



May 15, 2024

Attn: Nevada Patient Protection Commission (PPC)

Dr. Ikram Kahn and members of the Commission,

For the past four decades, the Nevada AHEC Program has been advancing its mission through three dedicated centers across the state. We have centers in Las Vegas, Elko, and I represent High Sierra AHEC, located in Reno. We are addressing Nevada's health care workforce shortages through recruiting, training, and retaining Nevada's future health professionals.

Through our work, we emphasize the crucial role of workforce development within the broader context of promoting health equity and transforming healthcare delivery. AHECs serve as connectors laying the groundwork for collaboration while also forging meaningful pathways between the students we serve and their health career aspirations. We believe workforce development can harness the collective potential within these communities, empowering individuals with the skills and resources needed to drive positive change. With a connected, diverse, and skilled workforce, we can focus on transforming care delivery to better serve Nevada.

At the heart of our mission are four pillars driving change and excellence in healthcare services:

Fostering Growth: We are committed to nurturing the next generation of healthcare professionals in Nevada. Through advanced education, mentorship, and skill development, we cultivate a culture of excellence that shapes the future of the industry.

Forging Strong Partnerships: Collaboration is key to addressing the dynamic needs of Nevada's healthcare workforce. By building robust partnerships statewide, we create a unified front to tackle challenges and innovate for the betterment of healthcare services.

Empowering Future Leaders: Engaging with K-12 students is pivotal in cultivating a skilled and compassionate healthcare workforce. Our efforts focus on empowering the next generation, ensuring they are equipped to serve our communities with dedication and proficiency. We start as early as 5th grade.

Promoting Equity and Inclusivity: We advocate for health equity, compassion, and inclusive healthcare practices. By providing education and tools for culturally aware practices, we ensure that all Nevadans receive equitable and empathetic care.

Connecting students to careers, professionals to communities, & communities to better health



Our impact speaks volumes:

A remarkable 91% of K-12 participants express a genuine interest in pursuing higher education upon completing our programs.

67% of our program participants represent underserved and underrepresented Title I and/or rural communities, highlighting our commitment to equity and inclusion.

An encouraging 76% of program participants enthusiastically agree that our programming has ignited their passion for a career in healthcare.

Moreover, as of 2023, 39% of our AHEC Scholars alumni are actively serving in rural areas and high-volume needs hospitals across Nevada. This statistic illustrates the tangible impact of our programs and their direct connection to workforce retention, further solidifying our commitment to addressing Nevada's healthcare needs.

In closing, we extend our sincerest gratitude for your interest in our state's healthcare workforce development initiatives. As you navigate this critical area, we encourage you to consider the Nevada AHEC Program not just as an option but as a strong partner in shaping the future of healthcare workforce development in Nevada. With our unwavering dedication and proven track record, we stand ready to collaborate, innovate, and drive meaningful change. Together, let us ensure a healthier, more resilient Nevada for generations to come.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Gregg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "G".

Andrea L. Gregg
Chief Executive Officer