

# NYS Area Health Education Center System

## Opioid Prevention Education Project Summary

### Opioid Epidemic:

In 2017, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency to address the ongoing national opioid crisis. This crisis is currently affecting millions of Americans. The New York State Area Health Education Center (AHEC) System received funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), in order to expand training related to opioid use, misuse, treatment and prevention for current health professionals, future practitioners (i.e. students), and the general population, in order to combat this growing crisis.

### Project Scope of Work:

The six participating centers, Erie Niagara AHEC, Western New York Rural AHEC, Hudson Mohawk AHEC, Northern New York AHEC, Bronx Westchester AHEC, and Manhattan Staten Island AHEC, will be focusing on the following objectives:

#### Objective 1: Community Engagement and Outreach

In collaboration with local community partners, coordinate community engagement and outreach efforts addressing opioid misuse, abuse, prevention, stigma and available treatments. These events will include a range of addiction specialists, counselors, community health workers, and other experts.

#### Objective 2: High School and College Student Awareness

In collaboration with local educational partners, coordinate outreach events addressing opioid misuse, abuse, prevention, stigma, and treatment for current college and high school students.

### Anticipated Outcomes:

At the end of the project year, the NYS AHEC System expects to:

Increase student and community overall knowledge of opioid misuse and abuse, prevalence, treatment, and prevention efforts, including available community resources and services through informative/tabling sessions and community engagement events.



*Educating providers, students,  
and communities to combat  
the opioid epidemic across  
New York State.*

