



National Success

Created by Connecticut AHEC Program in 2004, YHSC was piloted in CTs' four regional centers. The intent of the pilot was to inspire disadvantaged students to fulfill their dream of becoming a health care professional through meaningful community service. The 50 high school students who participated in the pilot program did not realize they were launching an exciting national program. Today, under the leadership of Patricia Harrity, Executive Director of Northwestern CT AHEC (NWCTAHEC), YHSC has become a national program replicated by 33 AHEC centers in 20 states. YHSC has received recognition from the National AHEC Organization, the National Health Service Corps and the Corporation for National and Community Service: Learn and Serve. As of 2009, 1600 YHSC volunteers have served an amazing 48,000 hours of service to disadvantaged populations in their communities!

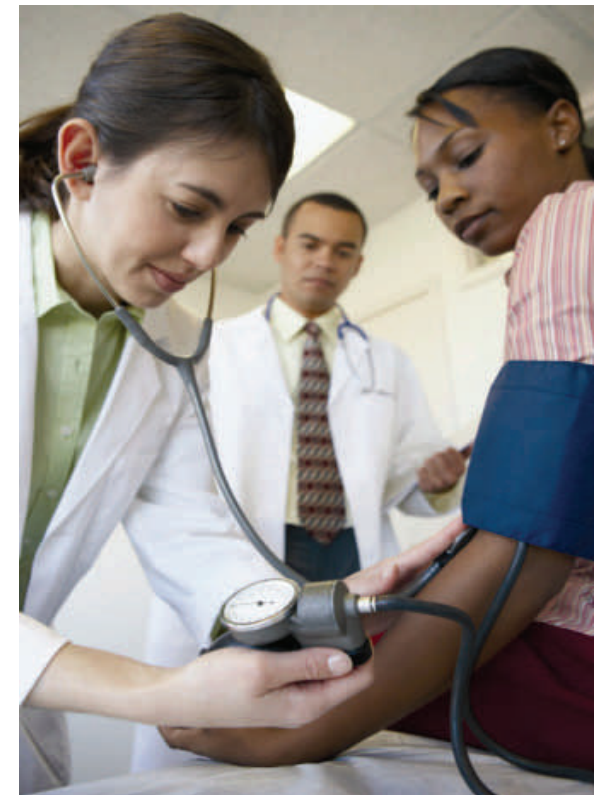
YHSC is funded in part by grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service: Learn and Serve



Our vision is to have YHSC become the premier national youth health career recruitment program. We are committed to achieving the highest quality outcomes for students and AHECs implementing YHSC.

NWCTAHEC is one of four regional centers of the Connecticut AHEC Program. In operation since 1998, NWCTAHEC is a 501-C-3 non-profit agency. Our mission is to inspire and enable disadvantaged youth to pursue rewarding careers as health care professionals.

Visit: www.nwctahec.org



Students helping to create healthier communities through service learning...



The Youth Health Service Corps mission is to increase the number of diverse high school students who matriculate into post secondary health care education programs.

The Youth Health Service Corps is a health careers recruitment program that engages diverse high school students as leaders in meaningful community service learning that addresses community health issues. Student volunteers are trained using a six module curriculum that prepares them to serve in health care settings that serve the underserved. Once prepared, students choose independent service or group service learning projects to complete a minimum of fifty hours of service for completion of the program.

Student benefits include:

- Knowledge about health careers
- Participation in meaningful service
- Increase in academic & civic engagement
- Exposure to professional career role models
- Building their resume for college or work
- Participation in YHSC online social network of students with similar interests.

“I have had a lot of great experiences and opportunities because of YHSC and for that I am thankful. My volunteer placement in pharmacy has secured my desire to pursue this as a career.”

K.A. CT high school senior

YHSC Program & Curriculum

The Youth Health Service Corps is grounded in four sets of Standards: Academic Frameworks, National Health Care Skill Standards, K-12 Service Learning Standards for Quality Practice and the 40 Developmental Assets. Our goals are to:

- Increase student awareness of health careers
- Increase student involvement in service learning
- Increase student academic & civic engagement
- Strengthen AHEC partnerships between secondary, post secondary education & community based organizations

Volunteer Training-In preparation for service, students are trained in:

- Module 1: Leadership & Service Learning
- Module 2: YHSC Website Training
- Module 3: Vulnerable Populations
 - Cultural Competency
- Module 4: Ethical & Legal Issues
 - Confidentiality
- Module 5: Health Career Exploration
- Module 6: Health Care Skills
 - CPR & AED Certification

Service- Independent service in an area of interest for students who want to volunteer on their own schedule. YHSC Coordinators place and follow student progress.

-Service Learning Projects guided by YHSC coordinators, continue over a semester to raise awareness of health issues. Using the IPARDCS service learning process, small groups of students work together to Investigate, Plan, Act, Reflect, Demonstrate, Celebrate and Sustain projects that address important community health issues.

Student Rewards & Recognition

Students receive the YHSC National Community Service Recognition Award supported in partnership with the National Health Service Corps for 50 hours of service. Students who serve a minimum of 100 hours over 12 months are eligible for the President’s Volunteer Service Award.



For more information call:

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