



### Scholars Day

On Friday, January 27th, the **Alabama AHEC Statewide Program** office hosted an event at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute for 40 AHEC Scholars across the state. Keynote speaker, **T. Marie King**, allowed the Scholars to identify, address, and eliminate their individual biases, which is necessary for an inclusive and safe healthcare environment. Scholars self-reflected while King guided them through the challenging past of abusive healthcare that created medical distrust within communities. It is crucial to truly listen to what underserved groups need and not impose ourselves onto their communities. As T. Marie put it, your world is not the world. Scholars now have the tools to brave discomfort and ask difficult questions. King revealed that a large portion of healthcare disparities are systematic and revolve around the proximity of healthy lifestyle options within underserved communities and how to listen to the needs of those communities.

Erin Lunn, PA-C, gave a working lunch presentation on trauma-informed care. The body is one system. Trauma is stored somewhere within the body. Trauma can translate to reproductive issues, gastrointestinal issues, obesity, hormone deregulation, and mental health disorders. Our social determinants of health are the conditions we exist in and how it affects our well-being. When our social determinants of health are in less-than-ideal conditions, it can disrupt our entire physiological system. As our Scholars are rising healthcare professionals, this information is invaluable on their path to healing our great state.

We anticipate this event is the first of many our program office will host to give our Scholars a more well-rounded and informed look into the healthcare world. Thank you to the Scholars, program coordinators, and those who worked behind the scenes to put on this esteemed event! Thank you to T. Marie King and Erin Lunn for providing the crucial conversations all healthcare workers should have!



### **Alabama Preceptor Tax Incentive Program**

For the 2023 Regular Legislative Session, a new bill will be sponsored by the Alabama Statewide AHEC Program Office. The **Alabama Preceptor Tax Incentive Program** bill addresses the need for students and training programs in the health professions, including medicine, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, optometrists, and dentists, to have access to community-based training opportunities. Eligible qualified health professionals who provide community-based clinical unpaid preceptorships for health professions students will receive a tax credit under the Alabama Preceptor Tax Incentive Program. It is our hope that this initiative will widen access to healthcare in Alabama and strengthen the most underserved communities.

Stay tuned for more information!

# South Alabama Rural Training (SART) Program

## SART Needs Assessment Surveys are Live!

The South Alabama Rural Training (SART) Program, in collaboration with the Alabama Delta Region Collaborative Network (composed of three entities: Southern Alabama AHEC, West Central Alabama AHEC & Southeast Alabama AHEC), is supporting pathways to education and professional certification for individuals interested in becoming or advancing their careers as administrative support professionals working in rural Alabama healthcare facilities.

On behalf of the SART program, we encourage all healthcare organizations in the Alabama DRA region to share their non-clinical organizational workforce training and employment needs. Responses are confidential and will only be utilized as aggregate summary data. If you would like to stay connected with the project, you will have an opportunity to provide your organization's contact information at the end of the survey.

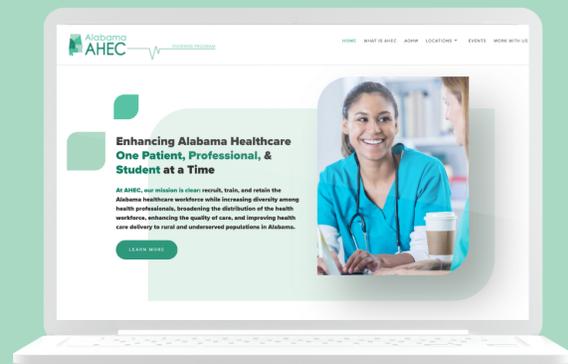
[Take survey here](#)

We encourage current/interested students as well as individuals looking for a career change in the Alabama DRA region to share their interests and knowledge about healthcare administrative support careers so that we highlight local educational and career opportunities. Responses are confidential and will only be utilized as summary data. If you would like to stay connected and apply for the program, you will have an opportunity to provide your contact information at the end of the survey.

[Take survey here](#)

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# Upcoming Events

[ALAHEC.ORG/EVENTS](https://alahec.org/events)

## AHEC Scholars Webinar Series

On Friday, March 24, 2023, between 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm, the TeamSTEPP's Webinar will guide Scholars through the program's five central principles. Focusing on team structure, Scholars will walk away with four teachable-learnable skills: Communication, Leadership, Situation Monitoring, and Mutual Support.

Outcomes and skills are the basis of a team striving to deliver safe, quality care and support quality improvement. Scholars will work with real-world examples of how the four skills are directly related to the team structure of the patient care team, which represents not only the patient and direct caregivers but also those who play a supportive role within the health care delivery system.

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### About Alabama AHEC Statewide



The Alabama Statewide Area Health Education Center is dedicated to recruiting, training, and retaining the Alabama healthcare workforce while increasing diversity among health professionals, broadening the distribution of the health workforce, enhancing the quality of care, and improving health care delivery to rural and underserved populations in Alabama.