
Designing a Quality Health Science Pathway

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Today's Presentation

**Discuss steps to design a Health
Science pathway**

Health Science Cluster

**The Power of Community
Partners**

**Industry vs Academic
Perspective**

Milestones

**August 2013- 1st
Year**

Waterbury Career
Academy opened with 235
students

2014

August 2016

WCA and CVS articulate
Pharmacy Technician course

2019

August 2015

First class of CNA students
trained

November 2019

Recognized by SDE as a
model Program of Study
and Therapeutic Services
Pathway.

S: “Where do I start?”

CT. State Department of Education/Department of Labor provide *blueprints* to structure your pathway. State and Federal Perkins V guidelines

Access community resources for future support including DOH, local health departments and major health care facilities

Local economic picture and industry needs



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**O: Conduct a *SWOT* survey,
student career interest and
parent surveys
PTSO, BOE,
Open House**



A: Assess current programs of study and coursework offered

Dual Enrollment offered
Work based/Project based Learning



Tip

Ask your self....will this enhance the current academic atmosphere and serve the needs of our students and community?

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P: Implement approved changes to program with full transparency.

Industry ready credentialing available?

Will it improve student performance?

Raise graduation rates? Lower absenteeism?

Will it meet needs of special populations?

High wage, high skill and in-demand careers



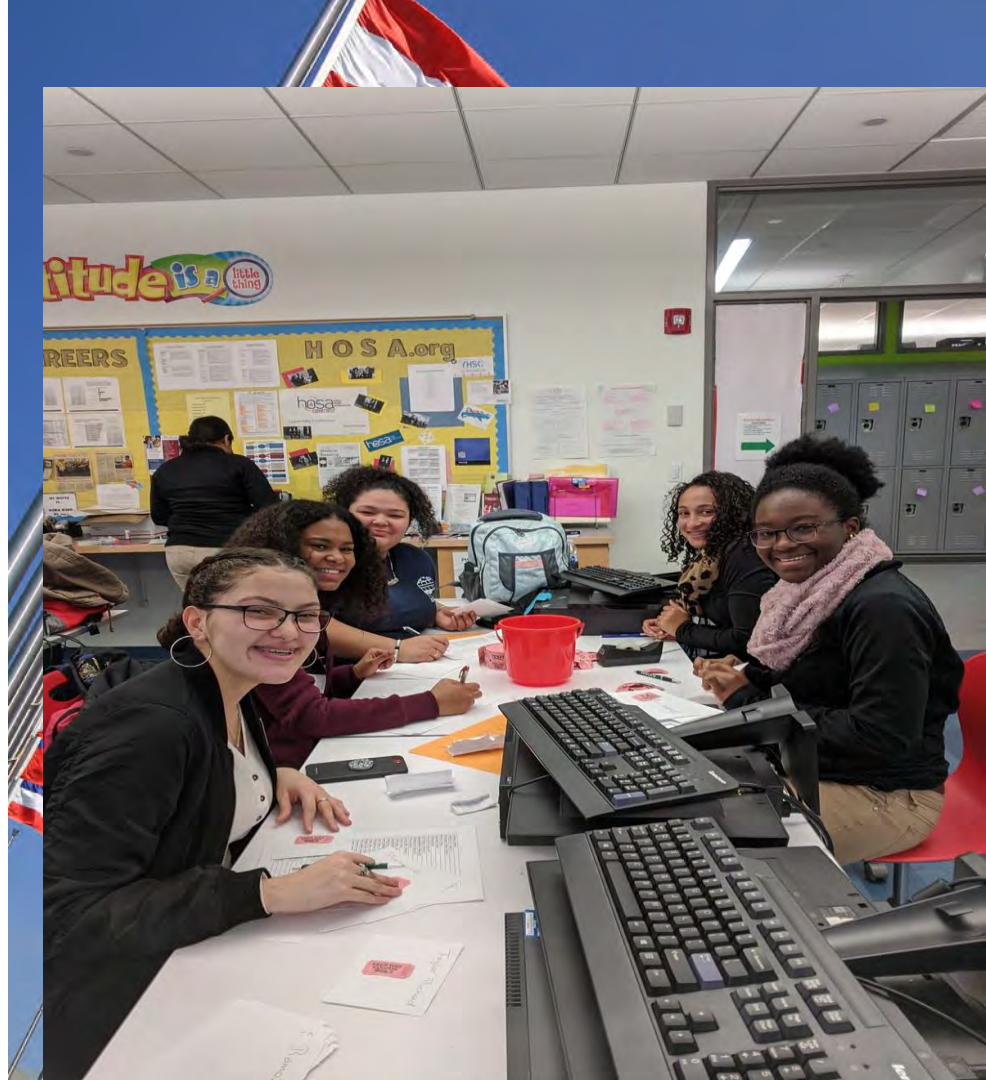
Tip

Align your program with industry relevant standards and incorporate the technical skills into the the curriculum.

Before.....



After.....





WCA Health Science Pathway

→ **Health Science Cluster**

Therapeutic Services

Program of Studies includes eight (8) courses that provide 250 students with multiple exit health career pathways for entering industry or post – secondary education.



Work -Based Learning

- Required 60 clinical hours for CNA
- Required 100 externship hours at CVS for Pharmacy Tech
- Job Shadow programs at local hospitals
- Summer Programs- Waterbury Hospital



In 2018 Waterbury Career Academy students represent at press conference held at NVCC to announce Governor Lamont's workforce training initiatives to ensure educators are meeting the needs of 21st century jobs.



Dual Enrollment Experiences

→ Articulations with local
community colleges*

→ UCONN Early College
Experience

Medical Terminology

Intro to Allied Health
Professions

EMT

Meet Mr. Hayes

Guest speaker for the UCONN
ECE Intro Allied Health
Professions course.

School Psychologist



Meet Harry, Emil and Randy

Seniors enrolled in the UCONN
ECE Medical Terminology course

All graduated and attended
UNCC Waterbury. Randy is
currently in Pharmacy School at
Storrs





Industry- Recognized Credentials

→ Validate your program

CT. Department of Health CNA

Licensure

**Pharmacy Technician
Certification**

AHA CPR/BLS


CareerSafe OSHA 10 Healthcare

Stop the Bleed

Senior students,
Danielle and
Claudia earning
Stop The Bleed
certification







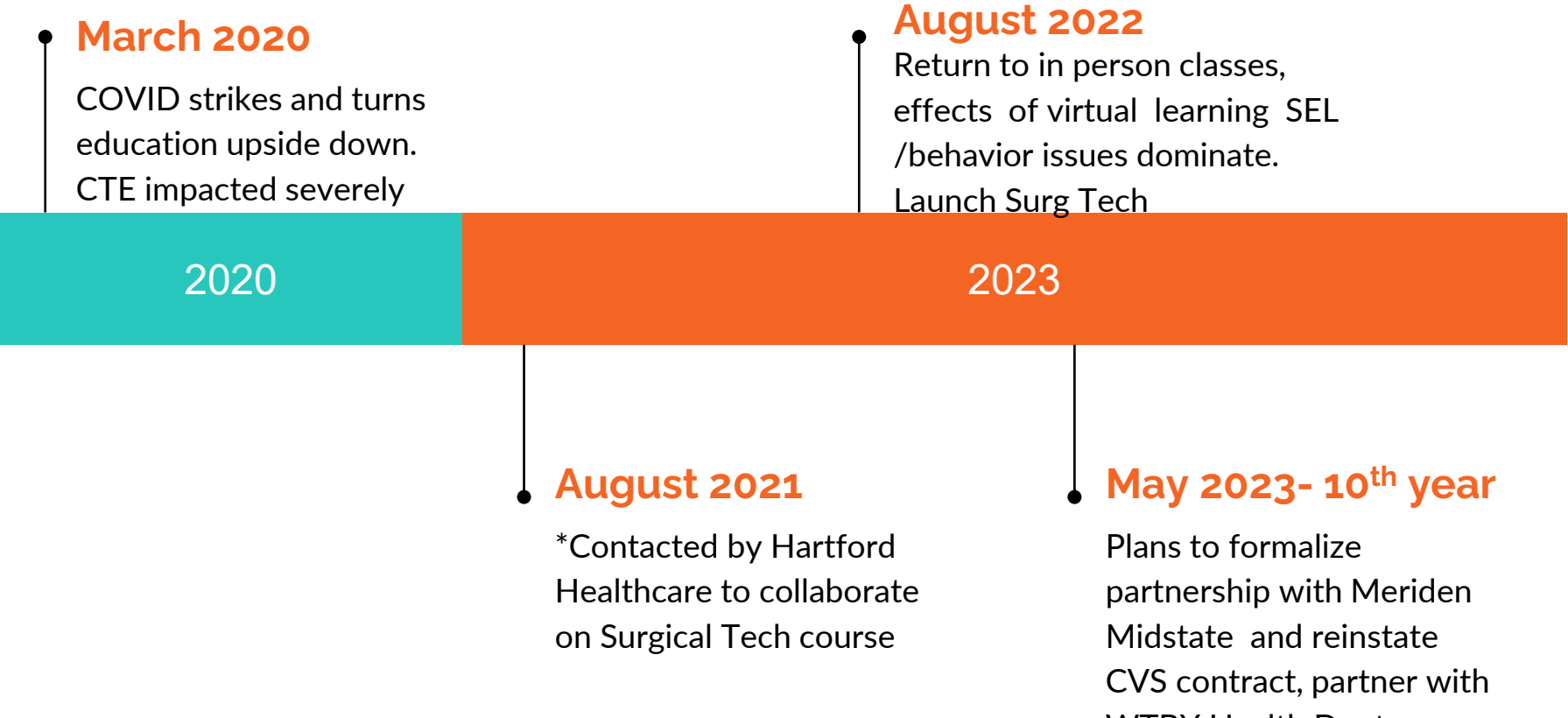
Fabiola,
Morrgan, Gianna
and Alexia
proudly share
their certificates

More than 500 parents and students attend OPEN HOUSE

Caroline a senior Pharmacy Tech student was there to greet them all!



Milestones





Program of Studies

- Health Exploratory
- Foundations of Health Science
- Medical Assistant
- UCONN Intro to AH
- Nurse Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- UCONN EMT
- UCONN Medical Terminology
- Surgical Technician/EKG



Tip

Dress for
Success!!!

**Weekly
Professionalism
grade**



Surgical Technician Students

It all started with a phone call from an OR nurse coordinator looking to find a way to fill the vacancies in the OR/Sterile Processing department.

- Initial meeting- Developed a plan to collaborate
- Quickly defined our roles, hospital contributions and what WCA will provide
- Supply and equipment lists, textbook recommendations passed between us
- On my end, working with admin to add course into schedule matrix, scheduling /coding course. Ordered supplies, created academic space
- Another meeting to finalize details, class size and scope and sequence
- 27 seniors signed up! We were up and running.
- Moving forward, looking to “formalize” our collaboration with Hartford Healthcare, bring students to hospital, increase engagement with OR and CSD departments.

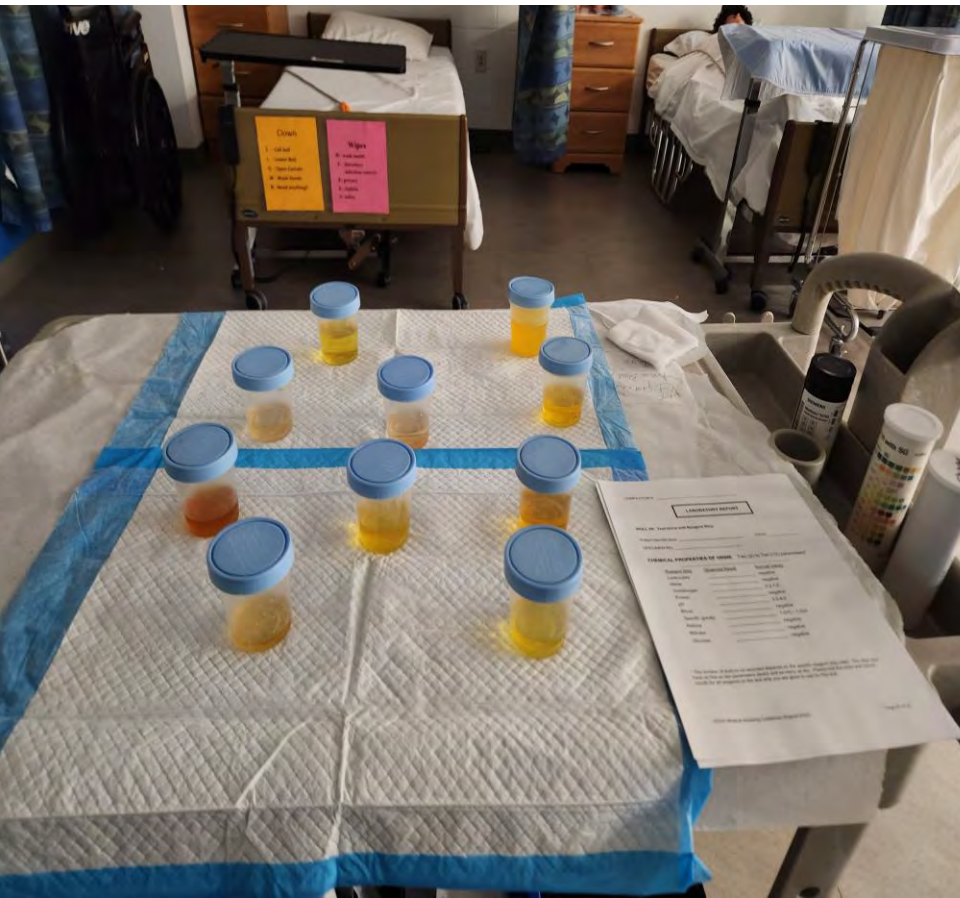
Create Industry Relevant Environment



Work- Based Technical Skills



National Health Science Standards



Community Service



What students are saying

"Being at the Career Academy.....I see my future"

Dayalee Class of 2018 and
CVS Pharmacy Tech

**"The health strand
makes sense..."**

Jenesis Class of 2017

**Junior at UCONN
Storrs**

I wanted to let you know
how much of an impact
WCA made in my life in just
those 4 years! Thank you <3

Oreanna Class of 2018
Nursing student at St.
Vincent's

Meet Argenis

2018 WCA graduate

First-Gen student

Student intern for Senator
Murphy

Williams College

Class of 2022



Meet Cristy Class of 2023

Scholar-Athlete

Quest Bridge Scholarship
Recipient

Attending Brown University

Biological Science Major





Community, Academic and Industry Affiliations

- Connecticut Uniform Store
 - St. Mary's Hospital- EMS
- Waterbury Hospital Summer Bridge and Auxiliary Scholarship program
 - American Heart Association
 - Career Safe Online OSHA Training
- PTCB- Pharmacy Technician Certification Board
 - YouScience Connecticut
 - Stop the Bleed
 - UCONN ECE
 - Hartford Healthcare- Meriden Midstate
- HOSA- CTSO Future Health Professionals
- Global Leadership Initiative Taft School
 - Health 360- Northwest AHEC
 - Department of Public Health
 - Department of Health
 - NREMT
 - Abbott Terrace- Athena Health Care
 - Waterbury Promise
- National Consortium of Health Science Educators
 - *Waterbury Health Department**
 - *CVS Health* pending reinstatement*



Reflections

Milestones

Current program has generated interest from numerous districts in response to post-covid health care provider shortages

- Continue to seek community resources to develop meaningful internship opportunities
- Select experiences that will lead to employment



Good luck!

