

# Healthcare Career Promotion in Northeast Ohio High Schools for the 2005-2006 Academic Year: Summit 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 140 individuals from 52 organizations, including hospitals, long term care facilities, college healthcare programs, professional healthcare organizations, and individuals interested in addressing the critical healthcare shortages in Northeast Ohio.

One of our 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.

Over 2,345 students have shadowed at 28 Northeast Ohio healthcare facilities since the program began four years ago. This year 692 students (subject to rounding) participated in the program. In the 2005-2006 academic year, 105 high schools in 10 counties in Northeast Ohio offered the Career Shadowing Program to their students at no cost to the school or the student. NEONI has trained over 681 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 at an estimated cost of \$200 per student or \$138,400 this year. This does not include healthcare facility resources (facility time and the clinical agency liaison and ambassador salaries) contributed to the communities.

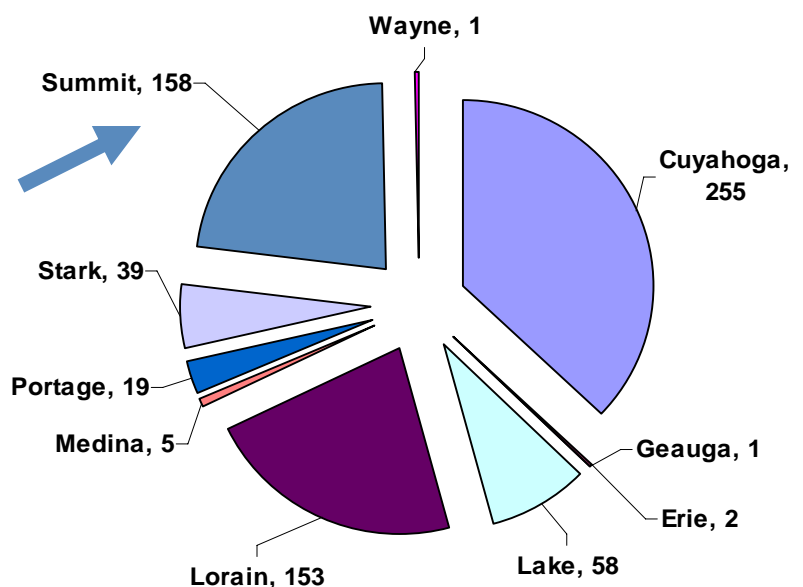
On the back of this report, you will find charts indicating: the total number of students that shadowed by county (of student’s residence) and the number of students that shadowed per clinical agency.

Hospitals alone employ more than 50,000 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.

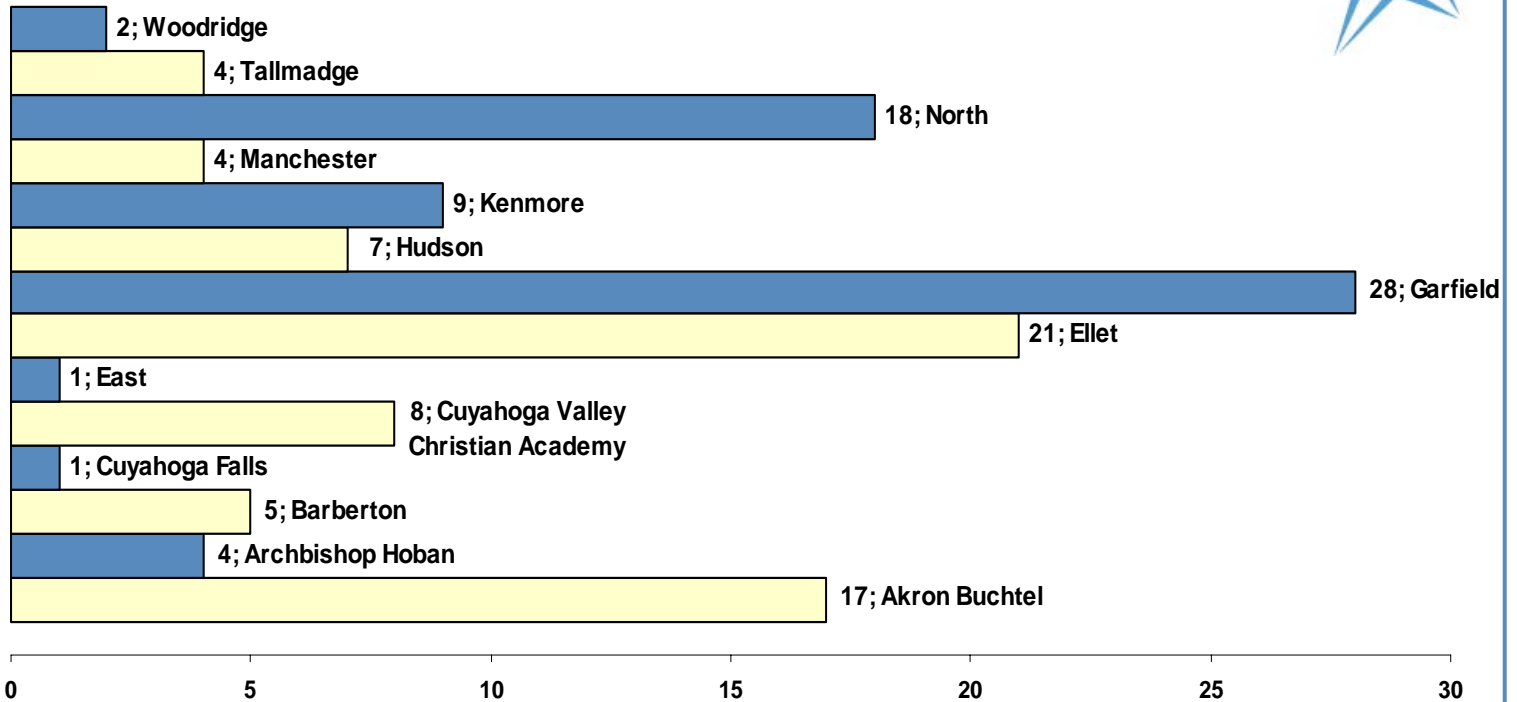
Additional copies of this report can be printed from our Web site, [www.NEONL.org](http://www.NEONL.org), and selecting publications, “Healthcare Career Promotion in Northeast Ohio High Schools - Summit County Report.

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

**Number of Students Who Shadowed by County  
(Student’s Residence)**



## Summit County Students by High School



## Number of Students that Shadowed per Facility

Facility	#
Akron General Medical Center	59
Akron Children's Hospital	70
Community Health Partners	57
EMH Regional Medical Center	70
Fairview Hospital	38
Grace Hospital @ Amherst	5
Grace Hospital @ Huron	4
Hillcrest Hospital	15
Huron Hospital	9
Lake Hospital System	31

Facility	#
Lakewood Hospital	47
Lutheran Hospital	12
Marymount Hospital	6
MetroHealth System, The	81
Parma Community General Hospital	9
South Pointe Hospital	12
St. John West Shore Hospital	25
St. Vincent Charity Hospital	12
Summa Health System	87
The Cleveland Clinic	34
The Renaissance	7

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 35 hospitals.

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



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