

# Healthcare Career Promotion in Northeast Ohio High Schools for the 2007-2008 Academic Year: Cuyahoga County Report



The mission of the Northeast Ohio Nursing Initiative (NEONI) is to attract individuals to the nursing and allied healthcare professions, facilitate education, strengthen public image and increase public awareness of these professions. Our purpose is to work together to address the critical nursing and allied healthcare workforce shortages. Our membership represents 192 individuals from 58 organizations, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, college healthcare programs, professional healthcare organizations, and individuals interested in addressing the critical healthcare shortages in 12 Northeast Ohio counties.

One of NEONI's first projects was the Career Shadowing Program that was created to encourage high school students to enter the healthcare field. The program allows students to interact with healthcare professionals in their workplace setting and explore various healthcare professions. The students are paired with designated "ambassadors" selected by their institution and they shadow the ambassador for a day. Students experience the workplace first-hand and have the opportunity to discuss the profession with the ambassador.

**More than 3,550 students have shadowed at 28 Northeast Ohio healthcare facilities since the program inception five years ago. This year 484 students (subject to rounding) participated in the program. In the 2007-2008 academic year, 129 high schools in 12 counties in Northeast Ohio offered the Career Shadowing Program to their students at no cost to the school or the student. NEONI has trained more than 700 nurse and allied health ambassadors.**

At an estimated 5 hours per student (prep work, scheduling, production of material, surveys and follow-up), this is 3,460 hours NEONI has contributed to promoting healthcare careers in Northeast Ohio communities. This does not include healthcare facility resources (facility time and the clinical agency liaison and ambassador salaries) contributed to the communities.

On the back of this report, you will find charts indicating the total number of students that shadowed by county (of student's residence) and the number of students that shadowed per clinical agency.

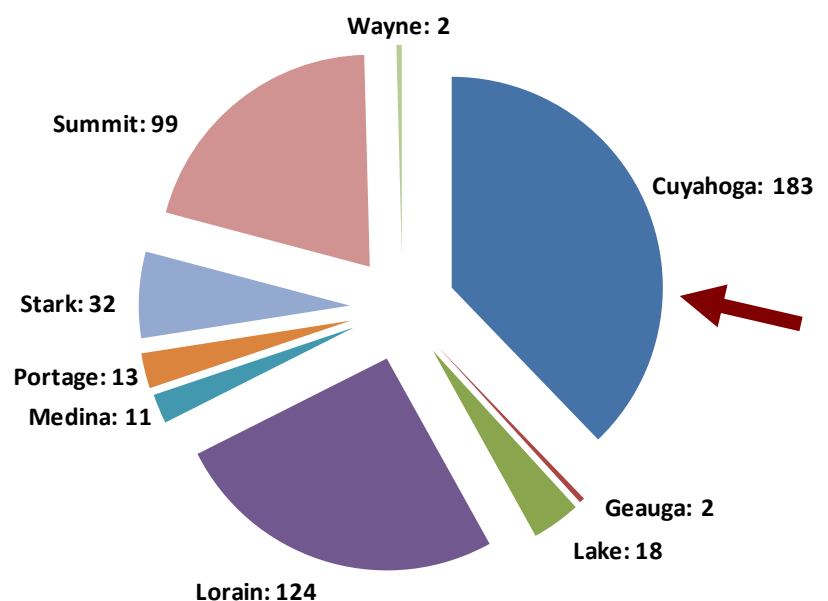
Hospitals alone employ more than 70,000 people in Northeast Ohio, and as the population ages, the healthcare workforce needs are only expected to grow. With the severe shortages in nursing and several allied healthcare professions, it is critical that we work together to ensure the future of healthcare in your community. This is not just for economic reasons; it is to make sure there is adequate staff available to care for patients at the healthcare facilities in our communities.

Additional copies of this report can be printed from our Web site, [www.NEONI.org](http://www.NEONI.org), by selecting *Healthcare Career Shadowing*, then clicking on *County Reports*.

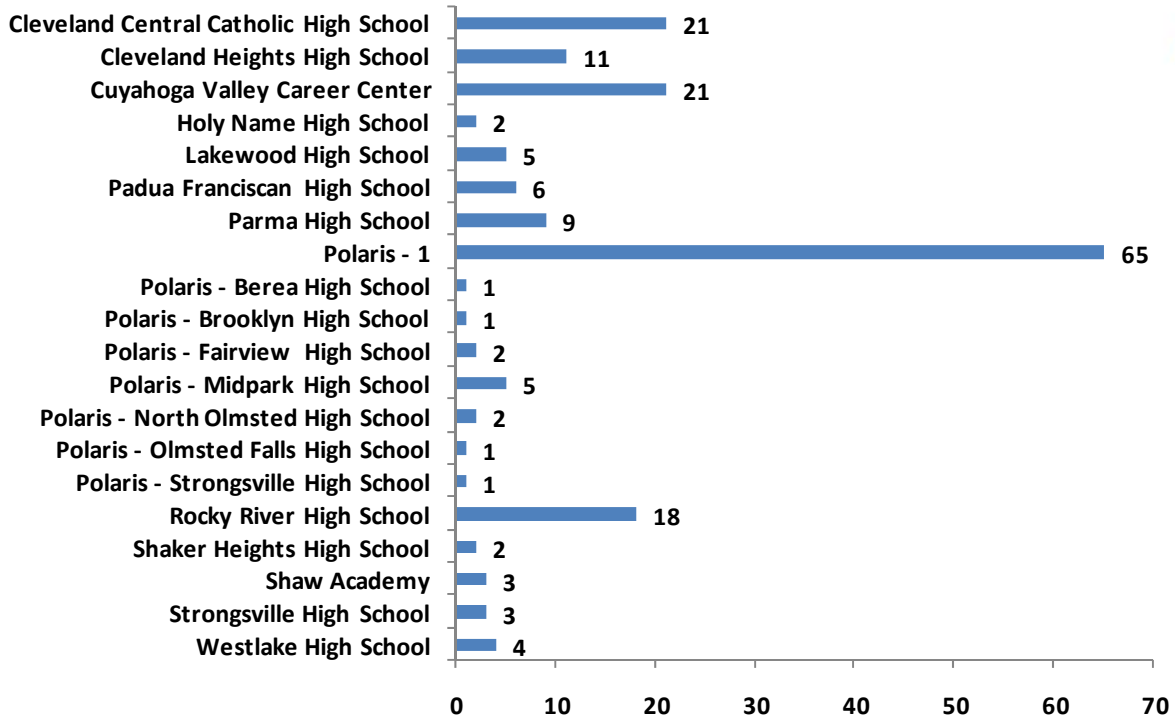
**We encourage you to share this report with civic and government leaders in your community and members of your school board.**

Sincerely,  
The NEONI Team

### Number of Students Scheduled to Shadow by County



## Cuyahoga County Students that Shadowed a Healthcare Professional per High School



### Number of Students that Shadowed per Facility (All Counties)

Facility	#
Akron General Medical Center	58
Akron Children's Hospital	54
Amherst Hospital	2
Cleveland Clinic	14
Community Health Partners	43
EMH Regional Medical Center	53
Euclid Hospital	2
Fairview Hospital	17
Grace Hospital @ Huron	2
Hillcrest Hospital	12
LakeEast Hospital	4

Facility	#
LakeWest Hospital	6
Lakewood Hospital	22
Louis Strokes, Cleveland VA Medical Center	1
Lutheran Hospital	8
Marymount Hospital	11
MetroHealth System	81
Parma Community General Hospital	16
Robinson Memorial Hospital	13
South Pointe Hospital	2
St. John West Shore Hospital	18
Summa Health System—Akron City Hospital	29
Summa Health System—St. Thomas	4

NEONI is funded through the United Way Services of Cleveland and the Akron Community Foundation, and is a regional program of The Center for Health Affairs (CHA), Northeast Ohio's hospitals trade association, representing 40 hospitals.

For more information on CHA, visit [www.chanet.org](http://www.chanet.org).



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