

**A Special Message from the Maryland Area Health Education Program Office and Statewide Centers**

"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."

-- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Everywhere around us we are seeing and recognizing examples of social injustice. This is not new, but now is in the forefront of the news as well as everyone's mind. Racism also contributes to health care disparities. We want you to know that the Maryland AHEC Program, established over 40 years ago was founded to address inequity in American health care. Our Centers are based in three underserved areas of the state: AHEC West in Cumberland, Maryland; Eastern Shore AHEC (ESAHEC) in Cambridge, Maryland and the Central Maryland AHEC (CMAHEC) in Baltimore City.

Our reason for being is to help improve health care disparities in underserved communities. We do so by recruiting health professional students from these areas, training health professionals in their communities and promoting their retention to continue serving the underserved after their training. While we have nearly half a century of successes, we could do more with your help.

We are proud of the work that we do, and we invite you to be more involved in a mission that affects all of us. Please contact us if you would like to assist the Maryland AHEC Program and be an agent for change. We have lived and worked in these communities for decades and would like to discuss how you may help improve the lives of those who have been victimized by social injustice. We need experts in health care to make education presentations, mentors to aspiring health professionals, partnerships with agencies / organizations that address social determinants of health, as well as financial contributions – to reach even more of our fellow citizens who are suffering. On behalf of the MAHEC family, we thank you for all that you do and your support!

Sincerely,

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