Project PROMISE is a program in two rural Western North Carolina high schools. Selected students desiring to pursue a healthcare career participated in weekly in-school workshops, 1:1 mentoring with UNC medical students, and a self-created community project. The goal of Project PROMISE is to facilitate these students’ paths to future health careers and inspire them to return to practice in a rural area.

Outcomes achieved

10 out of 10 students identified a specific health career they want to pursue and aligned senior year activities and schedules with that career goal.

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In the future

• 3 students to participate in a semester-long internship program with community providers
• Partnership with Western Carolina Medical Society, Mountain Area Health Education Center, and Center for Rural Health Innovation
• NC Albert Schweitzer Fellowship provided $1,000 in sustainability funding