NC AHEC needs your continued support to provide comprehensive solutions to the OPIOID EPIDEMIC.

WHAT WE’RE DOING

1. **Educating Prescribers**
   Increasing knowledge of the problem among clinicians has been an important first step. In 2017, through our statewide learning management system, we developed and provided more than 34,000 hours of continuing professional development related to opioids to more than 8,500 health professionals in 99 of the 100 counties in the state. View a current list of NC AHEC opioid training resources for prescribers of controlled substances at ncahec.net/news/opioids.

2. **Community-Level Interventions**
   NC AHEC has been a leader in a variety of regional initiatives, including developing primary care opinion leaders; increasing the number of clinicians who can provide evidence-based treatments for opiate use disorder, such as medication-assisted treatment; and convening community task forces that engage not only health care professionals and hospitals but also first responders, law enforcement, churches and other community leaders. For example, to reduce harm from opioids in one of the state’s most affected areas—Wilmington—South East Area Health Education Center (SEAHEC) formed the Community Partners Coalition to improve collaboration and align efforts in the region. Currently, more than 80 organizations and agencies from local churches to large, national health care systems are working through the coalition to positively impact opioid use in the region.

3. **Next Steps**
   NC AHEC exists to make these statewide connections, providing programs and services that bridge academic institutions and communities to improve the health of the people of North Carolina. **With your continued support, our next steps are to implement these initial successes across the state.**

Contact Us at 919-966-2461 or ncahec@med.unc.edu or contact the director of your regional AHEC at ncahec.net.