



Enhancing the Pool

Area Health Education Centers and
the Colleges of Osteopathic
Medicine (AHEC and the COMs)



AHEC Mission

- Increase the availability of health care professionals for underserved areas and populations:
 - Community-academic partnerships
 - Community-based education
 - Pipeline approach
 - Cultural sensitivity/competence/empathy....
 - Interdisciplinary practice



What AHECs can do for COMs

- Educate pre-health professions students about careers in osteopathic medicine
 - Career awareness programs
 - Career exploration activities
 - Academic enrichment
 - Test preparation
 - Campus tours
 - Application assistance



What AHECs can do for COMs

- Support clinical training
 - Identify potential preceptors
 - Arrange rotations
 - Help secure housing
 - Enhance training sites
 - Library services
 - Educational programming
 - Develop/support residency training programs



What AHECs can do for COMs

- Assist with continuing education
 - Identify learner needs
 - Assist with program planning and implementation in distant sites
 - Can arrange CE credits for other professions in interprofessional programs