Southwest Virginia Healthcare Excellence Academy Lab School (SWVA-HEALS)

Mission: To work collaboratively with regional education, healthcare, and community partners to provide a rigorous, high-quality learning environment that promotes increased awareness of potential healthcare careers and prepares college and career ready students to pursue the required college degrees and professional credential that lead to healthcare careers.

Vision: To establish an academic pipeline for preparing future healthcare professionals to meet the healthcare workforce needs in Southwest Virginia.



Instructional Model

Career Academy Educational Model

 Cohort model that provides rigorous, sequential, scaffolding, career and college-prep curriculum focused on healthcare

Dual enrollment healthcare related courses

- Face-to-face classroom and laboratory instruction
- Asynchronous online

Experiential learning

- Active, engaged learning. (i.e., clinical simulation, team-based projects, case-based modules)
- Career exploration forums
- Healthcare related job shadowing and internships
- Mentorship from healthcare professionals and college healthcare students



Support & Partnerships

- Secondary Institutions (4)
 - Smyth County Public Schools
 - Wythe County Public Schools
 - Washington County Public Schools
 - Bristol Virginia Public Schools

- Post Secondary Institutions (3)
 - Emory & Henry College
 - Virginia Highlands Community College
 - Wytheville Community College
- Other Educational Partners (2)
 - A. Linwood Holton Governor's School
 - Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center



Budget Summary and Sustainability

Requested Lab School Funding	Year 0	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Planning Grant	200,000						200,000
Start-up	1,000,000						1,000,000
Operating		700,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	-	3,850,000
Subtotal College Partnership Lab							
School Fund	1,200,000	700,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	-	5,050,000
Cost per pupil		6,999	\$5,911	\$6,346	\$6,582		
Projected Outside funding (local K-12 support, grants, in-kind support, healthcare industry support)						\$1,050,000	

- Strong support from educational partners, healthcare industry stakeholders, and community leaders.
 - **Partnering school divisions** willing to provide a per pupil fee (if needed), provide transportation, and assist with instructional supplies, instructional technology, lab supplies, textbooks, etc.
 - A. Linwood Holton Governor's School committed to providing support through dual enrollment tuition
 assistance and the sharing of faculty.
 - Emory and Henry College committed to supporting staffing needs.
 - **Emory and Henry College** and the **SWVA Higher Education Center** are committed to providing in-kind support with facilities, technology, and support services.
- Multiple foundations and healthcare stakeholders willing to provide financial support
 - Wellspring Foundation of SWVA
 - Smyth County Community Foundation

- Ballad Health
- Claude Moore Foundation



Outcomes

Student

- Increased awareness of healthcare settings and career opportunities;
- Increased understanding of the degree pathways required for specific healthcare careers;
- Strong foundation in the health-related sciences (i.e., anatomy, physiology, chemistry);
- Introductory foundation in healthcare courses (i.e., medical Spanish, medical terminology, healthcare ethics,
- Real-world exposure to healthcare professions and professionals through clinical shadowing opportunities;
- Understanding of and appreciation for the increased need for rural healthcare professionals;
- Increased college and career readiness in preparation for healthcare careers.

Program

- Sustainable "grow our own" healthcare career pipeline
- Increased number of high school graduates who pursue healthcare careers
- Reduced healthcare workforce shortages



Response to Standing Committee Feedback

- Recruitment processes and program will be open to all students.
 - SWVA-HEALS program is open to ALL students in the Commonwealth.
 - Recruitment is focused on ALL 9th and 10th grade students in partnering school divisions.
 - Informational and recruitment materials provided to all middle and high school counselors.
 - SWVA-HEALS Administrators will visit ALL 11 high schools.
 - Multiple Zoom information sessions provided by SWVA-HEALS Administrators for interested parents and students.
 - Admission process will utilize a lottery system.
- Support will be provided to all students as needed in the rigorous program.
 - ALL enrolled students will be provided support to realize the opportunity to succeed.
 - Student performance will be monitored by the SWVA-HEALS faculty and administration.
 - A Student Success Coach will be located on each SWVA-HEALS campus site.
 - Assist with students' academic progress.
 - Monitor students' grades, attendance, and timely completion of class assignments.
 - Provide timely support to address deficiencies in students' performance.
 - Scheduled conferences will be held with each student on regular intervals.
 - Academic counseling will be provided and resources shared to assist all student who demonstrate an academic need.
 - Base high school counselors, Success Coaches, healthcare graduate student mentors, SWVA-HEALS administrators, faculty and parents will collaborate to provide support to each student.

