

MAHEC YEAH!: ADDING UP THE MOUNTAIN AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER'S IMPACT ON HEALTH SERVICES ACROSS WNC

JON ELLISTON, *WNC Magazine*, January/February 2017



THE NUMBER OF PHYSICIANS PER 10,000 RESIDENTS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA, WHICH IS CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN THE STATEWIDE AVERAGE OF 22.3. MANY OF MAHEC'S PROGRAMS ARE FOCUSED ON ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES POSED BY THIS HEALTH-PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE.

114,000

patient visits took place in 2015 at MAHEC's family health, dental, and ob-gyn facilities, of which there are 10.



MEDICAL AND DENTAL RESIDENTS (RECENT MEDICAL AND DENTAL SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO UNDERTAKE ADVANCED TRAINING) HAVE GRADUATED FROM MAHEC.

8,500 +



HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS PARTAKE IN CONTINUING EDUCATION AT MAHEC EACH YEAR.

65%

of MAHEC family medicine residents go on to practice in North Carolina.



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The annual economic impact that results from adding just one family doctor (and an average of five support positions) in Western North Carolina.

The next time you see a doctor, dentist, nurse, or other caregiver in Western North Carolina, you might have the Mountain Area Health Education Center to thank. MAHEC was created in 1974 to provide medical care to underserved parts of WNC and encourage health care professionals to stay in the area by offering educational programs, work at medical facilities, and mentoring. Today, it serves North Carolina's 16 westernmost counties and is the largest of the state's nine Area Health Education Centers. Here are some more numbers that tell MAHEC's story (and you can learn more at www.mahec.net).