18% return to rural, would translate to an increase of 11 medical students (1<sup>st</sup> year class of 60 medical students) of North Dakota’s sons and daughters becoming health professionals who work to improve health care access and economic development in our rural and underserved communities.

A \$300,000 Department of Commerce/AHEC funded program allows for continuance of full staffing in both AHEC regions allowing continued support for all AHEC programs including HOSA, Clinical Rotations, AHEC Scholars, and Behavioral Health Workforce Education Training.

ND AHEC can contribute to our healthcare workforce issues by helping connect students to healthcare careers, health profession students to communities, and communities to better health. ND AHEC collaborates with all ND colleges and universities to assist meeting student needs in healthcare professions and assists with clinical placement in rural areas- AHEC is completely unbiased in regards to which program a student chooses and that is an important asset when assisting in developing our healthcare workforce.

The ND AHEC Program thanks you for your support in the last biennium, it is greatly appreciated and bears the efforts of the AHEC mission with many positive outcomes.

Thank you for your support and I urge “do pass” on House Bill 1402.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brittany Ness, Director  
Eastern ND AHEC



**Testimony of Jennifer Greuel**  
**Economic Development Association of North Dakota (EDND)**  
**In Support of HB 1402**  
**January 31, 2019**

Chairman Delzer and members of the House Appropriations Committee:

My name is Jennifer Greuel, and I am testifying on behalf of the Economic Development Association of North Dakota (EDND) in support of HB 1402.

EDND represents large and small and rural and urban economic development organizations on the front line of growing businesses and communities in North Dakota. The primary purpose of the organization is to promote the creation of new wealth throughout North Dakota to develop more vibrant communities and improve quality of life.

Workforce availability is the most significant challenge facing North Dakota businesses, limiting the growth potential of the state's economy. EDND supports the development of workforce attraction, development and retention strategies that address the needs of the state's companies. As of December 2018, North Dakota had an unemployment rate of 2.7 percent, which can make it difficult for businesses to find qualified candidates.

The North Dakota Workforce Development Council has highlighted the nursing and healthcare technician shortage as one of five workforce issues most affecting the state. According to an October 2017 report by the Governor's Nursing Workforce Shortage Planning Team, 19 counties in North Dakota in 2016 had critical numbers of RNs and APRNs and half of North Dakota counties had critical numbers of LPNs. Due to an aging population, nurses are projected to have between 16 and 40 percent job growth through 2024.

North Dakota needs to be able to support a growing population without losing the small, rural communities which make our state great and support integral industries

such as agriculture. A lack of healthcare options in small communities could cause migration into larger communities and the death of many small communities.

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Attachment 5  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

We strongly urge the committee's support of matching funds for the recruitment of rural healthcare workforce. Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee and express support for this bill and for your continued commitment to working together to address North Dakota's workforce needs.





**Stands for Jobs**

WESTERN NORTH DAKOTA AHEC

P.O. Box 615 109 South Main Hettinger, ND 58639 • 701.637.0177  
western.ndahec.org

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## **North Dakota Area Health Education Center Testimony on HB 1402**

**March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Senate Appropriations Committee**

**Harvest Room**

**Senator Holmberg, Chairman**

### **Denise Andress – Director, Western Area Health Education Center**

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Denise Andress. I am a registered nurse and Director of the Western North Dakota Area Health Education Center (AHEC)

The ND AHEC was established in 2008 through a federal (Bureau of Health Care Workforce) grant. Federal guidelines, require AHEC's to: 1) be administered through a medical school; 2) obtain a 1:1 non-federal match; 3) establish regional centers in rural and/or underserved communities; and 4) distribute 75% of the federal funds to the (two) regional centers. There are two regional centers, serving ND, one located in Mayville and the other located in Hettinger. The Center for Rural Health, at UND, School of Medicine, administers the federal grant and is designated as the AHEC State Program Office. The CRH uses the (25%) federal funds, which amounts to approximately \$50,000 (also subject to the 1:1 non-federal match), to support the regional centers with program activity/participant tracking, evaluation, graphic design, web design and maintenance, communication/promotion so they can utilize their time and resources for grass root programs. It is important to note that the State funding received since 2013, administered through the ND Department of Commerce, is utilized only in the two rural regional centers.

These two regional centers leverage federal, state and private funds to implement health care workforce programs, at the grass root level, in three core focus areas: Kindergarten through college, rural clinical rotations for health profession students, and continuing education for health care professionals. Each of these core areas is vital for meeting the health care workforce needs of rural North Dakota. I am excited to share the accomplishments to date. The ND AHEC has:

- Reached over 19,500 participants in every county of ND;
- Supported over \$80,000 in health occupation activities for students;
- Assisted 102 health profession students in rural clinical rotations;
- Established HOSA-Future Health Professionals, in 2012 which is the only student organization, solely focused on health care career development. There are currently 16 chapters, 658 members and 21 advisors; and
- Contributed towards continuing education for health professionals.

We are very proud of our accomplishments to date, as a result of the funding we have received.

I will highlight three **key programs**:

HOSA-Future Health Professionals is a student led high school organization. It is the **ONLY** health care



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specific student organization in the state. As I previously mentioned, we currently are working with 658 students and have begun tracking them as they participate in HOSA activities. Currently, in the 167 public high schools in the state, only 46 offer a health career course; with only 34 health career instructors; 24 of which are in our four large or urban communities and only 10 serving rural. HOSA-Future Health Professionals program fills the gap in rural communities by utilizing rural health care professionals to mentor students. Through this program we are working to grow the pipeline of students who become health care providers in the state of North Dakota.

ND AHEC also supports health profession students in existing rural experiences and also assists with establishing new rural clinical rotations. More importantly, we work directly with these students to engage them in local activities outside of work. Recruitment of health care providers is easier if they have had the opportunity to 'live local' and get to know the people and the community environment. We are also tracking these students in an effort to identify what health care related activities they participated in and where they put roots down. This program is becoming more critical to the health care organizations in our state. We have had several critical access hospitals requesting housing and travel support for health care profession students. As you can imagine, students may not even consider a rural site and will opt to stay in the larger cities (i.e. Grand Forks, Fargo, Bismarck, etc.) reducing the opportunity to expose them to the rich environment in a rural health care and community setting. With legislative support, the ND AHEC could expand this program to support students wanting to complete a clinical experience in a rural community where health care professionals are in critical need.

Although there is a nursing shortage statewide, it is much more crucial in our rural areas than in our urban counterparts. The ND AHEC is working with our rural health care facilities to consider implementing a rural nursing program. We work with the facilities and make connections with academic institutions to bring the rural nursing program to their community. For example, Watford City and Hettinger are adding to the list of community-based technical nursing programs to "grow their own". The AHEC staff work with these facilities to assist them in planning ahead to and resolve their nursing shortages. We help them to identify community resources and local talent so our rural students can continue to work for their local facility, generate an income and remain with their families. It is unrealistic and cost prohibitive to expect them to travel miles from their home and family to obtain their degree when we can bring it right to their home town. Programs like the Dakota Nursing program can assist these communities in development of a rural nursing program. It is imperative that we are out there to work with these communities.

With all of our additional programs, we are continuously evaluating them to ensure effectiveness in achieving our mission and that they align with and don't duplicate other programs and address the health care workforce needs in our state. We are working with students in high school and college to identify what health care career path they are pursuing, and whether they would like to work in primary care or in a rural and/or an underserved community. To receive federal funds, we are obligated to report specific program data; however, we have expanded our data collection efforts to better identify the reach of the AHEC programs and to best meet the needs of our rural communities.

In the last three biennium state funding for the ND AHEC has been administered through the Department of Commerce (NDDoC), Workforce Division. The AHEC has met contractual requirements of all program requests. Within the Workforce Division of the NDDOC, the AHEC has served as subject

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matter experts on health care workforce. The following is a list of the state funding history, utilized by the AHEC, to support statewide activities related to health care work force development:

- 2013-2015 Biennium: \$400,000
- 2015-2017 Biennium: \$200,000
- 2017-2019 Biennium: \$0 allocated from the legislature; \$300,000 provided from North Dakota Department of Commerce – Commissioner's Discretionary funds

HB 1402 was introduced in the House, with \$300,000 to be appropriated to the Department of Commerce, for the continued work of the AHEC. We are very grateful the Bill passed out of the House; however, the funding amount was amended to \$200,000 which would provide \$50,000/AHEC/year. Unfortunately, a reduction in state support will also reduce the amount of federal funding, we will be eligible for, due to the required 1:1 non-federal match which will significantly limit the scope and reach of the already established and successful programs and expansion or development of any new programs.

In order to continue the successful work of North Dakota AHEC, and on behalf of the rural communities, please vote to support HB 1402, and consider the original funding request of \$300,000.

A sincere thank you, for your support in the past. I would be more than happy to answer any questions.

Thank you,

Denise Andress, RN, MBA  
Director, Western ND AHEC  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639  
Phone - 701.928.0830  
Email – denise@ndahec.org

# North Dakota Area Health Education Center

Mayville • Hettinger

**Stands for Jobs**

NORTH DAKOTA AHEC

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## Who is AHEC?

The North Dakota Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is comprised of a program office, located at the Center for Rural Health, at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Grand Forks with two regional centers. The Eastern Area Health Education Center is located in Mayville and serves 381,377 people in 28 counties. The Western Area Health Education Center is located in Hettinger and serves 291,214 people in 25 counties. Each regional center is strategically located to support the healthcare workforce development in rural and underserved communities.

## What Does AHEC Do?

### Connects Students to Health Careers

- Introduce students, kindergarten through college (K-16), to the variety in health careers through school visits, career fairs, R-COOL Scrubs Academy and Camps, and HOSA-Future Health Professionals events;
- Invest in our rural youth, through education and experiential learning opportunities, to inspire and grow our own future healthcare workforce.

### Connects Health Profession Students to Communities

- Provide community-based clinical experiences in rural settings for health profession students;
- Identify communities interested in hosting healthcare profession students for rural rotations; and
- Educate current and potential students regarding scholarships and loan repayment opportunities.

### Connects Communities to Better Health

- Facilitate educational opportunities for practicing health professionals in rural and underserved communities.

**Funding allows the AHEC to develop and expand programs that support rural health workforce development to maintain quality healthcare to our rural communities and people. We have:**

- Reached more than 19,515 participants across every county in North Dakota;
- Provided more than \$80,000 for health occupation activities for students;
- Contributed more than \$10,000 toward continuing education for health professionals; Assisted 102 students in rural clinical rotations (\$40,000) – medicine, nursing, psychology, pharmacy, dietetics, dentistry, social work, and physical therapy; and
- Leveraged state, federal, and private funding (\$70,000) to establish and grow the North Dakota HOSA-Future Health Professionals program, which currently has 598 members, 16 chapters, and 21 advisors.

## Why is AHEC Vital to Healthcare Workforce Development?

1. Serves as a lead organization for establishing programs to inform and inspire students about the variety of opportunities in health careers serving rural residents;
2. Supports existing, and develops new and innovative, clinical rotation experiences in rural healthcare organizations that support their recruitment efforts; and
3. Coordinates education and training for primary care providers, and other healthcare professionals, to enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities, and aid in the retention of a skilled healthcare workforce serving rural communities.

## What will AHEC do with future funding?

- Serve as a trusted resource for innovative solutions to address healthcare workforce development;
- Develop an AHEC Scholars Program that is an interdisciplinary community-based training model for health profession students to increase their interest in working in rural and underserved areas;
- Invest in our youth, by promoting careers in healthcare to students (K-12) in rural and underserved areas;
- Grow the number of HOSA chapters, for high school students, and increase awareness of opportunities in rural communities;
- Work in collaboration with statewide strategic partners to leverage resources, eliminate program duplication, and effectively and creatively address healthcare workforce needs in rural and underserved communities.

## Who are AHEC's strategic partners?

- UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences
  - Center for Rural Health
  - Department of Family and Community Medicine
- UND College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines
- North Dakota Department of Commerce
- Mayville State University
- North Dakota Center For Nursing
- North Dakota University System
  - Dakota Nursing Program-Lake Region State College
  - Dickinson State University Nursing Program
  - Mayville State University Nursing Program
- North Dakota Career and Technical Education
- North Dakota Department of Health, Primary Care Office
- North Dakota STEM Network
- North Dakota Rural Health Association
- North Dakota Hospital Association
- North Dakota Long Term Care Association
- Community Healthcare Association of the Dakotas
- University of Minnesota School of Dentistry
- Sanford Health
- Otto Bremer Foundation

## For more information, contact:

### AHEC Program Office

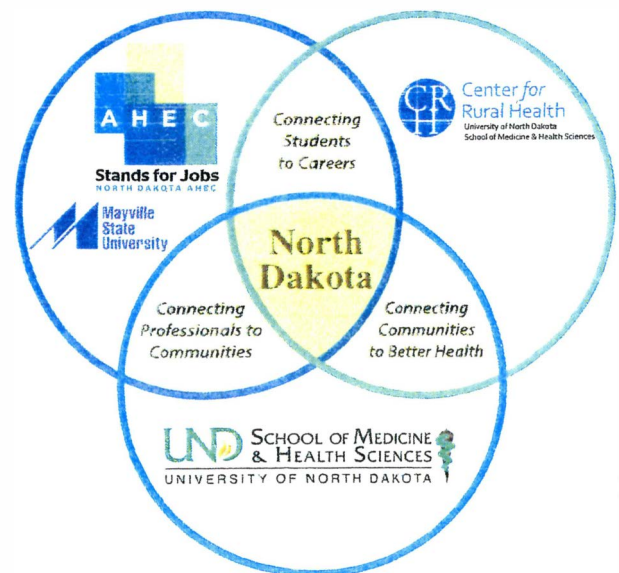
Center for Rural Health, University of North Dakota  
School of Medicine & Health Sciences  
Lynette Dickson, MS, RD, LRD, Associate Director  
[Lynette.dickson@med.und.edu](mailto:Lynette.dickson@med.und.edu) • 701-777-6471

### Eastern AHEC - Mayville

Brittany Ness, Director  
[brittany@ndahec.org](mailto:brittany@ndahec.org) • 701-788-4795

### Western AHEC - Hettinger

Denise Andress, MBA, RN Director  
[denise@ndahec.org](mailto:denise@ndahec.org) • 701.637.0177





# ND AHEC Budget Variations (2019-2021)

	\$300,000						\$200,000					
	2019-2020			2020-2021			2019-2020			2020-2021		
Funding Source	Eastern	Western	Program Office	Eastern	Western	Program Office	Eastern	Western	Program Office	Eastern	Western	Program Office
HRSA, Federal AHEC funding (1:1 required non-federal match)	\$77,250	\$77,250	\$52,700	\$77,250	\$77,250	\$52,700	\$77,250	\$77,250	\$52,700	\$77,250	\$77,250	\$52,700
State/DoC Funding (non-federal match)	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
*HRSA, Federal BHWET Funding	\$20,550	\$20,550	\$55,000	\$21,430	\$21,430	\$61,000	\$20,550	\$20,550	\$55,000	\$21,430	\$21,430	\$61,000
Sanford for HOSA Chapter Development	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$0
Total Available	\$172,800	\$184,800	\$107,700	\$172,800	\$184,800	\$113,700	\$147,800	\$159,800	\$107,700	\$147,800	\$160,680	\$113,700
<b>Personnel Expenses:</b>												
Salary/Fringe	\$113,000	\$116,100	**\$93,600	\$116,390	\$119,583	**\$96,400	\$113,000	\$116,100	**\$93,600	\$116,390	\$119,583	**\$96,400
<b>Operational Expenses:</b>												
Travel: (in/out-of-state)	\$5,500	\$14,000	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$10,500	\$6,500	\$4,500	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$3,500
AHEC Scholar stipends (\$500/student x 45)	\$22,500	NA	NA	\$22,500	NA	NA	\$15,000	NA	NA	\$15,000	NA	NA
Scrubs Camps (\$2,500 camp)	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$20,000 (other \$)	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$20,000 (other \$)	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$20,000 (other \$)	\$0	\$2,500	\$20,000 (other \$)
Rural Clinical Rotation Support	\$11,000	NA	NA	\$8,610	NA	NA		NA	NA	\$1,000	NA	NA
HOSA Chapter Startup contingent on continued funding from Sanford.	NA	\$12,000	NA	NA	\$12,000	NA	NA	\$12,000	NA	NA	\$12,000	NA
Rent/Utilities	NA	\$7,400	NA	NA	\$7,400	NA	NA	\$7,400	NA	NA	\$7,400	NA
Spring/Fall HOSA Leadership conferences rental fees/supplies	NA	\$8,000	NA	NA	\$8,000	NA	NA	\$4,000	NA	NA	\$3,000	NA
Other – dues, office/educational supplies, printing/copying, long-distance conference calls, laptop, ink cartridges, etc.	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$6,017	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$2,110	\$1,897	\$1,000
Indirect (8%) Mayville State University	\$13,800	\$13,800	-	\$13,800	\$13,800	-	\$11,800	\$11,800	-	\$11,800	\$11,800	-
Total	\$172,800	\$184,800	\$98,100	\$172,800	\$184,800	\$113,700	\$147,800	\$159,800	\$107,700	\$147,800	\$160,680	\$113,700

Please Note: All lines are approximate figures. \*\*AHEC Program Office Personnel line is split amongst 8 staff that support AHEC (i.e. web site, graphic design, communication, admin, assistant, evaluation, analytics, etc.); additionally in-kind staff support funded with non-federal sources not reflected in this table.

\*The HRSA, Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) program is a (4 year 2017-2021) grant program, awarded to the UND, College of Education and Human Development. The purpose is to provide stipends to UND behavioral health profession students in their final clinical experience, serving rural and underserved clients. The Regional AHEC Directors conduct interviews with existing clinical sites and pursue new sites, to determine BHWET eligibility. UND Program Office administers student and faculty stipend (% of funding). All programs align with the overall mission of AHEC to actively address healthcare workforce needs in North Dakota.

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ESTABLISHED 2012

## 2018-2019 State Profile

### Our Members

**658**

Future Health  
Professionals



### Did You Know?

The United States will need 5.6 million workers by 2020. HOSA- Future Health Professionals is the pipeline for tomorrow's health workforce.

### What is HOSA?

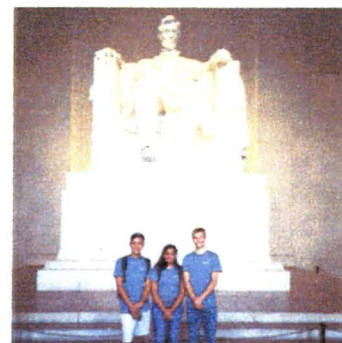
HOSA: Future Health Professionals is a national student organization that provides a unique program of leadership development, motivation and recognition exclusively for middle school, secondary, post-secondary, collegiate and adult students enrolled in health science classes.

**HOSA is 100% health care!**

HOSA's competitive events program, aligned with the National Healthcare Skills Standards, helps students graduate and be career and college ready and offers six event categories including: (1) health science, (2) health professions, (3) emergency preparedness, (4) leadership, (5) teamwork, (6) recognition.

### Chapters

Bismarck High School  
Century High School (Bismarck)  
 Fargo North High School  
Grand Forks High School  
Hettinger HOSAI  
Killedeer Public Schools  
Langdon High School  
Legacy High School (Bismarck)  
Mandan High School  
Minot Public Schools  
Missouri River Area Career & Technology Center (Bismarck)  
North Valley Career & Technology Center (Grafton)  
Red River High School (Grand Forks)  
Sheyenne High School (West Fargo)  
Southeast Region Career & Technology Center (Oakes)  
West Fargo High School



### Contact North Dakota HOSA:

Katie Shahan, BSN, RN  
State Advisor  
katie@ndahec.org  
701.637.0178



www.ndhosa.org



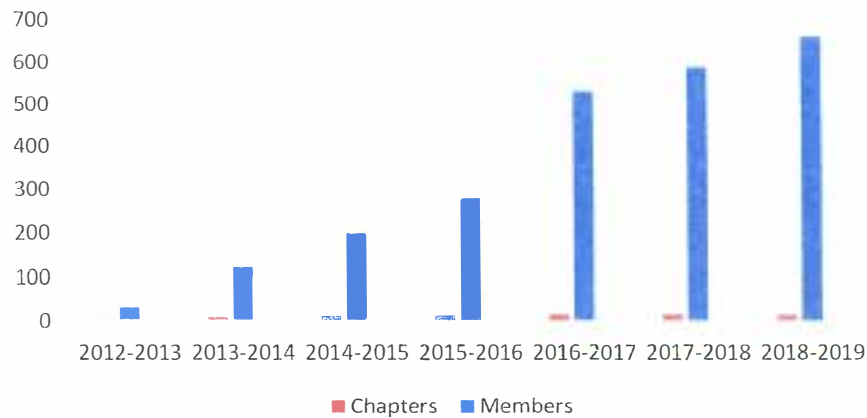


Membership Statistics			
Year	Chapters	Members	% Increase
2012-2013	4	30	n/a
2013-2014	8	122	306%
2014-2015	11	198	62%
2015-2016	13	278	40%
2016-2017	16	528	90%
2017-2018	16	585	11%
2018-2019	15	658	12%

Conference Statistics			
Year	FLC	SLC	ILC
2012-2013	unsure	unsure	8
2013-2014	50*	60*	20
2014-2015	85*	180*	41
2015-2016	121	212	55
2016-2017	95	286	77
2017-2018	181	270	71
2018-2019	171	384	n/a

\*estimates

Membership Statistics



Conference Statistics



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**Testimony on HB 1402****Senate Appropriations Committee-Chairman, Ray Holmberg  
Tuesday March 5th, 2019**

Mister Chairman, and members of the committee, my name is Cherie Roshau, I am here to testify in favor of House Bill 1402 for these reasons:

On behalf of Killdeer Public School HOSA, I am testifying in support of the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

As one who has more than forty years of education experience, it is not difficult to recognize the importance of engaging our students in the various forms of learning, one being a "hands-on" approach. HOSA provides a phenomenal and engaging approach to hands-on learning experiences opening the door to a multitude health career possibilities. Though our Killdeer HOSA organization is young, it has been a source of exposure and interest for our developing future health careers. This year, ninety-six percent of our members became CPR certified. We invited our coaches and teachers to take part in the training as well. We have a dedicated staff at the Killdeer Ambulance who donated their time to provide our HOSA members with CPR training.

Our HOSA members raised \$15,000.00 for Howling Wolf family when their son, Benny, contracted West Nile encephalitis. Benny Howling Wolf (aged four) was hospitalized for over a month in Fargo, ND and is now on his road to recovery with his team of physical therapists and doctors in Bismarck, ND. Eight Killdeer Public School HOSA members qualified the 2018 HOSA International Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas; several Killdeer HOSA members became certified CNA and EMT and are working in nursing home and are working with the local ambulance; the Killdeer Public School HOSA sponsored a fund-raising event to help our principal's son who was born with "transposition of the great vessels". He was flown to Bismarck and then to Mayo Clinic. Our HOSA group raised \$7,000.00 for the "Krew Kleeman Medical Benefit"; Killdeer Public School HOSA sponsored several blood drives in which they were required to make phone calls to set up appointments, make arrangements with the school for the event and provide snacks for those donating blood. Note from United Blood Services: "The Killdeer HOSA group recruited 47 community heroes and of that number 36 were eligible to donate, which provided 45 products. A tremendous effort put forth by our future medical professionals and leaders of tomorrow! So much in fact that there were 28 new first-time donors." Camille Jones, Donor Recruiter United Blood Services; the Killdeer HOSA provided/sponsored a "taping" training seminar for coaches and athletes presented by CHI St. Joseph's Sports Medicine; the Killdeer High School HOSA members sponsored a visit from the Valley Med Flight which landed on the practice field by the school. Elementary students and HOSA members visited with crew including the pilot, flight nurse, and medical technician, along with employees from the Killdeer Ambulance; Killdeer High School HOSA member, Chelsea Morlock won the

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Pin Design Contest for the state of North Dakota. The pin was used at the International Leadership Conference; Killdeer High School HOSA member Keia Holding Eagle designed the winning state HOSA Conference t-shirt.

This a short rendition of the accomplishments achieved by the Killdeer Public School membership. Comparatively, we are a small school. Our HOSA program has been active for four years. The question that I place before you is this, "if a small group of young people in western North Dakota are able to impact the world of health careers, what would happen if more schools, more education, more advisors and more financial support were afforded the possibilities? Could we close the gap and address health care workforce shortages through our students; the future of quality health care professionals.

AHEC has afforded the Killdeer HOSA group with financial and educational opportunities. Our rural North Dakota communities seem to spark health care interest through academics as well as the platform of volunteerism.

Through my role as a HOSA advisor, I have witnessed the promotion of teamwork and community service; encouraging health care education; and lighting the fire of imagination instilling a love of health care learning. None of this would be possible without the collaboration with ND AHEC.

In closing, we would like to say that Killdeer Public School HOSA is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota.

I urge a "Do Pass" on House Bill 1402, and would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cherie Roshau  
Killdeer HOSA Advisor

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March 5th, 2019

Testimony on HB 1402

Senate Appropriations=Committee-Chairman, Ray Holmberg

Mister Chairman, and members of the committee, my name is Kailey Weigel. I have been involved in my school's HOSA chapter for the past two years and currently hold the Historian position. HOSA is an important part of my educational journey, and plays a significant role in others' educational paths as well. Continued state funding will provide students with an environment to not only explore the medical field but improve their hands on skills, expand their knowledge, and make connections with people that have corresponding interests. Personally, HOSA has allowed me to delve into diverse areas of the medical field, and has really helped me narrow my interests heading into college. Opportunities to compete have taught me life skills such as work ethic, time management, and teamwork, as well as providing me with friends I plan to keep in contact with into the future. A few of my favorite moments of involvement have been listening to different presentations from health professionals, aiding in school service projects, and competing and placing at the state leadership conference in Jamestown in the areas of CPR/First Aid, and Sports Medicine.

Currently our chapter is partnering with Brave the Shave to organize North Dakota's first pediatric cancer walk. This shows that involvement in local chapters goes beyond the individual. It also benefits the school and community. Additionally, we are preparing to travel to Orlando for this year's International Leadership Conference. Here, students have the opportunity to build their leadership skills and further develop their awareness of places throughout the US by conversing with students from all over the nation.

Overall, with the help of state funding, HOSA will continue to enrich the lives of students like Sydney and myself. Whether that be in areas directly related to the health field, such as knowledge and experience, or it helps enrich students' life skills such as leadership, work habits, or communication and collaboration, HOSA will consistently manifest positive impacts. It plays a key role in bridging the gap between learning content in a text book and experiencing careers in real life. I can confidently say it has influenced my life and will undoubtedly continue to influence and assist the lives of future students.

I urge a do pass on House Bill 1402 and I would be happy to answer any questions. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Kailey Weigel

HOSA Historian

Legacy High School

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March 5 2019

Senate Appropriations Committee, Chairman Ray Holmberg

Harvest Room

Mister Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Gracie Doe, I am in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and I am part of the Killdeer HOSA chapter. I have been active in the ND HOSA-Future Health Professionals Program for two years. I became interested in HOSA because I have aspirations of pursuing a health occupation. HOSA has allowed me, as a middle school student, to learn basic medical knowledge for preparation for my future. I have had the opportunity to compete at the state and international HOSA leadership conference levels, and I wouldn't be able to do so with out the support of North Dakota Area Health Education Center.

Agriculture has been and continues to be a part of North Dakota heritage. As an agricultural state, the future of rural medicine is sometimes overlooked, but HOSA allows students from both small towns and bigger cities to explore the field of medicine and develop a passion for health care. I am a stronger and more resilient person with honorable values because of where I am from. My calling to help others is leading me towards healthcare. It excites, motivates, and energizes me to get the chance to explore healthcare avenues thru competition, symposiums and social event that brings the youth with health occupation interests of North Dakota together through the HOSA organization.

In conclusion, I feel I've gained confidence in my leadership skills, built my medical knowledge, and made many new friends who share the same passion as me.

Thank you for time and your past support of the ND Area Health Education Center. I urge a "do pass" on HB 1402.

Gracie Doe

Killdeer ND HOSA Student

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North Dakota Area Health Education Center Testimony on HB 1402

March 5, 2019

Senate Appropriations Committee-Harvest Room

Senator Holmberg, Chairman

Mister Chairman and members of the committee,

Hello, my name is Ainsley Hayden, I am in eighth grade, and part of the Killdeer High School HOSA chapter. To me, the HOSA-Future Health Professionals organization is so much more than just another school club or extracurricular activity. HOSA is the future of healthcare and is preparing students like me for their futures in the medical field. My HOSA journey began not too long ago at the 2017 Fall Leadership Conference which took place at the North Dakota Heritage Center here in Bismarck. Before that day, I had an interest in medicine; but after attending the conference, I had a brand-new passion instilled in me. After hearing inspiring stories, meeting outstanding health professionals, and taking part in interactive activities, I knew that I wanted to be a part of an organization that is the future of healthcare. I knew that I wanted to make a difference in someone's life, and most importantly, I knew that the medical field is where I someday hope to belong. Since that day, HOSA has given me an abundance of priceless opportunities. I have met wonderful people from both near and far, I have learned what it truly means to be part of something incredible, and I have gained valuable knowledge and skill to benefit me in my future. Through HOSA, I have competed and received first-place awards at the state level in events such as medical terminology and health career exploration knowledge tests as well as teamwork events. These events allowed me to compete and place in the top ten at the HOSA International Leadership Conference which took place in Dallas, Texas in June of 2018.

Each day, I continue to be amazed by the opportunities that have been created for not only all students, but students in small North Dakota communities like Killdeer. None of this would be possible without the continuous support from the HOSA organization and North Dakota AHEC. I will forever be thankful for all that I have gained as a HOSA member and future health professional.

Thank you for time and urge a "do pass" on HB 1402.

Respectfully submitted,

Ainsley Hayden

Killdeer Public School

HOSA Publicity

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ND Area Health Education Center  
Testimony HB 1402  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Harvest Room  
Senator Holmberg, Chairman

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Brendon Gibson, I am a sophomore at Killdeer High School and the President-elect of the ND HOSA. I've been a member of HOSA – Future Health Professionals for an amazing two years. The HOSA organization is a state-wide student led organization that is 100% healthcare. HOSA hasn't only prepared me medically, but molded me into the young man I am today. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 420 ND HOSA members attended the Spring Leadership conference at Jamestown University. At the conference I competed in an Emergency Readiness Event called CPR/First Aid. My partner and I had the success of placing first amongst many others in the state. It's competitions like these that enable students to prosper further within their desired medical fields.

I'm eternally grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the ND HOSA family. This wouldn't be possible without the guidance and leadership of the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC). I've been able to accumulate a tremendous amount of priceless friendships throughout this organization. Traveling around the nation and talking with hundreds of many other HOSA chapters has opened my eyes to the amount of endless opportunities we can do here in North Dakota. Being a State Officer has not only challenged but confirmed my perspective on healthcare and the wonders it does for families around the world.

I cannot express the amount of thanks I have for the ND AHEC. Being able to continue this program, would mean the world to me and many other students in the state. Through the support of AHEC I have had the opportunity explore many health care professions and decide that the medical occupations is my desired field of study thanks to the availability of ND HOSA.

Thank you for your time and allowing us to talk to you about the HOSA program. I urge a "do pass" on HB 1402.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendon Gibson, ND HOSA President Elect  
Killdeer Public School



# WEST RIVER HEALTH SERVICES

January 31, 2018

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

Good morning. My name is Matt Shahan and I am fortunate to serve as the CEO of West River Health Services in Hettinger. West River is a 5-time recipient of the Top 20 CAH designation, ranking us in the top 1.5% of CAHs in the county. We serve over 10,000 square miles of North and South Dakota, providing primary care, specialty care, and OB services. All these things said, my facility still faces many challenges in staffing physicians and nurses alike. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find, recruit, train, and retain qualified talent in our rural communities.

This is why today; I am here on behalf of the North Dakota Area Health Education Center and the work that they do on behalf of rural facilities across this great state. CAHs like mine are able to leverage the knowledge and expertise of the ND AHEC staff to introduce healthcare careers to students at an early age, identify potential candidates, implement internship programs, and provide continuing education opportunities, as well numerous other workforce related programs. With margins in hospitals already strained, we will continue to rely heavily on organizations like AHEC to assist in rebuilding the retiring workforce so that we can continue to serve our patients. As competition for workforce increases, it is imperative that students complete their training in rural areas. There is a direct correlation in where someone performs their training and where they chose to settle in for their career. If rural communities are to continue providing healthcare, then we must train the future workforce in a rural setting. Programs such as HOSA and the Scrubs Camp are vital in energizing our youth and setting them on the path to a career in rural healthcare. If we are unable to be successful in recruiting and retaining young talent to fill our open positions, we will become increasingly reliant on temporary staffing. Rural facilities cannot remain viable in this model, making the work of AHEC even more important. ND Medicaid and Medicare also cannot support the drastically increased costs of locum physicians and travelling nurses. Increased reliability on these staffing models can double or triple normal operating costs.

This coming fall our facility will host our first class of LPN students through Bismarck State College and the Dakota Nursing Program. This program will be important for our ability to recruit and train nursing students close to home. Funding assistance in getting such a program up and running is vital to the overall success of our facility and the students. As a CAH we are "cost reimbursed" for certain expenses by CMS. However, I'm sure you know that cost reimbursed actually means cost plus 1%, minus 2% due to sequestration. We have to be extremely careful with every penny and make sure we are efficient stewards of our facilities, realizing the important role we play in the economic success of rural North Dakota. My facility alone provides nearly \$18M per year in economic impact. Training nurses locally in our facility drastically increases our potential to retain them upon graduation. Our facility has been creative in building relationships with students involved in medical related fields as they complete their education. The likelihood of that student returning to a rural facility after spending 2-4 years in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, etc., is very unlikely. The nursing shortage is serious enough that there will always be open positions in the larger tertiary facilities throughout our state. Meaning that there will always be an open position for them that does not require them to move out of their apartment or current living arrangement. The long-term plan for this program is to assist our LPN instructor, who has a BSN, in obtaining their MSN so that




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we will be able to offer the RN program locally as well. However, the cost of putting them through an MSN program is prohibitive, especially when every nurse we take off the floor and move into an education or administrative position is another nurse not providing direct patient care.

My facility prides itself in "Providing Top Notch Healthcare Close to Home." This next year marks 70 years we have been doing just that. Success in the next 70 years will rely heavily on partnerships like the one we are proud to have with ND AHEC.

Thank you again for the important work that you all do on behalf of the citizens of North Dakota.



Matt Shahan, CEO  
WRHS, WRHSF, WHLC

January 25, 2019

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Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Dickinson High School (DHS), we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

AHEC representatives, Denise Andress and Katie Shahan have traveled to visit DHS Health Science classes the last five years. Denise and Katie bring the students stethoscopes to listen to Jack. Jack is a Sims pediatric mannequin. Students get to auscultate Jack's heart, lung and bowel sounds. Jack can make vomiting, coughing, and moaning sounds. The students have fun and learn about physical examination techniques such as auscultation. Denise and Katie inform students about all the healthcare careers available to them in North Dakota. They do an outstanding job exposing students to the ND university programs that offer healthcare majors.

In closing, we would like to say that DHS is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Bobbie Johnson  
DHS Health Sciences Instructor

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March 5th, 2019

Testimony on HB 1402

Senate Appropriations Committee – Chairman Ray Holmberg

Mister Chairman and members of the committee,

Hello, my name is Sydney Seamands, I've been a member of Legacy HOSA for 3 years and I currently hold the position of president. HOSA for me, was a way to get involved with my school and community. It exposed me to some really great opportunities, like learning about new careers in the medical field and interacting with other students that are inspired by healthcare. Everyone involved in HOSA from the advisors, to the officers, to the students, are invested in creating a great environment for pursuing future healthcare careers. I've also been able to compete at the international level a couple of times.

International leadership conferences are some of my favorite experiences. Those who place at state are invited to compete at the international level, and we also get to attend tons of different symposiums about different health related topics. The information gained at these events has influenced important decisions in my life, such as where I plan to attend college, and how I plan to get into medical school. Attending ILC has allowed me to network with people from across the nation, and make friends that I would have never met otherwise. These competitions are a great way for students to learn about participation in professional settings, and gain the necessary skills for their future professions.

Creative opportunities are also offered to HOSA members. I have recently won North Dakota's pin design contest for the pins that will represent our state at ILC this summer. I created a pin that features a honey bear because North Dakota is the nation's leading producer of honey, and I think that states that receive our pin will probably not have known this in the past.

As a chapter we love to give back to our community, which is another reason why I enjoy being a part of HOSA. We get really great experiences volunteering, and organizing events for the benefit of our community. We host annual blood drives and have also worked with Be The Match in the past to help people join the national bone marrow registry. Currently we are working with Brave the Shave to host a community walk for pediatric cancer.

I urge a do pass on HB 1402. Thank you for this opportunity. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Sidney Seamands  
Legacy High School  
HOSA President  
Bismarck, ND

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## Testimony on HB 1402

**Senate Appropriations Committee-Chairman, Ray Holmberg**  
**March 5th, 2019**

Good morning Mister Chairman, and members of the committee, my name is Trina Schilling, and I am here to testify in favor of House Bill 1402.

On behalf of myself, I am testifying in support of the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (NDAHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

I am currently a doctoral student at the University of Mary, Bismarck, in the Nurse Practitioner program and this past summer I completed my rotation of pediatrics in the rural healthcare setting of Sanford Health, Dickinson. I live in Wishek, ND and for a period of three weeks I traveled to Dickinson and stayed a period of three days each week in order to complete my clinical rotation. I was able to collaborate with ND AHEC to offset some of the endured mileage expenses through a grant opportunity offered to those students who complete clinical hours at a rural health setting. This was extremely helpful, as in this rigorous program your time and dedication is to your studies and not the ability to work or work additional hours to offset non-covered or unanticipated expenses by one's financial aid throughout the educational track of program completion.

In closing, I would like to say that I, personally, am pleased to continue a relationship that is not only beneficial to me, but also other future rural health students/providers and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. As a future Doctoral Prepared Nurse Practitioner, with a passion to serve rural North Dakota, I believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

I urge a "Do Pass" for House Bill 1402.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Trina Schilling, RN/BSN, MGMT, MBA, DNP-S  
DNP Student



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3-5-2019

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January 29, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of McKenzie County Healthcare Systems, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Given the substantial need in western North Dakota for skilled labor, McKenzie County Healthcare Systems is actively working with ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC to promote health careers in the local high school as well as developing a local nursing program.

In closing, we would like to say that McKenzie County Healthcare Systems is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Michael Curtis  
Chief Administrative Officer  
McKenzie County Healthcare Systems, Inc.



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January 21, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Valley Community Health Centers we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

In 2017 and 2018, ND AHEC partnered with Valley Community Health Centers and the Iowa College of Dentistry to provide housing for two 4<sup>th</sup> year dental students that lead to over 160 patients receiving care. This included over 100 patients on medical assistance and amounted to \$50,000+ in billable procedures. Both students who received financial support from ND AHEC were from North Dakota and have intent to return to the state upon graduation. Valley Community Health Centers has also partnered with ND AHEC to support limited radiology training for our rural and urban medical clinics.

Valley Community Health Centers whole heartedly supports a continued relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We sincerely believe ND AHEC various programs are worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Mara Jiran, CEO

Dr. Jackie Nord, DDS

Administration Office • 212 S. 4th St Suite 200 • Grand Forks, ND 58201

Larimore Clinic  
607 Towner Ave. • Larimore, ND 58251  
701-343-6418

Grand Forks Clinic  
212 S. 4th St., St. 301 • Grand Forks, ND 58201  
701-757-2100 ext. 1

Dental Clinic  
212 S. 4th St., St. 101 • Grand Forks, ND 58201  
701-757-2100 ext. 2





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## DEPARTMENT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Wayde Sick  
STATE DIRECTOR &  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

January 25, 2019

State Capitol 15th Floor  
600 E Blvd Ave Dept 270  
Bismarck ND 58505-0610  
701-328-3180  
701-328-1255 (Fax)

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Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of the Department of Career and Technical Education, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Presently, ND AHEC is engaged in the important work of advising the HOSA student organization. This gives students that are taking health science courses the same leadership opportunities provided in other Career Technical Student Organizations such as FFA or FBLA. The HOSA state officers are invited to attend the state leadership conference, hosted by the Department of Career and Technical Education.

In closing, we would like to say that the Department of Career and Technical Education is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Wayde Sick  
State Director



Sanford Hillsboro  
PO Box 609  
12 Third St SE  
Hillsboro ND 58045-0609  
Comstock Corner Assisted Living (701) 636-3266  
Business Office (701) 636-3200  
Hospital: (701) 636-3219  
Care Center (701) 636-3235  
Fax: (701) 636-3206  
sanfordhealth.org

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**SANFORD**  
HEALTH

January 22, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Director-Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Sanford Health Hillsboro and Mayville, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Being rural, we find that The Scrubs Camps program, located at Mayville, is a great way to allow our local students to get a look into the opportunities to work in healthcare in our facilities. As a member of the Advisory Board, I will continue to support the work in helping connect students to rural communications and healthcare related career opportunities, thus creating a positive way to meet the needs in rural North Dakota.

In closing, we would like to say that Sanford Health Hillsboro and Mayville are pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,



Jac McTaggart  
Senior Director  
Sanford Health – Hillsboro/Mayville

Our Mission:  
Dedicated to the work of  
health and healing

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Bismarck State College • Dakota College at Bottineau • Lake Region State College • Williston State College

January 24, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress;

On behalf of the Dakota Nursing Program, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and the Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

ND AHEC has assisted Dakota Nursing Program students financially as they travel to clinical sites within the state. They have assisted our programs with recruitment efforts by being involved with HOSA – Future Health Professionals and health career fairs. ND AHEC also donated simulation equipment that they were no longer using to our programs. This equipment is being put to good use in the nursing simulation labs. ND AHEC gives rural facilities information about nursing and allied health programs they can access in their communities. The Dakota Nursing Program has benefited from their advocacy in this area.

In closing, I would like to say that the Dakota Nursing Program is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and ND AHEC. I believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julie Traynor".

Julie Traynor, MS, RN  
Director  
Dakota Nursing Program  
1801 College Drive North  
Devils Lake, ND 58301

BISMARCK



HIGH SCHOOL

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pg 1

January 24, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3rd St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Address  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Address,

On behalf of Bismarck High School HOSA, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

As an instructor and advisor, I can say that HOSA has had a tremendous impact on students who wish to pursue a career in healthcare. Bismarck High School began our first chapter in 2012, but we would not have been able to do so without the partnership with our ND AHEC program. Since the start of the program, hundreds of students have been a part of HOSA - where they can develop leadership skills and learn more about various healthcare professions. Many students have participated in learning seminars during the ND fall leadership conference where they have had hands on learning opportunities that have impacted future career decisions. HOSA students also have the opportunity to develop leadership through the state and international HOSA competition. I have had several students earn national scholarships through their involvement with the HOSA organization. Many of these students go on to pursue careers in healthcare which is vital to filling our significant healthcare worker shortage in our state and nation. HOSA has positively impacted the lives of hundreds of students in my school over the years. None of this would be possible without the partnership and support of ND AHEC.

In closing, we would like to say that Bismarck High School HOSA is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Heather Frey  
Medical Related Careers Instructor  
HOSA advisor  
Bismarck High School



U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence 1999-2000



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January 23, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of Legacy High School HOSA, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

ND AHEC has been an amazing support to our program over the past years. NDAHEC has brought HOSA – future health professionals to the state. This organization provides opportunities to build medical knowledge and technical skills, as well as develop leadership necessary for a career in the health industry. HOSA helps students to learn about a variety of medical careers, to develop skills that will be essential to their future careers as healthcare providers, develop leadership skills and increase community awareness and participation.

In closing, I would like to say that Legacy High School HOSA is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,



Joelean Lowman  
Medical Related Careers Instruction  
LHS HOSA Advisor



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
City-County Health District

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James Buhr, M.D.  
Health Officer

Theresa Will, R.N., B.S.N., M.P.H.  
Administrator

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January 23, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of City-County Health District, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

City-County Health District (CCHD) in Valley City provides public health services to the Barnes County community. I currently serve on the advisory board at the area Sheyenne Valley Career & Technology Center, and health careers is one area of focus. As an Eastern ND AHEC board member, I am in a position to share information with the board regarding the AHEC program.

Serving as the administrator of CCHD, I know firsthand the problems faced by rural healthcare facilities when trying to hire medical professionals. Only through collaboration and education are we going to be able to continue to attract students to the healthcare workforce to meet the needs in rural and underserved communities in the future.

In closing, we would like to say that City-County Health District is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

*Theresa Will*

Theresa Will, Administrator  
City-County Health District



**NORTH DAKOTA  
CENTER FOR NURSING**

A unified voice for nursing excellence.

# 19

HB 1402  
3-5-2019

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January 17, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of the ND Center for Nursing I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

The NDAHEC serves as a member of our board of directors as we work collaboratively together to address the nursing workforce shortage. We also help to coordinate recruitment efforts and the promotion of the nursing career with the HOSA program coordinated by the NDAHEC.

In closing, I would like to say that the ND Center for Nursing is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Patricia Moulton, PhD  
Executive Director  
ND Center for Nursing  
3523 45<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Fargo, ND 58104  
701-639-6548

[Patricia.moulton@ndcenterfornursing.org](mailto:Patricia.moulton@ndcenterfornursing.org)



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Trina Taszarek-Schilling  
505 S Centennial Street  
Wishek, ND 58495

January 22, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
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501 N Columbia Rd. Stop 9037  
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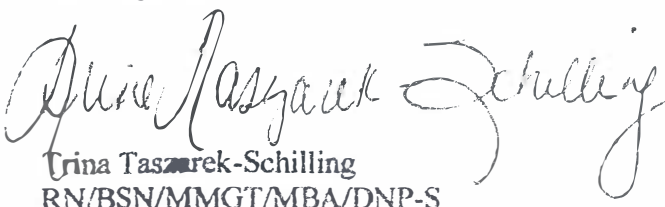
Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Address,

On behalf of myself, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

I am currently a doctoral student at the University of Mary, Bismarck, in the Nurse Practitioner program and this past summer I completed my rotation of pediatrics in the rural healthcare setting of Sanford Health, Dickinson. I live in Wishek, ND and for a period of three weeks I traveled to Dickinson and stayed a period of three days each week in order to complete my clinical rotation. I was able to collaborate with ND AHEC to offset some of the endured mileage expenses through a grant opportunity offered to those students who complete clinical hours at a rural health setting. This was extremely helpful, as in this rigorous program your time and dedication is to your studies and not the ability to work or work additional hours to offset non-covered or unanticipated expenses by one's financial aid throughout the educational track of program completion.

In closing, I would like to say that I, personally, am pleased to continue a relationship that is not only beneficial to me, but also other future rural health students/providers and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. As a future Doctoral Prepared Nurse Practitioner, with a passion to serve rural North Dakota, I believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

  
Trina Taszarek-Schilling  
RN/BSN/MMGT/MBA/DNP-S



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January 24th, 2019

Lynette Dickson, MS  
Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
501 N Columbia Rd, Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202

Brittany Ness  
Eastern ND AHEC Director  
Mayville State University  
330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of HOSA-Future Health Professionals, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC) as candidates for continued funding. These centers focus on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

HOSA's collaboration with ND AHEC has proven to be invaluable over the years. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the growth our organization has viewed since its inception and emphasize truly how much our relationship is valued. From a firsthand perspective, the expansion of our membership body is undeniable. To date, HOSA includes 629 students from across the state, as well as 21 advisors and 16 local chapters. Additionally, HOSA is the only future health professionals club offered in our state, showcasing how hundreds of students have the ability to build upon their inclinations towards a future health career through this unique opportunity. Not only does HOSA educate its members about the myriad of careers available to them, but it also provides an equitable stake in mentorship opportunities, hands-on competitive events, and much more. Simply put, HOSA unites our state's population of students interested in a health career, regardless of their geographic location, socioeconomic status, or any other factor, which is all contingent upon the passing of House Bill 1402. Beyond the state level, students even have the opportunity to compete at HOSA's International Leadership Conference competition, attend national leadership conferences, and assume leadership positions. These privileges build the foundation of strong youth leadership by instilling values such as a strong work ethic, public speaking skills, intrapersonal communication, and much more.

In closing, I would like to say that HOSA is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial among us, the North Dakota Area Health Education Program, and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. I believe that continued support is beyond justified once we consider how this partnership meets the needs of future health care students as well as professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Preeti Chemiti  
ND HOSA State President

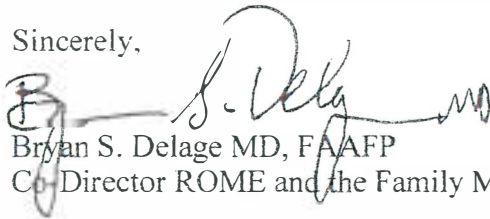
January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

To Who it May Concern:

Regarding : Medical Student Education Housing Costs

I was asked to write a letter to indicate the impact of housing support for rural rotations for our Family Medicine Clerkships and ROME program. We require students spend at least 4 weeks rural for their Family Medicine Clerkships and 24 weeks for the ROME program. We find some facilities that cannot provide housing and the cost is very high for the students, which limits students choosing to stay for a full rotation rural and increases costs significantly for the students and undermines student's experiences in rural communities. Some financial support through the AHEC program provides valuable support for the cost of housing and allows students to spend more time rural and increases their exposure which is crucial to them seeing themselves in this environment for practice. Support for AHEC and funding greatly improves our ability to place students rural and provide meaningful experiences to improve the number of students who choose rural practices.

Sincerely,

  
Bryan S. Delage MD, FAAFP  
Co-Director ROME and the Family Medicine Clerkship

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*Healthcare with the community at heart.*

Lynette Dickson, MS  
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330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Andress  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Andress,

On behalf of my training consortium TAAP (Training Academy of Addiction Professionals), I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Approximately halfway through my consortium training to become an addiction counselor, I was required, as part of my clinical rotation, to spend approximately 3 months of my training at Coal Country CHC in Beulah, North Dakota. Having to put in 40 hours a week of training left me very little time to provide an income for my family, not to mention the drive from Bismarck to Beulah is approximately 85 miles one way. This forced me to only be available to work on the weekends at New Freedom Center, my former employer, but it also temporarily relocating me to Stanton, ND, to alleviate driving time and financial stress. The financial assistance/reimbursement that Western ND AHEC provided for me was beyond a blessing for myself and my family. Not only did it provide me with some financial relief but ultimately it lead me to accepting a full-time position at Coal Country CHC as a licensed addiction counselor. I'm fairly confident that without this assistance from ND AHEC, I would not of been able to remain a part of the TAAP consortium's rotation.

In closing, we would like to say that myself and TAAP is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. I believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

ADDICTION COUNSELOR TRAINEE (ACT)  
COAL COUNTRY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER  
1312 HWY 49 N  
BEULAH ND, 58523  
(701) 873-7788 EXT. 102

[MCKAY@COALCOUNTRYHEALTH.COM](mailto:MCKAY@COALCOUNTRYHEALTH.COM)

Beulah Clinic  
1312 Highway 49 N  
Beulah, ND 58523  
(701) 873-4445

Center Clinic  
111 East Main Street  
Center, ND 58530  
(701) 794-8798

Hazen Clinic  
510 8th Avenue NE  
Hazen, ND 58545  
(701) 748-2256

Killdeer Clinic  
220 4th Avenue SW  
Killdeer, ND 58640  
(701) 764-5822





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January 24, 2019

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Director ND AHEC  
Center for Rural Health, UNDSMHS  
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330 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NE  
Mayville, ND 58257

Denise Address  
Western ND AHEC Director  
109 S Main St  
PO Box 615  
Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Ms. Dickson, Ms. Ness, and Ms. Address,

On behalf of Mayville State University, we are writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (ND AHEC) Program, the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern ND AHEC, Western ND AHEC). The ND AHEC/Eastern/Western ND AHEC focuses on providing support across the health care workforce pipeline to address health care workforce shortages through distribution, diversity, supply and quality health care professionals.

Over the past few years (2010-2018), Mayville State University (MaSU) has been a strong supporter and collaborator with the ND AHEC/E AHEC by agreeing to be the Recipient to the Contractor (University of North Dakota) to assist the performance of the Eastern ND AHEC scope of work. In the fall 2012 MaSU agreed to a similar relationship for the Western ND AHEC. In addition Mayville State University has supported ND AHEC through partnering with K-12 health career fairs, establishment of the Dakota Nursing Program of the Lake Region State College, Dakota Nursing Program, on the Mayville State University campus, and collaboration with MaSU STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) curriculum. Mayville State University also supports ND AHEC by being an Eastern AHEC and Western AHEC Advisory Board member.

In closing, we would like to say that Mayville State University is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program and the Eastern/Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health for North Dakota. Thank you.

Best regards,

Dr. Brian Van Horn, President  
Mayville State University

Dr. Keith Stenejem, VP for Academic Affairs  
Mayville State University

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School of Medicine & Health Sciences  
Family & Community Medicine  
1301 North Columbia Road – Mail Stop 9037  
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037  
Phone: (701) 777-3200  
Fax: (701) 777-3849

January 28, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept my whole-hearted support and gratitude for funding that AHEC provides in support of rural educational experiences for University and North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences students. Specifically, I am the Co-Director for the Family Medicine Clerkship and Rural Opportunities in Medical Education programs for third-year medical students. An important part of that work involves having nearly all of our medical students spend between 4 and 28 weeks in a rural community with Family Medicine physician faculty members who show students the rewards and privileges of rural practice.

However, housing and transportation costs can be daunting to our students. Some students have relayed that they choose shorter rural experiences based on the cost of housing in a "short-term" location.

AHEC can help bridge the gap in the financial strain some students face in fulfilling their rural learning requirement, which is a minimum of four weeks during their last two years of medical school. AHEC funds are completely separate from funds in our Department of Family and Community Medicine at the medical school. While our Department has no money budgeted or available to offset housing or travel costs for students, AHEC can help with those student expenses.

Funding for rural training programs and expenses associated with them is a wise investment for the citizens of North Dakota. Please accept my request for generously supporting AHEC in the mission we share regarding rural medical student education.

Sincerely,



Kamille S. Sherman, M.D. FAAFP  
Co-Director, FMED clerkship and Rural  
Opportunities in Medical Education  
Dept of Family & Community Medicine  
University of North Dakota SMHS  
[kamille.sherman@ndus.edu](mailto:kamille.sherman@ndus.edu)