



Region 4 Strategy Session

May 2, 2017

Atlanta, GA

Present:

- Georgia Association of Primary Health Care (Host)
- Alabama Primary Health Care Association
- Kentucky Primary Care Association
- Mississippi Primary Health Care Association
- North Carolina Community Health Center Association
- South Carolina Primary Health Care Association
- Tennessee Primary Care Association

Absent:

- Florida Association of Community Health Centers

Background:

As part of its ongoing effort to enhance collaboration and strategic planning focused on health centers' clinical workforce recruitment and retention, the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU) received one-time supplemental funding to expand training with Primary Care Associations (PCAs) across the country. ACU used some of these funds to support PCA travel to regional, one-day workforce strategy sessions. During these sessions, participants from each PCA shared their individual priorities in order to identify a shared regional vision, common workforce objectives, and opportunities for collaboration.

Meeting Summary:

Fourteen representatives from seven PCAs gathered to participate in this strategy session. Most PCAs were starting new workforce initiatives or creating a new overall workforce focus, which positioned them well to think through the regional context and opportunities to learn from each other in their various pursuits. Not all PCAs had a dedicated workforce staffer, so conversation was driven from diverse perspectives inside the PCAs. A common theme was increasing health centers' ability to recruit successfully through improved processes. Another strong focus area was pipeline development and increasing the training of health professionals in community health centers, especially the rural sites across the region.

Next Steps:

The group will review the notes and Action Plan to assess additional collaborative opportunities. ACU will provide some ongoing regional support, depending on PCA feedback and requests. ACU will also collaborate with individual PCAs on a data-driven training curriculum that connects to the Regional Action Plan. Regional site visits will take place in Spring 2018.