

# UAMS Regional Programs

(aka, Arkansas AHEC Program)

1



# Program History & Overview

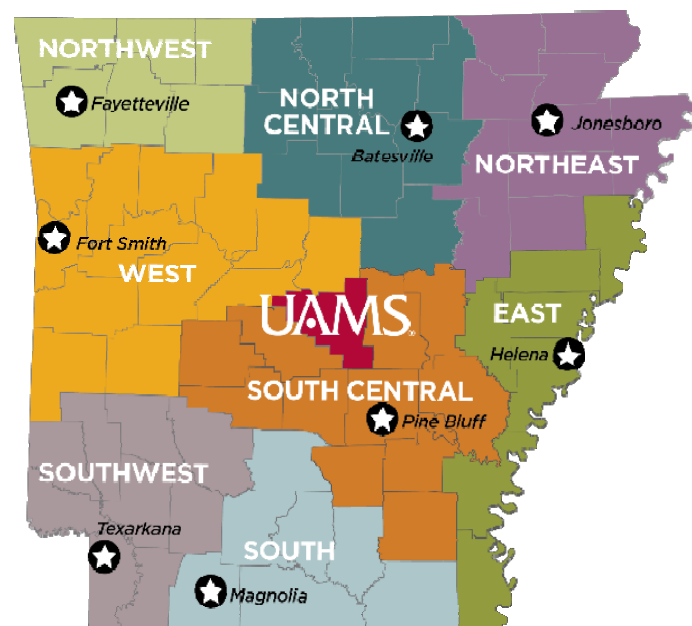
## University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS)

2

Arkansas' AHEC Program was established in 1973 with State Legislative action.

***The Mission: To retain medical school graduates in Arkansas.***

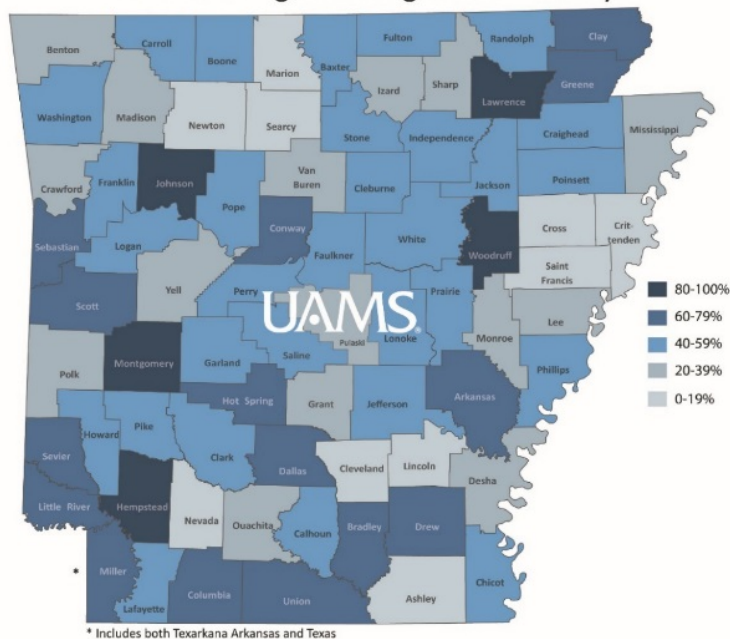
- Our first FM Residency programs were established in 1975
- Has expanded from 6 to 8 regions, now with 9 clinical sites
- 6 FM residency programs now train 138-140 residents annually, with other residency programs/tracks planned
- \$65 million total program budget, over half is self-generated
- 150,000+ patient visits and 400 student rotations annually
- First received federal AHEC funds in 1986
- 600 staff statewide, including 42 faculty members
- Rebranded in 2012 as UAMS Regional Programs



# Statewide Impact of AHEC Family Medicine Residency Programs

3

Percentage of Family Physicians that are Graduates of a UAMS Regional Programs Residency



**810 physicians trained by our FM Residency Programs now practice in 132 Arkansas communities\*, including 69 of the state's 75 counties.**



**Our graduates account for 46% of ALL Family Physicians in Arkansas, and 50% of Family Physicians practicing in RURAL (non-SMSA) counties.**

# Two Vital Pillars: Education & Clinical Care

4

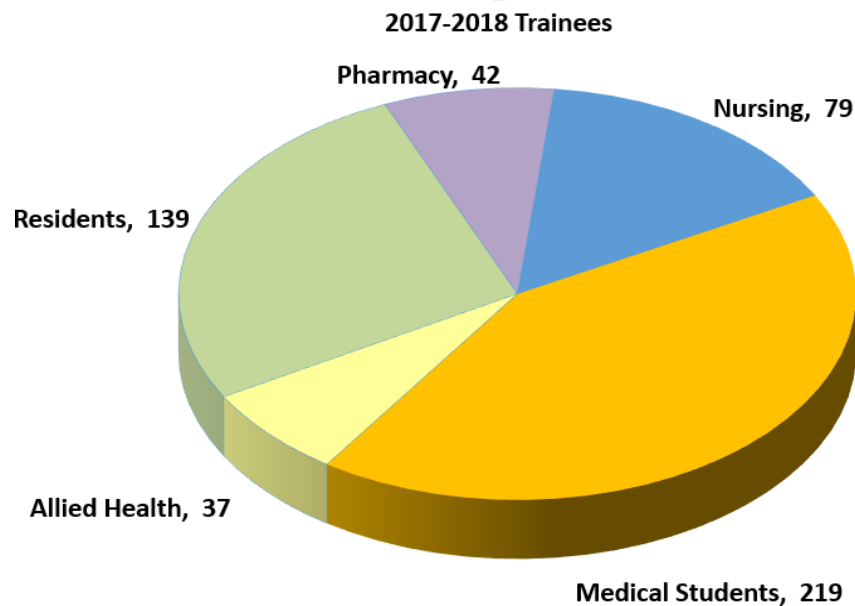
## Our mission today...

*To improve the health of Arkansans by training skilled and caring health professionals and delivering high quality patient-centered care.*

- Training for students from many disciplines;
- Health career pipeline programs;
- Statewide telemedicine network;
- Continuing professional education.

**In 2017-18, we trained:**

138 Family Medicine Residents  
35,000 pre-health pipeline students  
378 Health Professions Students

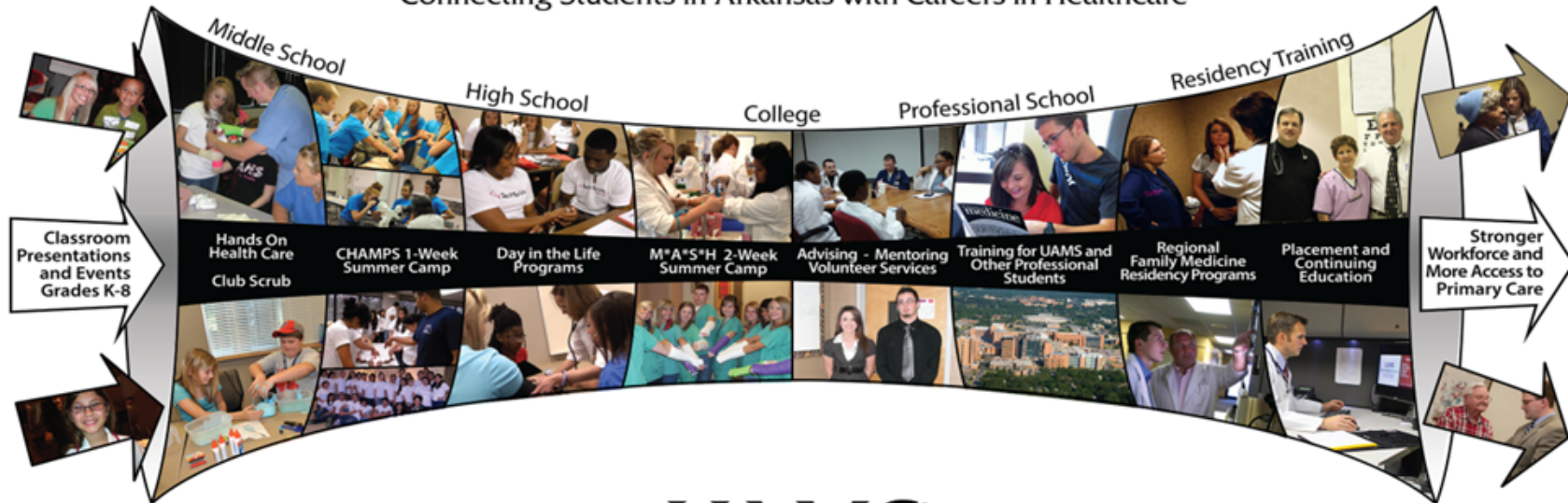


# A Homegrown Physician Workforce Requires LONG-Term Investment

5

## Health Careers Pipeline

Connecting Students in Arkansas with Careers in Healthcare



**UAMS**

**Recruitment. Education. Training. Placement.**

To ensure students take all the classes needed in high school so they don't miss the boat, 9<sup>th</sup> grade through residency completion is a 15-year pipeline!

**We offer programs at every level.**

# Effective Pipeline Programs

6

**Our Pre-health programs reach more than 35,000 Arkansas students annually to encourage them to consider health careers.**

- **Three Key Junctures:** Grades 8-9, Grades 11-12, and College students applying to professional schools
- **Target Populations:** 70% are either rural or minority students

## **M\*A\*S\*H (Medical Applications of Science for Health)**

A survey of participants in 2016 revealed that, after this 2-week summer camp:

- **95% were more likely to pursue a health career;**
- 58% were more likely to pursue primary care;
- 52%-57% were more likely to serve a rural/underserved area;



Good programs are important, but hiring **eight regional recruitment specialists** in 2010 really made the difference. These recruiters have been KEY in tracking and retaining students long-term by investing in personal relationships, ongoing support, advisement and coaching.

**30% of the COM entering classes 2016 & 2017 were students that had been coached by our recruiters.**

# Effective Approaches to a Homegrown Physician Workforce

7

1. **Recruit Arkansas students** toward medicine, with support at key junctures.
2. Retain and train students in an **Arkansas medical school**.
3. Apply **holistic admissions process** giving preference to Arkansas students.
4. Offer **Preceptorships and Field Placements** in rural settings.
5. **Nurture a supportive peer and faculty** network throughout medical school.
6. Recruit into **community-based Family Medicine residency programs**.
7. Enact **State Legislation** to ensure:
  - a) **Distribution** of student enrollment from ALL districts, to maintain regional and rural/urban balance;
  - b) **Financial Incentives** for RURAL and Primary Care practice.



# Arkansas' Undergraduate and Graduate Medical Education (UME/GME) Retention

8

- AAMC ranks UAMS among the nation's top 10 medical schools consistently for Percent of Physicians Retained in State:
  - 59% retention of those graduating from the UAMS College of Medicine (UME)
  - 56% retention of those completing residency training in Arkansas (GME)
  - **81% retention if BOTH med school AND residency in Arkansas!**



**AHEC FM Residency Outcomes:**  
**63%** have remained in Arkansas to practice.

**Of these who remained in Arkansas:**  
51% of them remain in their training region;  
37% practice in rural counties and small towns

- Source: 2017 AAMC State Physician Workforce Data Report; 2016 Arkansas Physician Workforce Profile.



# Arkansas' Changing Healthcare Landscape

9

- ***Inter-Professional Education (IPE) and team-based care*** – This new national initiative requires a complete change in facilities teaching,, and practice models.
- **Retiring Physicians** - 33% of Arkansas' Family Physicians are nearing retirement.
- **Two new DO Schools in Arkansas** - adding 270 new medical school slots to UAMS' 174 MD slots, but no parallel increase in residency positions.
- **Change in reimbursement models** - Transition from physician-centered “fee for service” to patient-centered “value-based reimbursement” models.
- **Rapidly evolving telemedicine technology** –both opportunities and challenges.