

THROUGH IMMERSIVE,  
COMMUNITY-CENTERED  
EXPERIENCES, WE  
CONTINUE TO PROGRESS  
THE REGION'S HEALTH  
PRIORITIES INTO  
LASTING, POSITIVE  
OUTCOMES.



## OFFICE OF CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



## OFFICE OF CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Dr. Jennifer Mitchell  
Director  
jennifermi1@pcom.edu

Dillon Presley  
Community Outreach  
Coordinator  
toddpres@pcom.edu



## BRINGING OUR HUMANITY TO HEALTHCARE

Over the past twelve months, the Office of Campus and Community Partnerships at PCOM South Georgia has made regional health priorities into real-world learning experiences for our students, serving more than 15,300 community members. From July 2024 to June 2025, we led 27 events, averaging just over two per month, which ranged from health education and training sessions to mobile health and wellness pop-ups. Our students conducted health screenings and delivered standalone health education workshops to nearly 1,800 participants. In partnership with Colquitt Regional Medical Center, the NAACP, the Colquitt County Schools System, the Moultrie/Colquitt County Boys and Girls Club Teen Center, and Teen Maze at C.A. Gray Junior High School, OCCP then scaled up its efforts by combining screenings and education. Most notably, over 13,000 residents received both checks and hands-on learning during sessions at the Sunbelt Ag Expo. Small-group efforts, 40 participants in traditional CPR trainings, 182 in mentoring circles, and an additional 158 in blended mentoring-and-education programs ensured that OCCP's reach was both deep and broad. Volunteerism opportunities, though smaller in number, engaged 18 civic-minded students in service projects alongside local nonprofits.

### Annual Event Breakdown

**27** EVENTS  
HELD

**15,300** COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS  
SERVED

**13,000** PARTICIPANTS EDUCATED  
AT SUNBELT EXPO

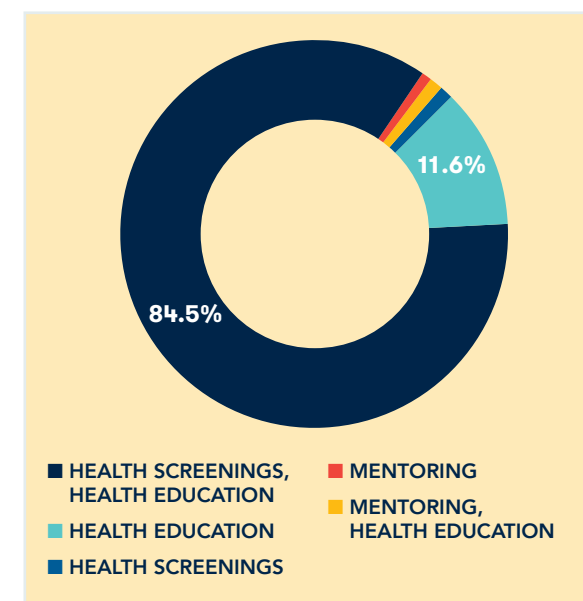
### Small Group Participants

**40** CPR  
TRAINING

**182** MENTORSHIP  
CIRCLES

**158** EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### Reachout Type





# Opportunities Academy

In June 2025, our 6th annual Opportunities Academy welcomed a record cohort of 34 high school students from Colquitt, Thomas, Ben Hill, and Lee counties to campus. This week-long summer enrichment program brings teens together to explore careers in medicine and healthcare, with PCOM second-year medical students serving as mentors and designing each day's agenda, which includes CPR training and simulated medical emergencies. Three alumni of the program, two of whom are now undergraduates and one who is still in high school, returned as junior mentors, further reinforcing a cycle of peer leadership and inspiration.



## Community-Based Research

Midway through the year, we expanded our impact by supporting the launch of a tailored first aid and hands-only CPR training program for 40 migrant farmworkers in Colquitt County, created by two faculty members from PCOM South Georgia. Working with Southern Valley, Inc., our Latino Medical Student Association facilitators designed a curriculum based on the American Heart Association's CPR in Schools Kit. It supplemented it with modules on heat-related illness, bleeding control, and other farmwork-relevant topics. Two sessions, held on April 12 and May 17, 2025, were delivered entirely in Spanish, combining lectures, videos, demonstrations, and hands-on practice. Each participant received a personal first aid kit and a pair of cut-resistant protective sleeves for real-world use. Pre- and post-training surveys revealed significant improvements in emergency response knowledge, confidence, and overall satisfaction, accompanied by overwhelmingly positive feedback on the training's clear,

practical, and culturally relevant approach. This initiative not only addressed a critical gap in emergency preparedness among a high-risk, underserved occupational group but also provided our students with invaluable experiences in interprofessional collaboration and community outreach.

## Other Engagements

These activities were punctuated by clear, sustained momentum: July and August kicked off the year with two events each; March emerged as our busiest month with five distinct engagements; and June closed the cycle strong with three more. Behind the scenes, our staff lent their voices to eight regional and national boards, ranging from the UGA Archway and United Way to the National Mental Health Workforce Acceleration Collaborative, ensuring that our community partnerships inform both policy and practice. OCCP leaders also deepened their expertise through Leadership Colquitt County and the South Georgia Women's Leadership Initiative.

Our Director contributed to the broader conversation in a *Healio* article on rural health, weaving flexible thinking into every

line: rather than prescribing a single "fix," the piece pivots between pop-up clinics at the Sunbelt Ag Expo and community-based faculty fellowships, reminding us that solving complex problems demands openness, adaptability, and a willingness to learn as we go. We have also invested in faculty development. This year, we delivered two "3-in-1" Innovative Teaching Strategies (ITS) workshops plus two additional sessions across all three campuses, training over 70 faculty members in innovative teaching techniques that emphasize experiential learning, reflective practice, and culturally responsive pedagogy.

## Accolades

Community recognition followed community impact. OCCP's collaborative spirit earned the prestigious Partners in Progress award from the Moultrie/Colquitt Chamber of Commerce, recognizing our significant contributions to the local community. We also received the Community Partnership Award from the Moultrie/Colquitt County Boys and Girls Club and the Community Health Award from the local NAACP. These honors validate our commitment to turning

epidemiologic data into tangible, meaningful change across South Georgia.

As we look to 2025–2026, OCCP South Georgia is committed to building on this momentum. Three signature programs are in development: an Athletes in Medicine initiative that embeds health education within local athletes; a co-led Resilient Teen Club with Resilient Communities of Southwest Georgia to foster emotional wellness and leadership among youth; and a Food as Medicine community garden at Stepin Stones Academy and Therapy Services, where students and families will grow, cook, and learn together. Through these immersive, community-centered experiences, we will continue to progress the region's health priorities into lasting, positive outcomes.

