



Henry Ford College

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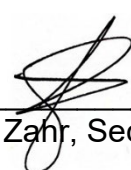
At their regular Board of Trustees meeting on September 21, 2026, the following motion, moved by Trustee Petlichkoff, supported by Trustee Mozip, was approved with a unanimous vote attached.

Local Strategic Value Resolution

Background Information: In order to receive funding under the local strategic value category, community colleges must confirm they meet four out of five of the best practices listed for each category. The wide range of educational programs and business and industry partnerships at Henry Ford College ensure that the best criteria practices are met.

Recommended action: Move to approve the following resolution as documented by Attachment A:

RESOLUTION: Henry Ford College, through its duly authorized officers, certify that Henry Ford College has met four of five best practices in each category as required by Section 230 of PA 60 of 2015, the Education Omnibus Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2026.



Amer Zahr, Secretary

Community Colleges Local Strategic Value Template

Please use this table as a method to succinctly detail what your community college is doing to meet the best practices in each category. Each category is worth one-third of the total amount available for your institution. Your institution must meet 4 out of 5 best practices in a category to receive funding associated with that category.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
Category A: Economic Development and Business or Industry Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
(i) The community college has active partnerships with local employers including hospitals and health care providers.	Since its founding in 1938, Henry Ford College (HFC) has been a driving force in workforce and professional development, helping industry build a world-class, competitive workforce that supports economic growth and strengthens global positioning. From its earliest days, the College forged groundbreaking partnerships with Ford Motor Company, UAW-Ford, Chrysler Corporation, and General Motors Corporation to create educational opportunities for both new and incumbent workers. These programs not only enhanced job-specific skills but also gave employers a critical competitive advantage in rapidly evolving industries. Local and regional employers from business, industry and healthcare play critical roles on Advisory Boards for a wide range of career and academic programs at Henry Ford College (HFC) – helping to shape and steer curriculum and training so that students are best prepared to enter the workforce. The educational partner of choice for many employers, HFC provides customized, tailored opportunities to train as well as to upskill workers throughout their career cycles. With strong support from manufacturers including Ford Motor Company, General Motors, and Stellantis, HFC has built one of the largest apprenticeship programs in the nation, hosting the largest student population engaged in apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs in the State of Michigan. In addition to the more traditional career pathways offered through HFC's Trade & Apprenticeship Programs, HFC has adopted and adapted the

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	apprenticeship learning model in non-traditional areas such as in allied health and healthcare fields as well. HFC hosts a unique MAT2 (Michigan Advanced Technician Training) program – creating exceptional “earn and learn” training pathways combining classroom instruction with on-the-job learning experience with such key employer partners as: Inergy Automotive Systems, LLC; New Center Stamping; Proper Group International; EMAG LLC; FTE Automotive USA; Brose North America; ZF North America; Heller Machine Tools; Kostal North America; Detroit Inc.; Benteler; Van-Rob; Borg-Warner; ZF, K & S Services; KlingelInberg; and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. HFC is home to Michigan’s only Ford ASSET program, a partnership with Ford Motor Company to train auto repair technicians for Ford dealerships. HFC also maintains a CISCO Academy preparing students for industry networking certifications. In partnership with Henry Ford Health (HFH) and Dearborn Public Schools (DPS), HFC maintains a nationally recognized Early College in Health Careers. Other HFC/HFH collaborations include apprenticeship programs in Radiography, Surgical Technology, and Medical Assisting. We have also so begun collaborating with HFH on a training program for Respiratory Therapy students. These programs create an opportunity for students to maintain work and benefits needed to live and advance to a higher wage career path. These students come from both new employees and incumbent workers in the health system.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	HFC partners with Corewell Health (CH) in providing a first-in-the-state educational/employment program guaranteeing Nursing students full-time careers with CH upon graduation and successful completion of the NCLEX exam. This program includes an immersive clinical education component in the final semester of the program, further enhancing the career and skill preparation of the future employees. Over 30 students have successfully completed this program and went on to employment at Corewell Health. HFC also maintains educational and professional training partnerships with the Detroit Medical Center, Trinity Health, Michigan Medicine, Garden City Hospital, and many other hospitals, clinics, and healthcare facilities across Southeast Michigan. HFC's unique Lactation Consultant program was developed through a partnership with Ascension St. John Hospital, now Henry Ford Health. This program has expanded clinical partnerships across the state of Michigan including Lansing, Saginaw, and Grand Rapids
(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.	Henry Ford College (HFC) offers customized workforce training designed for and in partnership with regional employers to address needs, resolve skill gaps, and prepare workers for advancement. Training takes place at employer worksites, on the HFC campus in specialized labs, or through a hybrid approach. Recent on-site training initiatives: • Transportation: HFC partnered with the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) for a 12-week Heavy-Duty Transit Mechanic pre-apprenticeship program utilizing DDOT buses and diesel equipment, earning graduates a Michigan Apprenticeship Readiness Certificate Level II Endorsement. • Healthcare: HFC partnered with Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network to deliver

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	practical, community-based Training for community Health Workers. • Manufacturing and Construction: HFC also partnered with Alquist to provide a large-scale additive manufacturing training in 3D construction printing to address regional housing demands. • Skilled Trades and Automation: HFC provides customized instrumentation and skilled trades training for Ford Motor Company, Stellantis, and other regional manufacturers. Coursework aligns with employer-specific Related Technical Instruction (RTI) for robotics, programmable logic controllers (PLCs), and industrial maintenance. Corporate-sponsored partnerships further extended HFC's reach, including the UAW-Ford Industrial Readiness Certificate Program, MAT2, and innovative training in gas distribution, community health, industrial sewing and pattern making, and pipeline programs that link high school students to career pathways. Partnerships with employers such as Brose, Emag LLC, Dürr, and SW North America underscore the College's ability to align workforce training with real industry needs. Henry Ford College (HFC), in partnership with the Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance and the Institute for Population Health, launched its Community Health Worker (CHW) training program. This initiative was developed to prepare front-line health workers to deliver culturally responsive services that address the diverse needs of Michigan communities. Since its inception, HFC's CHW training program has successfully prepared more than 348 professionals, strengthened Michigan's healthcare workforce and advanced community health outcomes.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.	HFC’s Small Business and Entrepreneurship Hub serves as an accessible center where HFC students, employees, entrepreneurs, and community members can explore ideas, develop business skills, connect with industry professionals, and move concepts toward implementation. The Hub functions as an early-stage business incubator by providing free workshops, individualized business consultations, guest speakers, industry panels, mentoring connections, and opportunities for entrepreneurs to test and strengthen their ideas. Its programming connects participants with business owners, attorneys, consultants, technology professionals, economic-development organizations, and other industry experts. These partnerships ensure that participants receive practical information grounded in current business and technological practices. Through the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Hub, HFC provides more than traditional classroom instruction. The College creates a collaborative environment in which students and community entrepreneurs can access emerging technologies, industry expertise, mentoring, applied learning, and early-stage business support.
(iv) The community college supports technological advancement through industry partnerships, incubation activities, or operation of a Michigan technical education center or other advanced technology center.	HFC operates an MTEC supporting the needs of the business and industry community, maintaining quality training opportunities and best practices in technological advancement since 2002. HFC’s MTEC facility is also home to our Middle College Trade School, serving numerous regional high schools and introducing students to career pathways in industry and the skilled trades. MTEC also provides learning labs for HFC’s expanding Pre-Engineering and Engineering Technology programs. Since 2022, HFC has housed the Apple Foundation Program at its East Campus,

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	offering one- and three-month courses that introduce students to Swift, Apple’s programming language, and the fundamentals of app design and development. Using Apple’s learning framework, students enhance their creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills while building app prototypes. Through Apple’s Community Education Initiative, HFC also offers two credit-bearing courses— Introduction to Mobile Application Development and Advanced Mobile Application Development (iOS)—which form part of the College’s Mobile App Development Certificate of Achievement, providing students with a clear pathway from foundational training to advanced study and credentialing. The Middle College Trade School enables eligible high school students to earn a high school diploma while completing college coursework toward a certificate or associate degree at Henry Ford College. Participating students receive applied instruction using industry-relevant equipment, software, laboratories, and technical processes. Program pathways include: 1.Design and Manufacturing: computer-aided Design (CAD), drafting, machining, and CNC technologies. 2.Cybersecurity: Network administration, Risk management, and digital infrastructure defense. 3.Electrical Engineering Technology: Industrial controls, PLCs, robotics and circuit testing.
(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.	HFC holds active board and leadership seats with the Southeast Michigan Community Alliance (SEMCA), the workforce Intelligence Network (WIN), the Michigan Alliance for Greater Mobility Advancement (MAGMA), and the Michigan Occupational Deans Administrative Council (MODAC). •SEMCA (Michigan Works! -- Wayne and Monroe Counties): HFC serves on the

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	Workforce Development Board and works to align college curriculum to help with regional talent shortages, offers customized training and industrial credentials. •WIN Collaborative: a regional alliance of nine community colleges and seven Michigan Works! Agencies. HFC's board presence provides access to data driven labor market intelligence to eliminate regional training duplication and establish stackable credentials. •MAGMA Sector Collaborative: an automotive and mobility industry group convened by WIN. HFC partners to adapt its curriculum to rapid technological changes in electric vehicles, connected systems, automated vehicles, and battery testing. •MODAC Collaborative: statewide network of community college career and technical leaders. HFC participates to share best practices, improve credit -for-prior-learning alignment, and advocate for portable, cross-regional credentials.
Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
(i) The community college has active partnerships with regional high schools, intermediate school districts, and career-tech centers to provide instruction through dual enrollment, direct credit, middle college, or academy programs.	Henry Ford College is home to the largest high school dual enrollment student population among all 2- and 4-year colleges and universities in the State of Michigan. Under its Director of K-12 Relations, HFC advances and coordinates dual- and concurrent enrollment programming to ensure alignment of services with over 68 partnering high schools and school districts across Wayne County and Southeast Michigan, providing college credit opportunities to 2500+ high school students every year. HFC and Dearborn Public Schools partner in offering a unique and comprehensive Collegiate Academy providing all eligible 11th and 12th graders no-cost access to most of the college's academic and career pathways. HFC also houses on-campus Early College programs enrolling students in 9th grade and focusing on career preparation in such areas as Health

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	Career, Advanced Manufacturing, and Education. The Middle College Trade School is designed to create an accessible transition from secondary education to college and employment. Through early exposure to college courses, career exploration, hands-on technical instruction, and academic support, students begin developing specialized skills before completing high school. This model reduces the time and cost required to earn a postsecondary credential and establishes clearly defined pathways into further education, apprenticeships, and high-demand careers. Partnership scope HFC partners with Dearborn/Detroit area's Advanced Technology Academy providing Early Middle College dual and concurrent enrollment pathways for high school students in Business, Cybersecurity, pre-Engineering, Healthcare, Mechatronics, and Nursing. HFC is a CISCO regional academy which coordinates CISCO networking instruction for area high schools.
(ii) The community college hosts, sponsors, or participates in enrichment programs for area K-12 students, such as college days, summer or after-school programming, or science Olympiad.	Henry Ford College's K–12 enrichment initiatives, primarily driven by the Hawk Career Exploration Academy (formerly Camp Henry) and year-round after-school programs, serve as a strategic pipeline that connects area students from grades 6 through 12 to high-demand career pathways and postsecondary education. By providing affordable, hands-on, and project-based learning across diverse STEAM and vocational fields—such as robotics, advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity, media, and healthcare—these programs utilize HFC's main campus facilities, faculty, and industry partners to deliver experiential learning that goes beyond traditional classroom instruction. This early exposure helps students build vital transferable skills, breaks down socioeconomic barriers to educational equity, and demystifies

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	the college experience by introducing youth to formal progression tracks like dual enrollment and the Middle College Trade School. Ultimately, these initiatives convert short-term summer and after-school activities into long-term academic journeys, generating a diverse, technically literate, and workforce-ready talent pipeline that benefits regional employers, families, and school districts alike. HFC has conducted summer camps encouraging underrepresented student populations to explore learning and career opportunities in STE(A)M fields: DNA Camp, Environmental Discovery Camp, Forensics Explorations, and Astronomy. Other “Camp Henry” programs engage students in areas such as Culinary Arts, Cybersecurity, Computer Programming, as well as the visual and performing arts. Each Fall, HFC hosts an annual Discover Day attended by up to 1,400 students from area K-12 school systems. Likewise, HFC serves as a coordinating hub for many activities related to Manufacturing Day in Southeast Michigan. STEM Family Day engages students of all ages exploring a wide range of scientific interests. The college Planetarium hosts hundreds of area K-12 students for seasonal shows. HFC’s Political Issues Conference draws over 500 high school students each year, and the Business Professionals Association competition brings nearly 800 high students to campus annually. The CISCO Olympics encourages high school students to compete in a day of networking games and exercises. Faculty in Science and Engineering mentor students, oversee research projects, and judge Science Fairs in the Dearborn Public Schools. HFC Science faculty provide resources and guidance for local high school students engaging in independent research projects.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
(iii) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for traditional age students, including grant programs such as talent search, upward bound, or other activities to promote college readiness in area high schools and community centers.	HFC promotes successful transition to college for both traditional age students and adult learners through many initiatives. HFC is home to the largest population of Detroit Promise students in the state, providing tailored advising, success coaching, and support for many first- generation minority students transitioning to college from low-income, urban high school systems. The HFC Office of K-12 Relations works with area high schools to smooth the admission process to career and technical programs. HFC also is home to Henry J. Bowers Focus Group providing both social and academic support to students while focusing on improving retention and goal completion. HFC has participated with the University of Detroit Mercy and Wayne State University in a grant-funded program that aims to provide research opportunities to students early in the educational pathway while also supporting professional development for faculty and staff. Co-requisite math courses have been developed for all three Math Pathways: STEM, Quantitative Reasoning and Statistics. This allows students to earn college credits while acquiring remedial skills. HFC has a full-time Completion Coach embedded in co-requisite math classes and available to all students taking math courses to support any non-academic issues that arise. HFC provides an Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) for students who place below the level of college writing, allowing these students to take their college writing course a full semester early. A similar accelerated model has been adopted in HFC's English Learning Institute serving student's whose first language is not English. Additionally, HFC has developed a series of workshops that are used to assist and prepare students for placement tests to sharpen their

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	skills and properly place them in their chosen field of study. These workshops include placement test information given at New Student Orientation and one-on-one free tutoring assistance within the college’s tutoring center. For students who are unable to place into college-level English classes, the Workforce and Professional Development Division offers low-cost, non-credit literacy training. Over two previous summer terms, HFC’s Hawk Advantage program assisted over 400 high school graduates make seamless transition to college with a focus on closing achievement gaps and addressing “learning loss” resulting from the disruption of the COVID pandemic.
(iv) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for new or reentering adult students, such as adult basic education, GED preparation, GED testing, recruiting, advising, or orientation activities specific to adults.	Henry Ford College provides and participates in programming that supports successful transitions to college for new and returning adult learners. A significant example is HFC’s participation in the Michigan College Credit for Apprenticeships Program, a statewide initiative that creates clear, affordable pathways from registered apprenticeship training to college certificates and associate degrees. The initiative is particularly responsive to adult learners who have completed extensive workplace and apprenticeship training but may not have previously enrolled in college or may be returning after an extended absence. By recognizing validated apprenticeship learning as college credit, HFC allows these students to begin their academic journey with advanced standing rather than requiring them to repeat knowledge and skills they have already mastered. The program converts classroom, lab and on-the-job apprenticeship training into recognized college credits. This gives adult learners advanced standing, bypassing redundant coursework to lower the total time and cost required to earn an associate degree. HFC partners with and houses on its Main campus Dearborn Public School’s Adult Learner

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	Program. HFC and DPS work collaboratively to identify and support adult learners through GED and/or completion of a college credential. In some cases, after having successfully completed at least 6 credits of college-level coursework, adult learners may enter HFC career pathways without necessarily having to complete a high school diploma or equivalent. The Office of Military and Veterans Services offers assistance to help veterans as well as active military and their families enroll and succeed at HFC. A series of workshops are also provided for and offer one-on-one assistance to new and existing non-traditional students, including tailored orientation sessions and tutoring to better prepare them for placement testing. Through a Center for Working Families grant, adults returning to college were supported by programs such as those providing special assistance to improve the likelihood they will graduate and obtain a job. The program was a partnership with United Way and ACCESS in which these agencies referred prospective students to the College and provided important support services to improve retention.
(v) The community college has active partnerships with regional 4-year colleges and universities to promote successful transfer, such as articulation, 2+2, or reverse transfer agreements or operation of a university center.	In its efforts to support the state's Sixty-by-30 initiative, HFC developed and maintains a unique and innovative Learn4ward program guaranteeing admission and seamless transfer of an earned associate degree to UM-Dearborn, Wayne State University, Eastern Michigan University, and Davenport University, saving transfer students both money and time to bachelor's degree attainment. HFC administers more than 150 active articulations as well as a growing number of Reverse-Transfer Agreements with other 2- and 4-year institutions or higher learning both across the state of Michigan and nationally. More than fifty 3+1 agreements afford

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	students the opportunity to complete three years toward a BA/BS degree at HFC, improving graduation rates and reducing the cost of college education. HFC actively seeks partnerships with regional 4-year colleges and universities and has articulations with the University of Michigan (at Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint), Wayne State University, Eastern Michigan University, Michigan State University, Oakland University, Ferris State University, Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University, Madonna University, Siena Heights University, Rochester University, Davenport University, Walsh College, and many others. HFC partners with the University of Michigan in offering a Transfer Bridges to Michigan the Humanities Program supported by grant funding from the Mellon Foundation and promoting both studies and careers in the Liberal Arts. HFC has partnered with both Michigan State University and Eastern Michigan University in proving seamless transfer ADN-to-BSN pathways for Nursing students with support from a MiLEAP grant. These pathways are designed to maximize the credits that students bring with them from HFC (60 course credits + 30 credits for successful passage of the NCLEX exam), reducing both the time and cost of completing a BSN degree at the 4-year university. Henry Ford College participates in the Michigan Transfer Agreement initiative which will create seamless transfer pathways for Art, Biology, Business, Communication, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, English, Exercise Science, Mechanical Engineering, Psychology, Public Health, and Social Work. The University of Michigan-Dearborn awards 72 credits in Pre-Engineering for students who have completed all their required coursework

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	at HFC. Wayne State University awards 84 credits in Engineering Technology for students transferring from HFC. Students in the HFC Honors program have received numerous scholarships to 4-year colleges and universities including Harvard, U of M-Ann Arbor, and University of Wisconsin-Madison, to name a few. Recent articulations with Albion College and Wayne State University allow for our Honors program graduates to receive scholarships and guaranteed acceptance into the Honors College at the transfer institution.
Category C: Community Services (must meet 4 of 5)	
(i) The community college provides continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, or professional development.	All courses offered via HFC's English Language Institute are made available in credit bearing as well as non-credit options (at reduced cost) to students and community members interested in advanced their English language proficiency. Most courses in HFC's Fine and Performing Arts Department are also available in credit-bearing as well as non-cred options (at reduced cost) to community members and students alike. HFC offers robust continuing education programs through its Workforce and Professional Development office which provides classes that are focused on workforce preparedness, business development, and professional development. HFC's Small Business and Entrepreneurship Hub serves as an accessible center where HFC students, employees, entrepreneurs, and community members can explore ideas, develop business skills, connect with industry professionals, and move concepts toward implementation. The Hub functions as an early-stage business incubator by providing free workshops, individualized business consultations, guest speakers, industry panels, mentoring connections, and opportunities for entrepreneurs to test and strengthen their ideas.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	Fall 2026 Scheduled Activities include: “Is entrepreneurship Right for You?” this workshop is in partnership with the Small Business Development Center Hawks Ignite Entrepreneurship and Innovation Club Kickoff “AI and Marketing” workshop presented by Hajj Fleming of REBRANDX “Zingerman’s: The Art of Providing Exceptional Customer Service: training The Breakthrough Challenge (Challenge Reveal and subsequent Pitch Competition): teams solve real operational problems for Dearborn businesses to compete for trophies and individual cash prizes. This will also prepare students to participate in the City of Dearborn’s Spring 2027 Big Idea Pitch Competition.
(ii) The community college operates or sponsors opportunities for community members to engage in activities that promote leisure, wellness, cultural or personal enrichment such as community sports teams, theater or musical ensembles, or artist guilds.	In addition to a wide range of community-focused programs, HFC offers opportunities for community members to engage in personal enrichment activities through participation in community theater, as well as community vocal and instrumental ensembles. The college also offers a variety of courses in the areas of ceramics, art, sports, fitness, dance, and wellness. Members of the HFC community, including faculty and staff from the School of STEM have a tradition of participating in and supporting an annual community fundraiser Zaman Hope for Humanity Run Walk Picnic.
(iii) The community college operates public facilities to promote cultural, educational, or personal enrichment for community members, such as libraries, computer labs, performing arts centers, museums, art galleries, or television or radio stations.	Numerous community and arts organizations utilize the college’s Adray Theater, Forfa Auditorium, 5101 Restaurant, the Administrative Services Conference Center, the Welcome Center Community Rooms, the Berry Amphitheater, and the McKenzie Performing Arts Center, to produce and host events as well

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	as for cultural outreach to the greater community. HFC recently renovated its Sisson Art Gallery, drawing art lovers and students of all ages from across the community for a wide range of carefully curated exhibitions and shows as well as a variety of cultural and educational programs. The Dearborn Symphony, Dearborn community's Vanguard Voices, the Detroit Youth Choir, the Dearborn Summer Chorus, and an innovative 24-hour multimodal Arts event called "HFC24" all enjoy rehearsing and performing at the college. HFC Science labs host HFC's annual STEM Family Day. In addition to conducting public shows that draw hundreds of K-12 students as well as community members to HFC's Planetarium each year, HFC also hosts the Ford Amateur Astronomers Annual Swap Meet. HFC maintains and operates its own radio station, WHFR, supporting and promoting community activities and events.
(iv) The community college operates public facilities to promote leisure or wellness activities for community members, including gymnasiums, athletic fields, tennis courts, fitness centers, hiking or biking trails, or natural areas.	HFC supports the wellness of our community through our fitness, sports, and dance classes and through an open Fitness Center. HFC offers a hiking and biking pathway at the western edge of the campus that extends from Dearborn to Northville.
(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.	HFC hosts and supports a wide variety of community service activities for students, staff, and community members, including annual community volunteering events such as "Make a Difference Day" and "MLK Service Day." Students participate in service learning that is integrated into their course work in many disciplines across the college. Honors program students and student athletes are required to participate in volunteer service, and the

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	Community Service Student Club is one of the most active on campus. The Honors Program also offers a Service Learning Directed Study (HON-236) wherein students work individually or in small groups with a faculty member on a special project anchored in community service while applying both their knowledge and research skills. The School of Health and Human Services holds a flu clinic for faculty, staff, administrators, and students. The Ophthalmic program assists with eye exams at Focus Hope, and the Respiratory Therapy program participates in "Climb for Air" with the American Lung Association annually. The Student Nurse Association has over 100 members and participates in many community service activities. HFC hosts the Michigan Ophthalmic Personnel Society (MOPS) meeting each year.