



MEETING: RHPP Directors and Regional Center Directors  
 DATE: February 18, 2026  
 TIME: 12:00 – 12:58pm  
 PLACE: AHEC Zoom Meeting  
 HOST: Leila Barraza  
 RHPP Director Attendees: Bettie Coplan, Gina Buban, Diane Nunez, Jonathan Cartsonis, Christy Pacheco, Bryna Koch  
 Center Director Attendees: Marica Martinic, Jennifer Smith, Jeff Axtell, Gloria Vasquez, Yolanda Perez  
 Other Attendees: Jennifer Zúñiga, Sonia Cota-Robles, Rachel Ramos, Marni Valenzuela, Nicole Paredes, Edgardo Figuero, Colleen Reed, Matt Stelling, Joe Harrison, Hildi Williams, Brooke Rector, Abby Sanchez, Leonardo Morales

ITEM	ANNOUNCEMENT/DISCUSSION	Information provided by:
<b>Meeting 12:00pm</b>	Welcome	Leila Barraza
<b>Discussion</b>	<p><b>Quarterly Scholar Validations:</b>            Thank you to all RHPPs for submitting your quarterly scholar validations. All were received on time.</p> <p><b>ASP Spring Community Immersions:</b></p> <p>The Spring ASP Community Immersion dates were:            Year 1: weekend of January 30-February 1, 2026            Year 2: weekend of February 20-22, 2026 (weekend of March 27-29 for AIH)</p> <p>Updates from Centers regarding recent immersions:</p> <p><b>CAAHEC:</b>            The Year 1 cohort attended a pow-wow in the Wickenburg community and toured Wickenburg Hospital. The Year 2 cohort worked with Project Salt, a nonprofit organization committed to making a positive impact in the Wickenburg area. There was scavenger hunt on Sunday.</p> <p><b>CPCHP:</b>            The Year 1 cohort was in Flagstaff for a sexual health clinic and presentations from the Food Bank, Crisis Mobile Unit, and Community Assistance Teams (C.A.T.s), a non-profit helping unsheltered residents with essential supplies. They also attended a tour of Flagstaff Medical Center and HOPE. The Year 2 cohort was in Winslow for a community fair at the Health Center. This event had 68 participants, a great turnout.</p> <p><b>AIH:</b>            The Year 1 cohort was in Fort Defiance in the Navajo Nation where they had a tour of the Navajo Council Chambers and participated in a scavenger hunt at the Gallup Flea Market. The Year 2 cohort will have their community immersion on the weekend of March 27-29.</p> <p><b>SHEC:</b>            The Year 1 cohort was at the Food Bank in Yuma to provide community awareness about diabetes. They also had a “date night” in the date fields outside of Yuma. The Year 2 cohort participated in a community health fair at the Crossroads Mission in Yuma, hosting three different booths. On Sunday, there was a panel of providers from various specialties, with one speaker a former AHEC Scholar.</p>	<p>Nicole Paredes</p> <p>Nicole Paredes</p> <p>Gloria Vasquez</p> <p>Marica Martinic</p> <p>Brooke Rector</p> <p>Leonardo Morales</p>

	<p><b>SAAHEC:</b> The Year 1 cohort was in Nogales with their faculty mentor where they toured the Crossroads Mission and met with representatives from the Marana Health Center, Adult Protective Services, and Population Health. They also attended a car show put on by a Nogales High School student. The Year 2 cohort was in Bisbee with their faculty mentor where they gave workshops to high school students. Workshops included CPR, suturing, public health, and PT.</p> <p><b>CERE:</b> The Year 1 cohort prepared poster presentations and planned their service-learning projects for Year 2. The Year 2 cohort put finishing touches on their service-learning projects before spending an afternoon at the free clinic where they worked with leadership and helped the residency program with QAQC and tracking metrics.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> Thank you to all the AHEC faculty mentors. It would be great if Center Directors could keep RHPP Directors in the loop during community immersion weekends in case they need to help with logistics or scheduling issues.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If a scholar doesn't attend the first community immersion, it is very difficult for them to participate meaningfully in future immersions. The first weekend should probably be mandatory and included on the original ASP application. If they aren't able to attend the dates provided on the application, this could prevent them from being a scholar. We are also considering changing the way funding is scheduled.</p> <p><b>Mid-Year Assessment:</b> Each RHPP and Center Director received a data assessment report as of 12/31/25 along with an invitation to meet with AzaAHEC to discuss the data and related topics. Thank you to those who have met with us so far.</p> <p><b>RHPP Conference:</b> The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Interprofessional Rural Health Professions Conference will take place on Friday, April 10 and Saturday, April 11. CAAHEC will be hosting a satellite location in Phoenix. Gloria Vasquez sent an Outlook invitation for this and will be adding more details shortly. The agenda and registration link will be finalized and distributed before March 1. Posters and poster videos are due on March 15.</p> <p><b>RHPP Financial and Narrative Reports:</b> RHPP Financial and Narrative Reports were due on February 15. Thank you to those who submitted your reports. We will follow up with those who haven't submitted reports yet.</p> <p><b>Updates by Centers/RHPPs:</b></p> <p><b>Survey for Community-Based Preceptors:</b> We will be sending a short survey to RHPP Directors to distribute to their community-based preceptors. The survey will focus on how we can support those preceptors better. If this first round of surveys goes well, we will send to Center Directors next to distribute to their community-based preceptors.</p> <p><b>Next Meeting</b> The next Center/RHPP Director meeting will be on 3/18/26 via Zoom.</p>	<p>Yolanda Perez</p> <p>Jennifer Smith</p> <p>Jennifer Zuniga</p> <p>Marni Valenzuela</p> <p>Marni Valenzuela</p> <p>Bryna Koch</p> <p>Leila Barraza</p>
<p>Ended 12:58pm</p>		