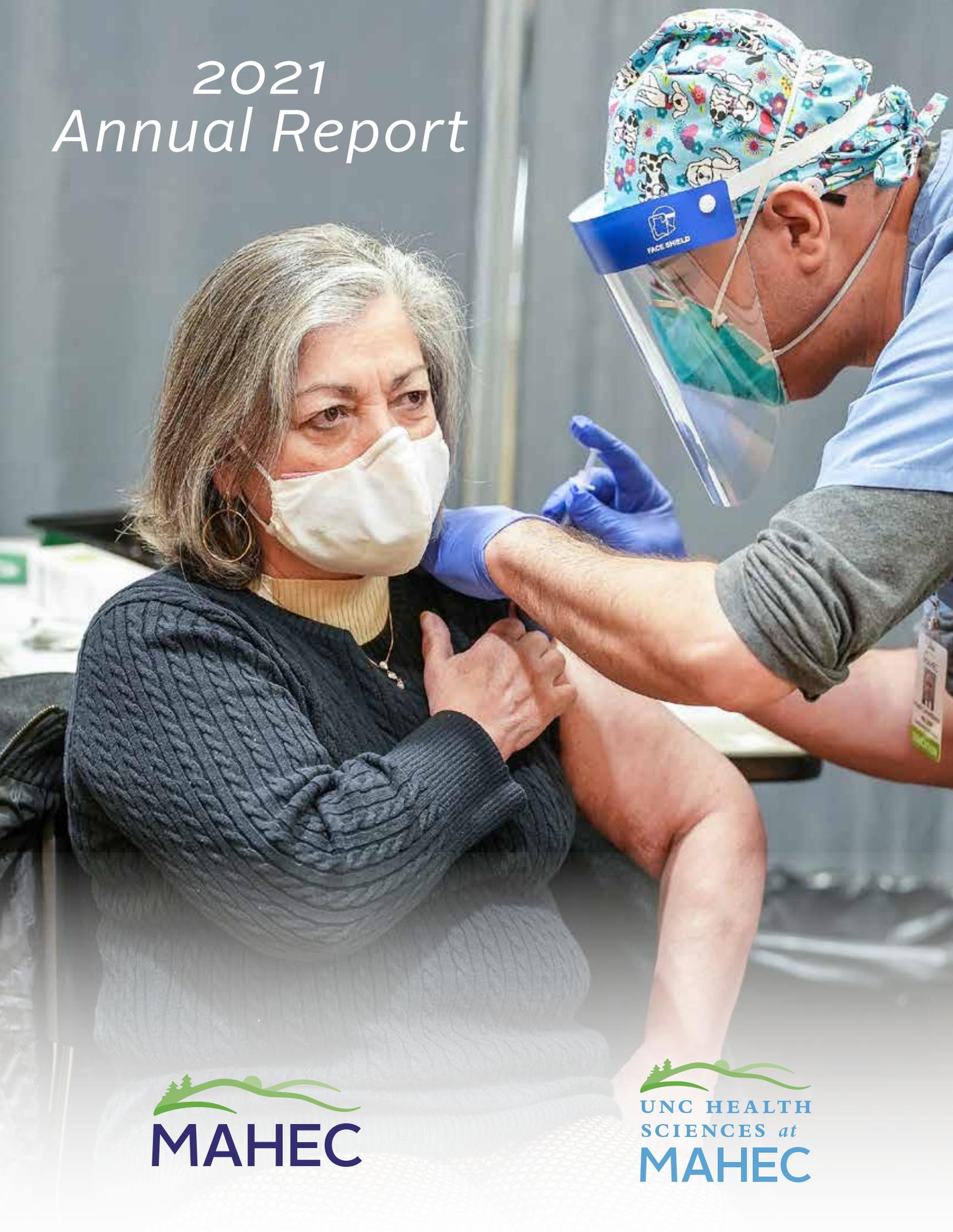


# 2021 Annual Report



# On the Cover

Francisco Castelblanco, DNP, administers a COVID-19 vaccine at the community vaccination clinic at UNC Asheville.

## Photo sources:

Front cover: Kevin Fuller, UNC Asheville

p.4, right, courtesy of Hannah Robinson

p.5 courtesy of UNC Asheville

p.6 courtesy of Kathey Avery

p.7, top, courtesy of Leora Engel-Smith

p.9 courtesy of Bronwyn Fadem

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# Transforming Healthcare in Western North Carolina

The Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) has been dedicated to improving health in Western North Carolina since 1974 by creating a robust and well-qualified healthcare workforce. MAHEC's graduate medical education programs have trained 651 medical and dental professionals to date, all with a passion for serving those living in our region's underserved communities. MAHEC's family medicine, ob/gyn, internal medicine, psychiatry, and dental practices improve access to care today while training the workforce needed for tomorrow. And our continuing education programs support thousands of healthcare providers across the state every year.

In 2017, MAHEC and the University of North Carolina (UNC) expanded their partnership through UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC, home to branch campuses and programs affiliated with UNC School of Medicine, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy, and UNC Adams School of Dentistry. Our academic health center is addressing Western North Carolina's biggest health challenges—including COVID-19—by leveraging community partnerships, MAHEC's expertise in graduate medical education and interprofessional care, and UNC-Chapel Hill's world class research and implementation science.

The benefits of an interdisciplinary academic health center have never been more apparent than in the midst of a global pandemic that has required communities around the world to bring every resource to bear to mitigate the spread of a highly contagious and deadly virus. That our region fared better than many during the pandemic is a testament to the power of UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC's commitment to transform regional health through collaborative community-focused partnerships.

## **MAHEC Board of Directors**

Chair William R. Hathaway, MD; Vice Chair Alan D. Stiles, MD; Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth M. Partin; W. Louis Bissette, Jr.; Robert A. Blouin, PharmD; Carol Burton, PhD; Casey Cooper; Bruce Deighton, PhD; David P. Franklin, MD; Jeffery E. Heck, MD; James M. Kirby, II; Paul McDowell; Danielle Mahaffey, MD; Alfred J. Mina, MD; Joseph A. Pino, MD, MHA; Lindsey Rhoden, AIA; Laurie Stradley, PhD; Darin Waters, PhD

## **UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC Oversight Board**

Voting members: UNC Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Robert A. Blouin, PharmD; UNC School of Medicine Executive Dean Cristy Page, MD, MPH; UNC SOM Interim Vice Dean of Academic Affairs Jennifer Wu, MD; UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health Senior Associate Dean Laura Linnan, ScD; UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy Dean Angela Kashuba, PharmD; UNC Adams School of Dentistry Interim Dean Julie Byerly, MD, MPH; UNC Board of Governors, Former Chair, MAHEC Board Representative W. Louis Bissette, Jr; Cherokee Indian Hospital CEO Casey Cooper; and MAHEC CEO Jeffery E. Heck, MD

Non-voting members: MAHEC CFO Zach Levin; UNC School of Medicine CFO Michael Sledge; UNC Asheville Chancellor Nancy J. Cable, PhD

# Responding to Regional Needs

## COVID-19 Community Resource Team

COVID-19 presented a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to support emerging population health needs on an unprecedented scale. MAHEC faculty, staff, learners, and community partners rose to the challenge time and time again, collaborating in novel ways and adapting clinical training and educational curricula to meet real-world needs in real time. Early in the pandemic, UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC established a cross-departmental COVID-19 Community Resource Team to rapidly identify community needs and resource them through:

### **Regional COVID-19 data collection**

Working with regional partners, UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC developed a data dashboard that helped public health leaders create tailored mitigation strategies for emerging COVID-19 hotspots.

### **Education and training**

Continuing professional development programs and practice support quickly pivoted to provide just-in-time training to support regional telehealth implementation and COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccination.

### **Trusted community support**

The WNC community health worker initiative trained and supported community members across the region in delivering COVID-19 prevention, health, and vaccine education to our region's most vulnerable communities.

### **Testing implementation and support**

In addition to developing a MAHEC-based COVID-19 testing clinic, the testing team increased regional capacity for early virus detection through technical assistance and mobile outreach to at-risk communities.

### **Regional communication campaign**

Partnering with regional health networks and foundations ensured Western North Carolinians had ongoing access to evidence-based information for preventing COVID-19 infection, severe illness, and death.

### **Supply chain coordination and vaccine acceleration**

This nimble team worked with over 400 community partners to address PPE and other supply needs then pivoted to accelerate the equitable distribution of vaccines across our region.

# Driving Clinical Innovation

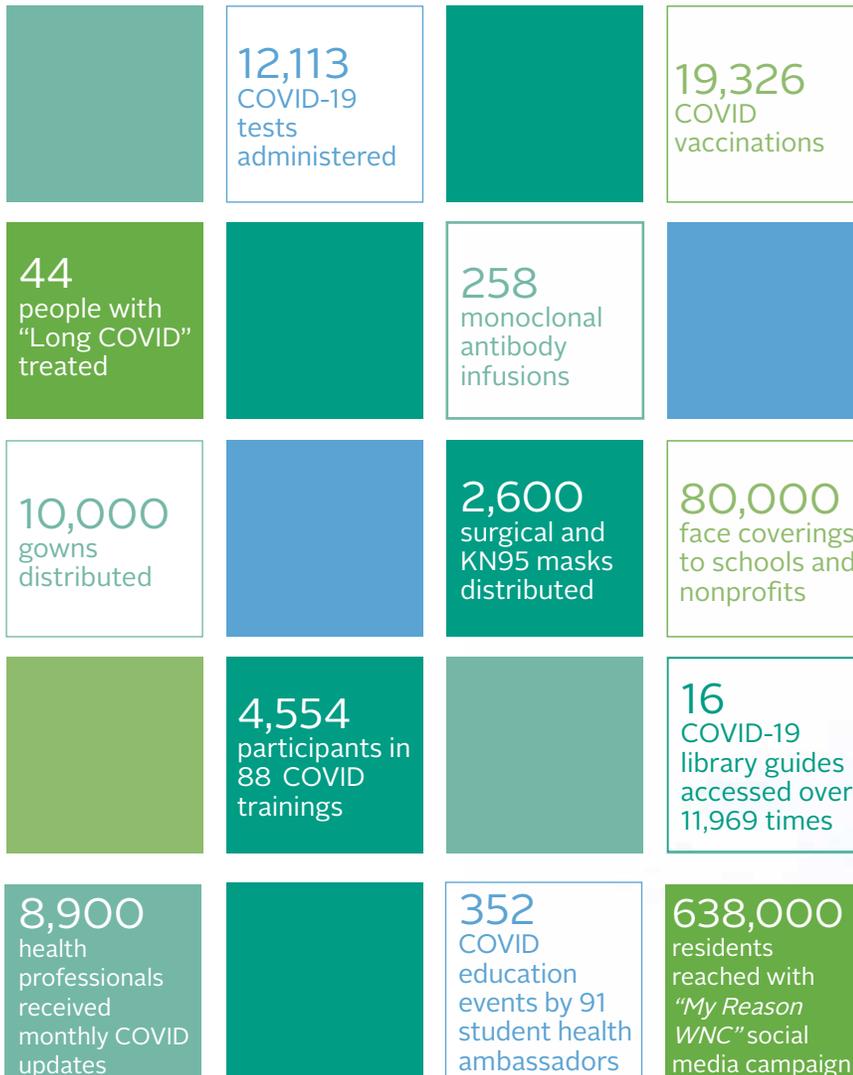
Innovations Team

In 2021, MAHEC created an Innovations Team to help healthcare providers respond to rapidly changing healthcare needs. Working at an accelerated pace, the team helped establish the region's first stand-alone monoclonal antibody infusion treatment center, a post-acute COVID-19 care clinic, and a large-scale community vaccination clinic in partnership with UNC Asheville.

“For the first time  
in a year, I have  
some hope.”

- Katherine Cosimano

Post-Acute COVID Care Clinic patient



“I always looked forward to being with this stellar team of medical professionals and university staff. It made my pandemic experience a little less stressful because I knew I was helping to make a difference, being there for others who probably had not been out of their house in a year, likely full of fear. We provided them hope and health.”

- Candace Buck

Community vaccination clinic volunteer

# Cultivating Local Expertise

The UNC Gillings School's Master of Public Health (MPH) Program in Asheville

## Community partners

engaged in work study, practicum, and culminating experience projects

ABCCM Free Clinic  
Appalachian State University  
Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project  
Asheville Housing Authority  
BeLoved Asheville  
Blue Ridge Health  
Bounty & Soul  
Buncombe County DHHS  
Buncombe Partnership for Health  
Center for Rural Health Innovation  
GlaxoSmithKline  
Land of Sky Area Agency on Aging  
MAHEC (Opioid Education Team, Dental Residency, Eating Disorder Workgroup, Institute for Excellence, OB, Psychiatry, Research, UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC Interprofessional Education)  
Mothering Asheville  
Mountain Community Health Partnership  
MountainTrue  
Mountainwise  
NC Center for Health and Wellness  
Partners Aligned Toward Health  
Pisgah Legal Services  
Senior PharmAssist  
Toe River Health District  
Transylvania Public Health  
Verner Center for Early Learning  
WNC Health Network  
Western Carolina Medical Society's Project Access & Medical Interpreter Network  
Yancey Community Garden Dig In!  
Yancey Emergency Operations Center

## Impact Data

17 Incoming students, the largest class, recruited in 2021

28 community partners engaged across region

92% of graduates retained in WNC

Now in its third year, the students in the UNC Gillings School's MPH Program in Asheville have contributed to improving the health of the region in meaningful ways including

- Providing community-based COVID education
- Expanding healthy food and dental care services for children
- Reducing social isolation in older adults
- Increasing access to medications for opioid use disorder and behavioral health services

MPH students work in interprofessional teams that include medical, pharmacy, and dental students to gain a deeper understanding of public health challenges that require innovative cross-sector solutions. Graduates take this knowledge with them as they continue to serve our region.



*After completing a summer practicum with PATH, Hannah Robinson now serves as their Program Manager for Healthy Lifestyles.*



*Tamarie Macon, PhD*

## Dr. Tamarie Macon receives Gillings School's Teaching Excellence and Innovation Award

First presented in February 2012, the Teaching Excellence and Innovation Awards honor faculty members who students feel "improve the learning environment at the Gillings School by integrating new technologies, engaging students in interactive activities, employing creative assessment methods, and introducing and incorporating progressive curriculum ideas into the classroom."

# Learning Through a Pandemic

The Institutes of Higher Education Collaborative

“We were all working for one shared purpose.

I loved the creativity of student ambassadors and their passion for making sure their students had a safe campus to return to this fall and spring.”

—Amy Schlosser  
Montreat College

## Impact Data

6 residential campuses

91 student health ambassadors

352 student-led support activities

3% average positivity rate

22,000 students, faculty and staff supported

5,200 meals delivered to students

1,360 COVID resource bags distributed

4 conference presentations

1 national innovation award

20+ media stories



*Student Health Ambassadors at UNC Asheville*

## Student-Powered Prevention

UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC and the NC Center for Health and Wellness at UNC Asheville provided ongoing training and compensation for student health ambassadors (SHAs) at six residential campuses across WNC. SHAs participated in weekly huddles and organized social media campaigns, wellness walks, COVID prevention swag bags, drop-in virtual support sessions, and meal deliveries for students in quarantine.

This innovative approach empowered students to take the lead in creating a culture of health and safety that supported not only academic learning but also mental and physical well-being.

All six WNC campuses in the collaborative effort were able to remain residential and continue onsite classes for the 2020-21 academic year.



# Leveraging Community Strengths

## Community Health

### Community Partner Spotlight Kathey Avery, BSN



When Kathey Avery first started practicing community nursing in 2008 she took a little red chair with her everywhere she went. The chair sent a clear message to community members. She had come to listen. This attitude is the heart of community nursing and how you address years of mistrust in a healthcare system that has not always listened to Black, Hispanic, rural, and low-income community members.

Kathey still asks what matters most to the people she serves. This has been critical in the fight against COVID-19, which has disproportionately affected communities of color and rural residents. As a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation clinical scholar working with MAHEC faculty, Kathey has been instrumental in training community health workers (CHWs) in her “door-to-door” nursing approach to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Throughout the pandemic, Kathey has continued knocking on doors herself, visiting more than 600 homes in historically Black and brown neighborhoods to listen to concerns and provide COVID education, prevention supplies, and vaccine information. Residents welcome these house calls from a familiar and trusted neighbor, and she welcomes the opportunity to connect them with the resources they need to stay healthy.

Community health workers (CHWs) have been some of the most visible and vital change agents working on the ground to combat COVID-19.

CHWs are frontline public health workers who are trusted members of the communities they serve. MAHEC provides training, technical assistance, and mentoring for a network of CHWs who have spent the past year focusing their outreach efforts on COVID prevention, health education, connection to community resources, and vaccine education and support. This workforce has made a significant impact on preventing the spread of COVID and facilitating vaccine uptake in Western North Carolina’s rural communities and communities of color.

### Impact Data

11 local CHWs assisted by MAHEC

1,783 residents supported

254 COVID vaccine events

400 CHWs trained statewide

“The pandemic exposed the weaknesses in our society and the disparities among certain groups and neighborhoods and demographics. There was an effort to do something innovative, but you can’t do that without the people who are directly impacted.”

J. Hackett

WNC COVID CHW Network mentor



MAHEC CHW Yvette Singleton distributes a food box to a community resident.

# Making Motherhood Safer

## Maternal Health

### Rural Women's Care

MAHEC established two new practices in Brevard and Franklin, rural communities that have seen labor and delivery services shutter over the past five years.

### Perinatal/Neonatal Outreach Coordinator

program, funded with support from the NC DHHS and HRSA, launched in 2021.

PNOC includes a statewide learning collaborative and an outreach program that connects healthcare providers with physician and nurse champions to support the delivery of evidence-based risk-appropriate care. The learning collaborative provides much-needed training in perinatal substance use treatment, postpartum mood disorders, maternal health equity, and interconception care.

**Project CARA** continues to expand its hub-and-spokes network, bringing perinatal substance use treatment services to McDowell and Polk counties and training women's healthcare providers across the state.



[www.mahec.net/cara-pew](http://www.mahec.net/cara-pew)



*Dr. Suzanne Dixon and patient at the Franklin office*



*Katlyn Tanner, RN, and Suzanne Dixon, MD, provide ob/gyn care close to home for women living in Franklin, NC and surrounding rural communities.*

### SistasCaring4Sistas

expanded from three to nine doulas to support women and infants of color who are significantly more likely to experience birth complications than their white counterparts. Doula services have grown to include not only prenatal and labor support but also childbirth education and postpartum, lactation, and bereavement support services.

### Impact Data

2,079 babies delivered

1,635 high-risk ob/gyn consults provided

311 gynecologic surgical procedures for Medicaid, Medicare or self-pay

290 pregnant women with substance disorders supported

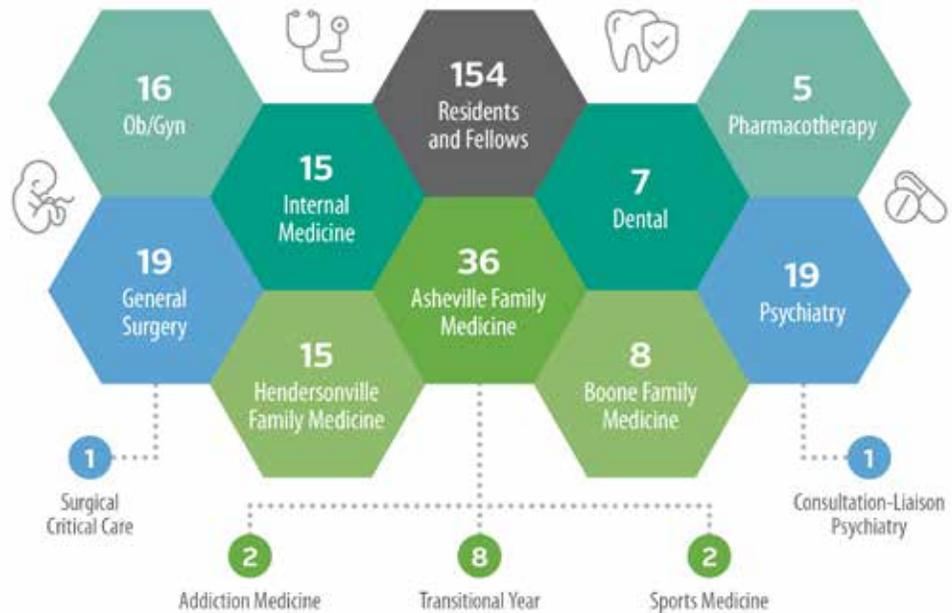
64 doula clients supported

98 ob/gyn physicians graduated to date

# Building Our Healthcare Workforce

## MAHEC GME Expansion

In 2021, MAHEC launched internal medicine and transitional year residency programs and surgical critical care and consultation-liaison psychiatry fellowships. Over the next three years, these new programs will train more than 60 physicians annually to provide critical services to the community as they develop their expertise. Currently, MAHEC's 14 graduate medical education programs train 154 physicians, pharmacists, and dentists each year, many of whom stay in the region.



## Beginning at the End

### MAHEC's new internal medicine residency program director hits the ground running

Stephanie Call, MD, dreamed of moving to Western North Carolina, but she wasn't ready to give up being a residency program director and teacher. When she heard that MAHEC was adding an Internal Medicine Residency Program, she jumped at the opportunity to serve as the program director and create a residency program from the ground up.

With over 25 years' experience, Dr. Call is familiar with what it takes to run an internal medicine residency program, but developing a program from scratch was a new challenge for her. She began at the end by using input from the community to determine the qualities an internist working in WNC should have. Then she worked backwards, thinking through what types of educational experiences are needed to create that physician.

"We want to create internists who are caring and compassionate and community-oriented," Dr. Call explained. "People who are really going to lead and serve communities like ours that are rural and underserved."

Since starting at MAHEC late in 2019, Dr. Call has also launched two pandemic-related initiatives in response to needs she saw in the community: the COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibody Treatment Program and the Post-Acute COVID-19 Care Clinic.

"I've learned that if you have innovative ideas, MAHEC will work to move things forward," said Dr. Call. "I love organizations that are nimble, where people are allowed and encouraged to think outside the box. It's just another example of why MAHEC is such an amazing place."



Stephanie Call, MD

# Training Future Physicians

UNC School of Medicine Asheville

## Impact Data

8 graduates matched to MAHEC primary care residencies in 2021

30 graduates in 2021

35 current class size

70 graduates in NC residencies, fellowships and medical practices

163 graduates to date

377 UNC SOM faculty appointments



Bronwyn Fadem, MS IV

The Asheville campus has historically attracted students with a strong interest in community service, interdisciplinary practice, and rural medicine - all core components of the curriculum.

In 2021, medical students completed rotations in 14 WNC counties serving diverse patient populations including

- immigrants
- uninsured and underinsured patients
- unhoused residents, and
- individuals with substance use disorders, hepatitis C, and HIV

Training in ethics and mindfulness-based medicine, crisis management, and a variety of hospital and ambulatory care settings ensure students are well-prepared for residency.

## You Can Go Home Again: The path to rural medicine

Bronwyn Fadem didn't think she'd be a doctor even though her parents were physicians. She loved learning about the natural world and thought her curiosity would lead her to a career in astronomy, math, or even farming. But it was her love of her community that led her to medicine.

"Growing up, I saw the effects of addiction, poverty, and discrimination play out as domestic violence, suicide, and hopelessness in my peers and their families," Bronwyn explains.

Her hometown, Rutherfordton, was a thriving community during the NC gold rush. Hundreds of years later, the decimation of Western North Carolina's textile industry left the small town with some of the state's highest rates of unemployment, obesity, substance use, and teen pregnancy. Many of Bronwyn's classmates dropped out of high school by the age 16.

"It takes two hands for me to count the number of peers and friends who have died by suicide or overdose," she shares.

A medical sociology class in college helped Bronwyn understand some of the social determinants of health that were putting her community at risk. She realized that primary care offered a way to address these challenges. Pursuing this path has taken her from medical school in Chapel Hill to Asheville and back to communities like her own where she has served migrant farm workers, low-income and uninsured rural residents, and others struggling to access healthcare. These experiences made choosing MAHEC's family medicine residency program an easy decision.

"MAHEC represents all the things that brought me to medicine in the first place: advocacy, selflessness, relationships, and the desire to do more for and do better by the patients we serve."

# Improving Oral Health

MAHEC and UNC Adams School of Dentistry

## Big Dreams Lead to Small Town USA

### Rural Oral Health Scholar Spotlight

For as long as he can remember, Michael Homesley dreamed of becoming a dentist in a small town where his next patient could be his next-door neighbor. It's hard to say what inspired him more—growing up in rural Kings Mountain or having a severe underbite that kept him in and out of dentist offices as a child.

“Being exposed to three or four specialists by the time I was 10 years old piqued my interest,” he explains. “As I grew older, I realized that I lived in a place that was underserved in terms of healthcare.” By middle school, he set his sights on a career in dentistry. Along the way, he shadowed dentists, attended the University of North Carolina, and got a master's degree in physiology to make his application to the UNC Adams School of Dentistry stand out.

Luckily, Michael didn't need a plan B. He was accepted into UNC's highly competitive program in 2017. He is now in his final year and, as a rural oral health scholar, is completing a five-month rotation at MAHEC's dental health centers in Columbus and Asheville. The ROHS program is a unique partnership between UNC and MAHEC.

“I wish everybody had this opportunity,” Michael admits. “The short rotations and externships that other schools offer give you just a taste of what it's like to provide healthcare like this. Here you can really get into the thick of it.”

What Michael loves most about being a rural scholar is that it requires you to hone your knowledge and skill set to support patients with a variety of needs and few options for oral healthcare. This opportunity to make a big difference in a small community is one of the many reasons Michael looks forward to going to work every day.

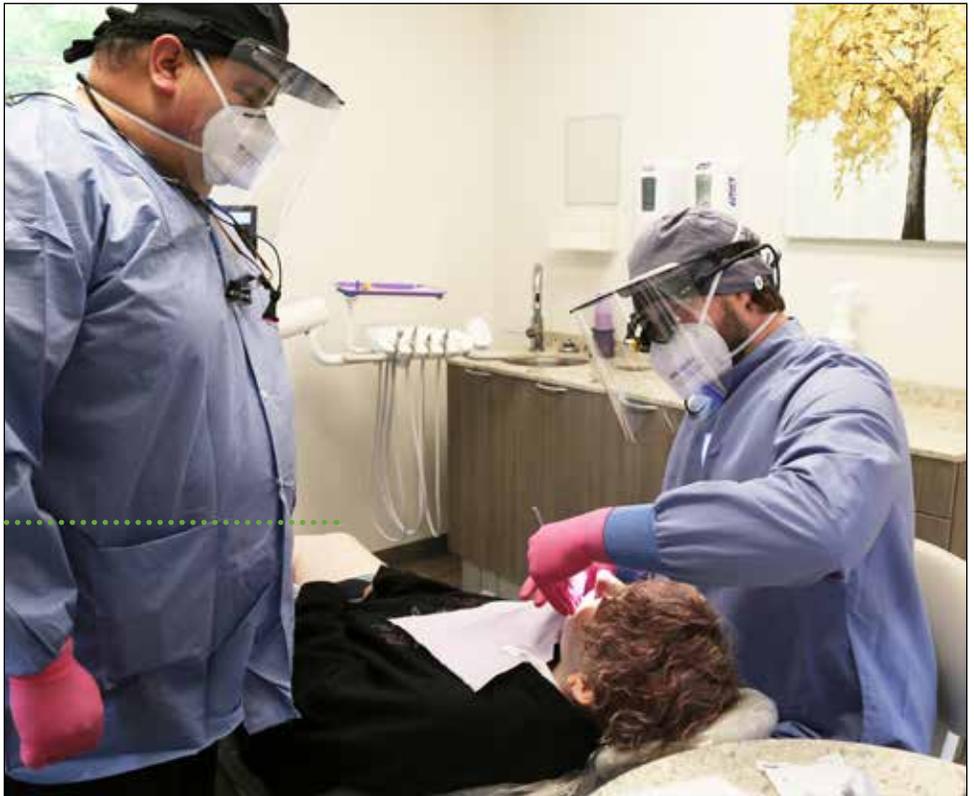
## Impact Data

7 dental residents in 2021

8 rural oral health scholars in 2022 inaugural cohort

16 dental assistants trained in 2021

2,697 patients served



*Blake Gutierrez, DDS, supervises the work of dental student Michael Homesley.*

The Rural Oral Health Scholars Program provides training opportunities for UNC dental students interested in rural practice and includes a week-long externship at MAHEC during the second year and a five-month rural rotation during the fourth year of dental school.

MAHEC is also developing a school-based oral health initiative that would send dental residents, students, and registered dental hygienists into select WNC schools to help at-risk children establish good oral health habits and prevent long-term health problems.



[www.mahec.net/ruraldentistry](http://www.mahec.net/ruraldentistry)

# Breaking Down Professional Silos

MAHEC and UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy

UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC is home to some of the most innovative pharmacy programs in the country. Here faculty, residents, and students build on a long-tradition of chronic disease management, team-based clinical practice, and cutting-edge research with top-ranked UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy.

## Interprofessional education (IPE)

takes pharmacists out of the pharmacy and embeds them in community settings to improve health outcomes and the quality of care. Special emphasis is given to developing pharmacists who can meet our region's unique needs through advanced training in ambulatory care, rural pharmacy, and complex chronic conditions including substance use disorders, hepatitis C and HIV treatment, and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

## The MAHEC Center for Healthy Aging

and geriatric pharmacy residency provide opportunities for pharmacists to develop specialized skills to support this rapidly growing population.

Pharmacists are key members of a new home-based primary care (HBPC) initiative that brings healthcare and aging support services into patients' homes to reduce their risk for medical complications and hospitalization and help them reach individual health goals. The HBPC collaborative care team works to address social determinants of health including home safety, food and housing insecurity, and social isolation. Over this past year, in-home COVID-19 testing and vaccination provided an added layer of protection for vulnerable patients and their families.



*In-home COVID-19 vaccinations helped protect medically fragile home-based primary care patients.*

## Impact Data

5 pharmacy residents

16 rural pharmacy health scholars

51 Asheville-based pharmacy students

65 home-based primary care patients

154 patients treated for Hepatitis C since 2017 with 99% cure rate

# Sharing Best Practices

## Continuing Professional Development

### Top eight occupations of MAHEC CPD program participants



### Impact Data

1,061 CPD programs (up from 1,035)

9,530 unique participants (up from 8,055)

118 opioid/substance use disorder programs

100 NC counties supported

In 2021, CPD programs had to be delivered virtually with few exceptions to ensure the safety of faculty and participants and to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Rather than view virtual learning as a limitation, program planners and faculty took advantage of the opportunity to expand support for frontline healthcare providers across North Carolina, the U.S., and internationally.

UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC is a leading provider of medical education through Project ECHO®, an online collaborative learning model that facilitates access to medical experts and knowledge sharing to improve medical care in underserved and rural areas.



Case-based learning was essential for responding to rapidly changing healthcare needs during the pandemic.

### Impact Data

15 ECHO® series offered 25 times

70 NC counties supported

128 nursing homes supported

1,354 unique participants

2,650 hours of peer education

6,997 total attendees

# Expanding Addiction Treatment

## Continuing Professional Development

Our academic health center has partnered with the UNC School of Medicine, Foundation for Opioid Response Efforts (FORE), Oak Foundation, and Dogwood Health Trust to ensure healthcare providers and medical residency programs across North Carolina are trained in medication-assisted treatment (MAT) and actively treating patients with opioid and other substance use disorders.

A key strategy for moving providers through the training pipeline to frontline treatment is the establishment of addiction medicine hubs at MAHEC in Asheville and UNC in Chapel Hill to support patients and their healthcare providers at spoke clinics statewide.

Interdisciplinary faculty champions mentor new prescribers through coaching and technical assistance calls, co-teaching opportunities, Project ECHO®-based learning, and telehealth shadowing.

Other overdose prevention initiatives focus on supporting individuals who are at greatest risk including those who have recently overdosed and those being discharged from jail.



*Claire Austin, PharmD, and Susan McDowell, MD, are part of the integrated care team of Project CARA, the substance use treatment program at MAHEC Ob/Gyn Specialists.*

## Impact Data

11 community-based health systems providing MAT services in 34 counties

54 residency, fellowship and advanced practice programs trained in MAT

563 waiver-trained providers

118 opioid/SUD programs for 2,890 participants

100 NC counties supported through addiction medicine training

128 faculty champions across the state

290+ pregnant patients treated for substance use disorders

759 patients with OUD treated with buprenorphine



*Medical Minority Mentoring Program intern Clarisa Garcia practices during a suturing techniques workshop in the MAHEC Simulation Center.*



*Ashraf Alsaidi, a pharmacy student at Wingate University and AHEC Scholar, checks an intubation in the MAHEC Simulation Center.*

Workforce development programs provide a robust array of clinical, rural, and research opportunities to ensure learners are well-equipped to serve our region where health professionals are still in short supply.

In 2021, MAHEC added an innovations fellowship to support rural physicians as they develop sustainable models of care for their underserved communities.

Pathway programs inspire local high school students to explore health careers through hands-on workshops, clubs, internships, conferences, and summer camps. Once inspired, students can participate in a variety of interprofessional learning experiences to “see what they can be.”

Minority and rural-focused mentoring programs ensure students have what they need to succeed in their chosen health careers. Many of these students are the first in their families to go to college. They're also the first to return home with a passion and the skills to improve their community's health.

## Impact Data

30 paid student internships

33 AHEC Scholars from 12 health disciplines

83 Medical Minority Mentoring Program graduates since 2006

119 students from 16 NC colleges and universities provided with clinical rotations

174 learners housed by MAHEC

399 student rotations totaling 453,825 clinical hours

1,064 interactions with high school students from 17 WNC counties

# Impact Data

By the Numbers



**\$1,605,879**  
IN CHARITY CARE

**\$12.9 MILLION**  
IN GRANTS & GIFTS 

**651**   
**MEDICAL & DENTAL**  
*graduates (to date)*  
from MAHEC GME programs



**152,527**  
*patient visits*

- family medicine
- internal medicine
- ob/gyn
- psychiatry
- dental

**2,079**   
*babies delivered*

**COVID-19**   
**PANDEMIC EFFORTS**

**80,000**  
*face coverings distributed*

**12,113**  
*COVID tests administered*

**19,326**  
*COVID vaccinations*

**258**  
*monoclonal antibody infusions*

**44**  
*patients treated for Long COVID*



**CONTINUING**  
**PROFESSIONAL**  
**DEVELOPMENT**

**1,061** **22,632**  
*programs participants*

**25 RURAL FELLOWS**

*placed in 12 WNC counties*



**4 RURAL TEACHING**

*practices in 5 rural counties*

**SIMULATION**   
**CENTER** **VR** 

**449** *simulation programs for*  
**5,644** *participating learners*

 **563 PROVIDERS**  
*were waived to treat*  
**OPIOID USE DISORDER**

**109**

  
*research and scholarly*  
**ARTICLES PUBLISHED**

**16 NEW**  
**RESEARCH &**  
**EVALUATION**  
**PROJECTS**  
**INITIATED**



**FOCUSED ON** 

- opioid treatment
- maternal & child health
- health disparities
- rural workforce development

**902 MAHEC EMPLOYEES**

**128 NEW POSITIONS CREATED**

*(includes full and part-time employees)*



**30,339** *library service interactions*

## CLINICAL CARE

### Family Medicine

- Clinics at Biltmore, Enka/Candler, Cane Creek and Newbridge
- Geriatric Care at Givens, Deerfield and Home-Based Primary Care
- School-Based Health (school nurses in Asheville City and Buncombe County public K-12 schools)
- Acute Care Clinic
- Specialty clinics in: Centering Parenting, IDD Assessment Clinic, HIV/Hep C, Sports Medicine

### Obstetrics & Gynecology

- Clinics at Asheville, Franklin and Brevard
- Centering Pregnancy
- Project CARA: Substance Use Treatment in Pregnancy
- Maternal-Fetal Medicine: High risk maternity care

### Dentistry

- Clinics at Asheville and Columbus

### Psychiatry

- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
- MAHEC Center for Psychiatry & Mental Wellness
- School-based therapists

### Internal Medicine

- Post-Acute COVID Care Clinic

## GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

### Residencies

- Family Medicine (3 sites)
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Surgery
- Psychiatry
- Internal Medicine
- Transitional Year
- Dental, Dental MPH
- Pharmacotherapy
- Lifestyle Medicine Curriculum

### Fellowships

- Addiction Medicine
- Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry
- Surgical Critical Care
- Hospice & Palliative Medicine
- Sports Medicine
- Maternal Child Health
- Rural Family Medicine, Pharmacy, Innovation

## HEALTH EQUITY INITIATIVES

- Certified Peer Support Specialists
- Community Health Worker Network
- Medical-Legal Partnership with Pisgah Legal Services
- Mothering Asheville (OB)
- Preconception Health (FM)
- SistasCaring4Sistas Doulas (OB)

## UNC-AFFILIATED PROGRAMS

### UNC School of Medicine Asheville

- Kenan Primary Care Medical Scholars

### UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health MPH Program in Asheville

### UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy in Asheville

### UNC Adams School of Dentistry

- Rural Oral Health Scholars

## HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT / The Pathway

- Health Careers Awareness Education
  - Minority Medical Mentoring Program
  - AHEC Scholars
  - Summer Camp
- Student Internships
  - UNC Asheville Pre-Healthcare Professions
  - WNC HEART
  - Davidson Impact
  - MedServe
  - MAHECXplorer
- WCU Expansion Programs
- Student Rotations & Housing (ORPCE)

## PRACTICE SUPPORT

## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Continuing Education
- Library Science
- Medical Simulation Center
- Safer Pain Management & Opioid Education: Regional and Statewide Training Programs

## COMMUNITY & PUBLIC HEALTH

- COVID Regional Response Team
- Lactation Consulting & Breastfeeding Clinic
- Safe Kids
- Triple P: Positive Parenting Program
- ACEs Learning Collaborative

## RURAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

- Rural Teaching Practices (4 locations in Haywood, Polk, Yancey and Mitchell counties)
- Workforce Development
- Rural Fellowships
- Rural Maternity Care (OB)
- Pathway Programming
- Project PROMISE

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Research

- Research areas of focus include:
  - Health equity, substance use disorders, practice-based research, chronic disease prevention and treatment
  - Home-Based Primary Care
- RWJF Clinical Scholars
- RWJF Interdisciplinary Research Leaders

### Center for Healthy Aging



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[www.mahec.net](http://www.mahec.net)