



# HEALTH CAREER CONNECTION



2025

Paid Summer Internship Program

SLO Healthcare Workforce Partnership

Inspiring and Empowering the Next Generation of Diverse Health Leaders

[www.healthcareers.org](http://www.healthcareers.org)



# Our Goal



Provide promising **SLO area undergraduate students** and **recent graduates** with life changing, career launching paid internship opportunities with local health employers working on priority health access and community health issues. Open to all with an emphasis on local first generation college, low-to middle income and underrepresented backgrounds.

**Connect** interns to area employers to help advance workforce, project, excellence, equity and diversity goals.

**Build the next generation of area health leaders and professionals.**



# About HCC



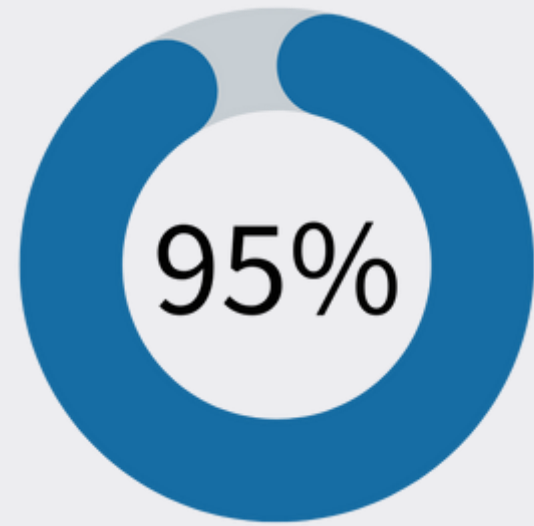
HCC provides promising **undergraduate students** and **recent graduates** from underrepresented backgrounds, under resourced communities, and/or first-generation college students with life changing, career launching opportunities.

For over 34 years, HCC's proven model has empowered 5,400 alumni to become **successful leaders** and professionals in medicine, public health, health management, mental health, social work, health policy and business.

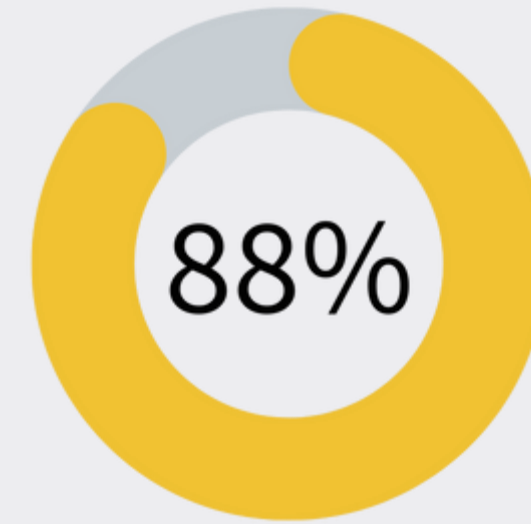
Our [mission video](#) highlights our mission, programs, and impact.



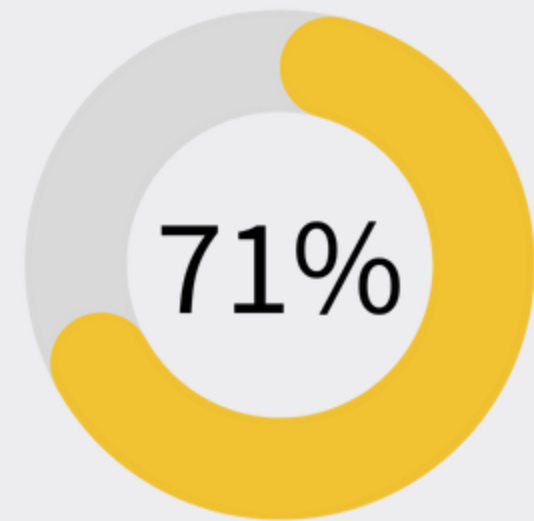
# Proven Track Record



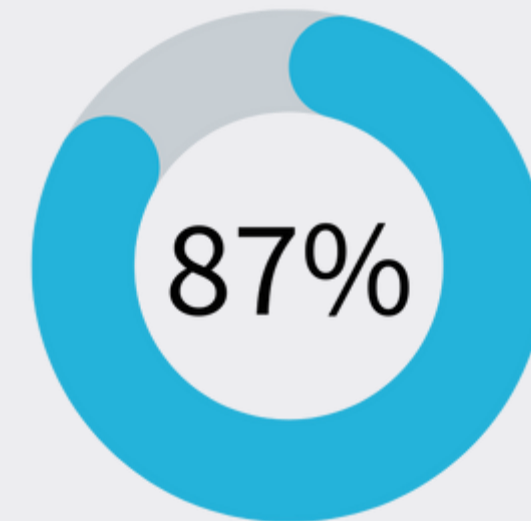
of HCC interns would recommend the program to peers



of HCC interns built valuable, tangible professional skills



of HCC interns received job offers from or extended their internships with their host organizations



of HCC interns increased the strength of their professional networks





# Alumni Testimonial



**Felix Umetiti II**

HCC Alumni, Year 2017

Government Affairs Analyst  
Medical Group Management Association (MGMA)

*“HCC completely upended my expectations in terms of what was professionally possible for me.*

*Not only did HCC make entering the healthcare industry seem possible, it actively facilitated this entry for me, which was invaluable.”*

**5,400**

HCC alumni in our  
nationwide network!



# Graduate School Partners



# 82%

alumni have advanced degrees within 10 years of completing college



# HCC Internships

## Health Career Connection (HCC)

is a comprehensive educational and professional development program that provides **paid** summer internships to **undergraduates** and **recent graduates** in the fields of **public health, health care, behavioral health and health management and policy.**

We provide paid, **full-time 10-week internship** placements with a partner organization. Educational stipends range between **\$4,500 – \$6,000\***

\*Some regions, industries and organizations fund higher than \$6,000





# HCC's Regions

## TO INSPIRE. EMPOWER AND SUCCEED

across the country, HCC has partnered with over **300 organizations** who share our commitment to diversifying the health professions through practical experience, mentorship, and networking, and collectively addressing the importance of creating a health workforce that reflects the communities they serve.



## REGIONS

Northern CA  
Central Valley CA  
Central Coast CA  
Southern CA  
Coachella Valley CA  
New England  
New York/New Jersey  
D.C./Baltimore/Virginia  
Philadelphia  
North Carolina  
Chicago  
Detroit  
Minneapolis

**We also offer fully virtual internships nationwide!**



# HCC Framework



**Career launching exposure and experience**, while making real-world **impacts** on health organizations and our communities

**Mentoring and advising** from host organizations, HCC staff, health leaders and graduate school experts

**Community building and networking** with intern cohort, professionals and alumni to build a sense of **belonging, confidence** and **self-efficacy** within the health industry

**Workshops:** Career Planning, Graduate Education, Advocacy, Cultural Competency, Leadership, Racial Justice, Mental Health & Wellness  
**Connections** to graduate education and employer partners



# Our Internship Model



HCC provides **internships** in a variety of settings including but not limited to:



- Hospitals and health systems
- Local health departments and other governmental agencies
- Community health centers, community clinics
- Behavioral health and mental health service providers
- Medical groups
- Community-based organizations and advocacy groups
- Biopharmaceutical and biotechnology firms
- Consulting firms
- Health plans



Our **apprenticeship model** pairs each intern with a preceptor to serve as a **mentor** while working on **meaningful projects** that are educational for the student and benefit the organization and its **community**.



# SLO Interns in Summer 2024

- Cal Poly Students working on behavioral health access, outreach and services at the new Center for Child and Adolescent Mental Health



# Health Care Partners



# Examples of Public Health Department Partners



# Behavioral Health Placements

HCC is expanding our **internships in behavioral health**, mental health, trauma supports, and substance use treatment services! Our partner organizations provide internship projects in administration, advocacy, expanding services, and more!

Great for candidates interested in **psychiatry, psychology, community health, social work** and related fields.

## Examples of Behavioral Health Partners



DEPARTMENT of  
BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH



CALIFORNIA HEALTH  
COLLABORATIVE  
changing lives by improving health and wellness



NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS  
Helping Those Affected By Mental Illness



California Council of Community  
Behavioral Health Agencies



WellnessTogether.org



BHCA  
Behavioral Health  
Contractors' Association  
of Santa Clara County



# Evita Limon Rocha, MD, MPH

- Local pipeline program product- Reach Out & HCC
- MD and MPH
- ULCA Med, UC Irvine Psychiatry Resident
- Policy Advocate
- Returned to serve in Inland Empire as Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
- Chair of the UC Riverside Med School Admissions Committee
- Devoted Mother of 3





***DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNI LEADER***

***Denise Fair Razo, MBA, MPH, FACHE  
Chief Public Health Officer  
City of Detroit***



# Application Process

## Application Open!

at [www.healthcareers.org](http://www.healthcareers.org)

**Deadline:** December 11th, 2024

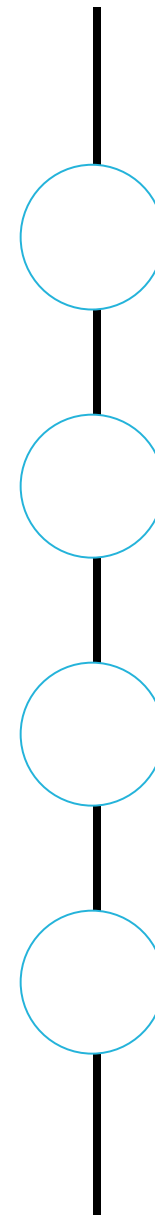
**January 2024:** 1st Round Interviews (varies by region)

**February - March:** Host Organization Interviews

**March - April:** Placements finalized (varies by region)

**May:** Onboarding with HCC and Host Organization

**June- September:** Summer Program



## Programs

- **Full-time internships**  
(10 weeks, 40 hours/week)
- **Part-time consulting projects**  
(8 weeks, 20 hours/week)

## 2025 Dates

**Apply By December 11th, 2024**  
[www.healthcareers.org](http://www.healthcareers.org)

**For questions:**  
[joxendine@healthcareers.org](mailto:joxendine@healthcareers.org)



# How Can you Engage in the SLO Healthcare Workforce-HCC Summer Program?

- **Host** paid summer interns- confirm by **Dec 20 or no later than January 30**
- **Sponsor or fund interns** in host organizations serving underserved communities
- **Encourage students to apply** for internships
- Support **capacity building** for the program
- Be a **speaker** in summer activities
- **Mentor** students or offer **informational interviews**
- **Advise and partner with us** on how to make the program successful



# Thank You!

**Jeff Oxendine, MBA, MPH**

**Founder and CEO, Health Career Connection**

**Co-Director, California Health Professions Consortium**

[joxendine@healthcareers.org](mailto:joxendine@healthcareers.org)