
College of Health & Human Services



Mission Statement

We prepare health and human services professionals who will work to improve the quality of life in their communities and beyond.

Organizational and Program Information

The College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) was created in 2002 and is committed to excellence in teaching, research, and service. CHHS consists of the following seven academic units, including: Departments of Applied Human Sciences, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Physical Therapy, Public Health, Social Work, and Schools of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport and Nursing and Allied Health. CHHS offers degrees at the associate, baccalaureate, masters, and professional doctoral levels.

Since CHHS prepares future leaders in health and human services careers, we are committed to empowering students to lead by example while on the Hill. To that end, we provide opportunities for our students to learn about, and engage in, self-care behaviors that will reduce stress and increase overall quality of life. If students practice these behaviors while in college, then they will be better prepared to do so when they enter the health and human services workforce.

CHHS prepare students for their professions by engaging them in applied learning opportunities in the community that apply the theories and concepts discussed in the classroom. These applied learning opportunities include clinical experiences, field work, and/or internships at one or more health and human services facilities, agencies and/or organizations. Furthermore, CHHS helps facilitate the research and creative activities of faculty, staff, and students, and the translation of this activity into enhancing economic vitality and quality of life in the region.

CHHS offers 16 undergraduate majors leading to baccalaureate degrees. Some majors offer concentrations, which provide additional options within these programs. Two (2) associate degree

programs, 12 undergraduate certificates, and 12 minors are also offered. At the graduate level, there are 9 master's degree programs and 11 graduate certificates. In addition, 2 professional doctoral degrees, the Doctor of Nursing Practice and the Doctor of Physical Therapy are offered.

CHHS oversees the South-Central Area Health Education Center (AHEC), the Center for Applied Science in Health and Aging (CASHA), the Center for Environmental and Workplace Health (CEWH), and the LifeSkills Center for Child Welfare Education and Research (LCCWEAR). Centers or clinics reporting to a unit within CHHS include the Institute for Rural Health, the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training Center, the Training Resource Center, the Dental Hygiene Clinic, and the Communication Disorders Clinic.

Goals and Anticipated Program Activities

CHHS is committed to advancing the WKU strategic plan, Climbing to Greater Heights, by implementing the CHHS strategic plan, Climbing Higher Together. The following goals are outlined in the aforementioned strategic plan:

- Increase recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of a diverse body of CHHS students.
- Enhance the productivity of research and creative activity among CHHS faculty and graduate students.
- Promote excellence in applied, interprofessional, student-centered teaching.
- Foster diversity, equity, and inclusion among CHHS students, faculty and staff.
- Enhance local, regional, and global community-engaged experiences for faculty, staff, and students.
- Establish policies and develop strategies to create efficiencies, maximize resources, maintain facilities, and support the CHHS mission and vision.
- Increase alumni engagement through philanthropy, service, and social media.