FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

AHNA President Presented at MetaECHO 2019
on Behalf of the Mountain Area Health Education Center

AHNA President Lourdes Lorenz-Miller, MSN-IH, RN, AHN-BC, NEA-BC of Asheville, NC presented a poster on “Project ECHO® Helps School Nurses Connect” at the 2019 MetaECHO Conference, which was held March 13-16 at the Albuquerque Convention Center & Hyatt Regency in Albuquerque, NM. Lourdes shared her work at the Mountain Area Health Education Center in Asheville to train school nurses across Western North Carolina using Project ECHO®’s innovative multi-site videoconferencing technology.

About Lourdes

Lourdes Lorenz-Miller, MSN-IH, RN, AHN-BC, NEA-BC is the current President of the American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA). Lourdes is currently employed at the Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) where she works as a Health Improvement Specialist. She also continues to serve as the CEO for the International Integrative Health Institute (IIHI), a consulting service that helps bring hospital administrators, medical professionals, nurses, complementary and alternative medicine practitioners and the community together to share information and solutions to patient needs. Prior to working at the IIHI, she created and implemented an Integrative Health department that provided holistic nursing inpatient and outpatient services at a large Level I Trauma hospital in Asheville, NC.

Lourdes has been an RN for 32 years and has extensive experience in critical care and healthcare administration. She is board certified as an Advanced Holistic Nurse, is an Advanced Nurse Executive, and is a Healing Touch apprentice. She is a national speaker who promotes holistic nursing, Integrative Health, and evidence-based complementary modalities and has presented at national meetings for the American Holistic Nurses Association, Oncology Nursing Society Congress, American Society of Clinical Hypnotherapy, and at the Healing Touch Worldwide Program. In September 2011, she was appointed to represent the AHNA at the American Nurses Association Congress on Nursing Practice and Economics and co-authored a position paper on The Value of Care Coordination.

Lourdes earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Phoenix. In addition to being AHNA’s President, she is also a doctoral candidate in Health Care Administration. She also serves on the American Holistic Nurses Credentialing Corporation (AHNCC) Advisory Committee and is a member of the American Integrative Holistic Medicine Academy Board Membership Committee/Fundraising Committee.
About Project ECHO & MetaECHO

Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a movement to demonopolize knowledge and amplify the capacity to provide best practice care for underserved people all over the world. Project ECHO started as a way to meet local healthcare needs. Launched in 2003, the ECHO model™ makes specialized medical knowledge accessible wherever it is needed to save and improve people’s lives. By putting local clinicians together with specialist teams at academic medical centers in virtual teleECHO™ clinics, Project ECHO® shares knowledge and expands treatment capacity. The result: better care for more people. Project ECHO® has expanded—across diseases and specialties, across urban and rural locales, across different types of delivery services, and even across the globe. Project ECHO® operates more than 220 hubs for more than 100 diseases and conditions in 31 countries.

MetaECHO 2019 brought together global health policy experts, government officials, academic leaders, funders, friends, and Project ECHO®’s partner teams, all committed to our goal of touching 1 billion lives by 2025. The conference’s objective was to explore thinking digitally, share learnings, celebrate progress, and brainstorm strategies for advancing the ECHO model of democratizing best-practice knowledge to support the social good.

About AHNA

The American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) is a non-profit specialty nursing professional membership organization that serves as the definitive voice for registered nurses who practice holistic nursing.

Founded in 1981, AHNA’s primary mission is to advance holistic nursing through Practice, Community Building, Advocacy, Research and Education. The association is dedicated to the continued development of evidence-based holistic research, self-care methods for nurses and non-pharmacological pain management. AHNA offers networking opportunities to its members along with continuing nursing education through webinars, self-study programs, publications, conferences, and scholarship and grant opportunities.

AHNA currently services more than 5,500 members through 166 local chapters in the U.S. and abroad. Holistic nursing is recognized by the American Nurses Association as an official nursing specialty with a defined scope and standards of practice.

About Mountain Area Health Education Center

Mountain Area Health Education Center was established in 1974 and is a leader in healthcare, education, and innovation. Located in Asheville, MAHEC serves a 16-county region in Western North Carolina. It is the largest Area Health Education Center in North Carolina, which evolved to address national and state concerns with
the supply, retention, and quality of health professionals. MAHEC's mission is to train the next generation of healthcare professionals for Western North Carolina through quality healthcare, innovative education, and best practice models that can be replicated nationally. MAHEC's Biltmore campus is also home to UNC Health Sciences at MAHEC, an academic health center in partnership with UNC-Chapel Hill that includes programs from the UNC School of Medicine, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, and UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. For more information, visit www.mahec.net or call 828-257-4400.

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