

Providing healthcare career mentorship to rural students

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Background: Rural students in British Columbia often do not have equal access to healthcare career mentorship opportunities compared to their urban counterparts.

Methods: We sought to close this gap by providing rural students with virtual access to near-peer mentors throughout their healthcare education.


High School Students

Undergraduates

Medical Students

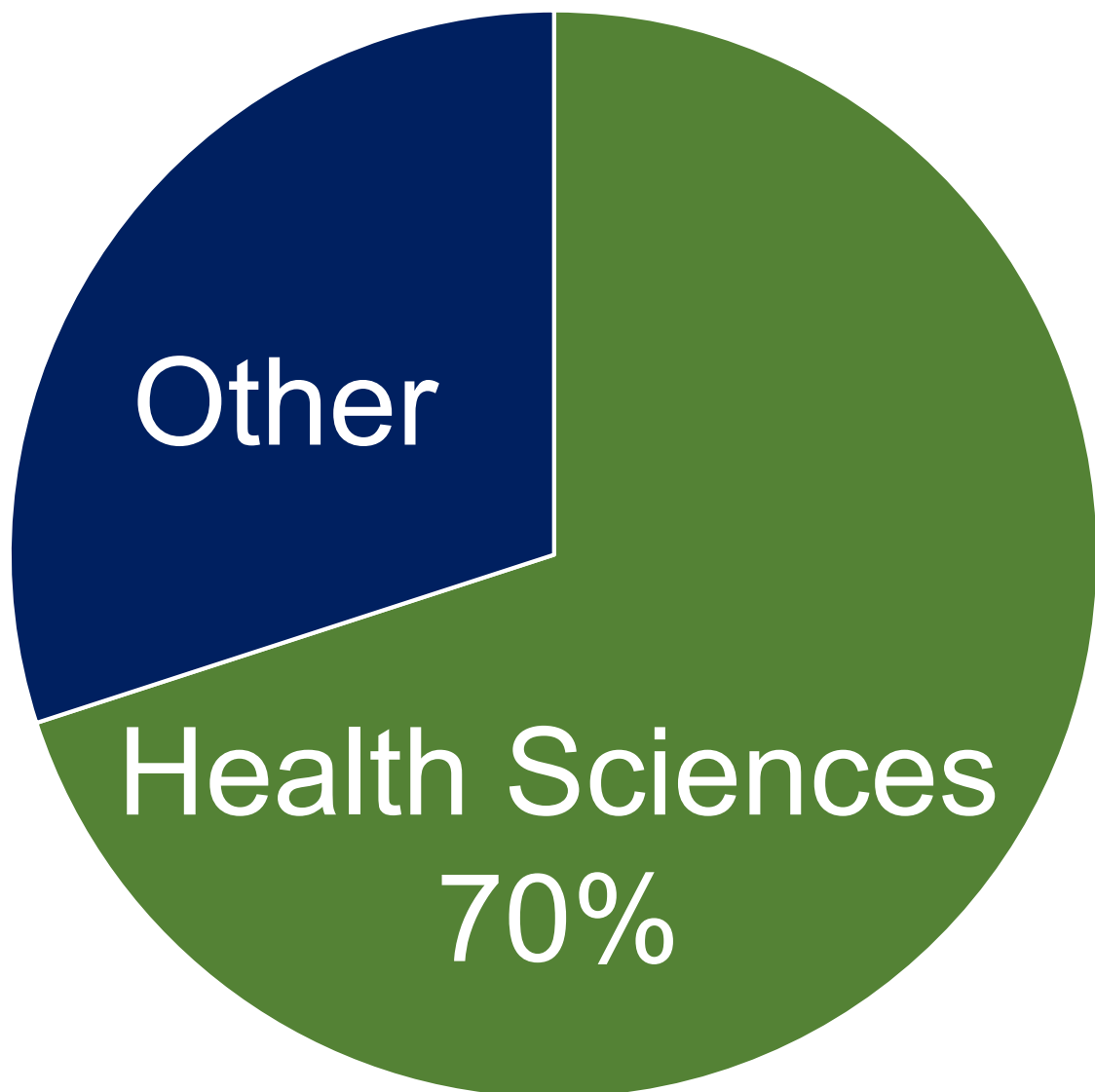
Rural Doctors



“RMeMBC allowed me to explore and see if medicine was the right career path for me. It gave me the opportunity to ask rural students about their experience entering medicine”
– former mentee, current mentor, UBC med student

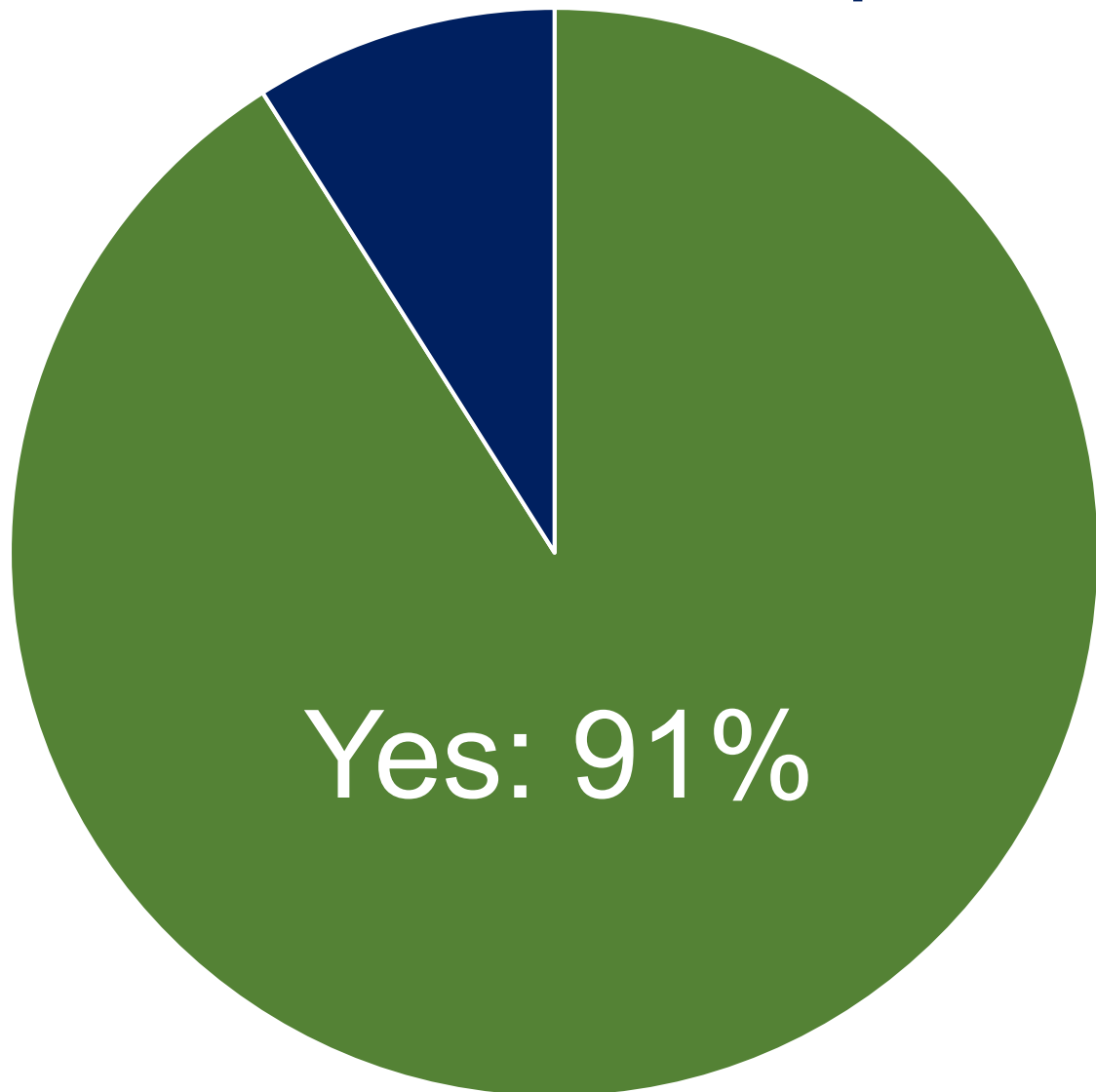
Rural Medicine eMentoring BC (RMeMBC)
88 rural pre-health student mentees + 55 volunteer student mentors from UBC's Medical Program.
Prepares rural undergraduates for medical school.

Past ReMBC mentees – what they're studying now



Rural eMentoring BC (ReMBC)
>1000 rural high school student mentees from 36 schools + >350 volunteer mentors from BC post-secondary schools.
Prepares rural youth for life after high school.

Event Attendees - was the event helpful?



Virtual Event: So you want to apply to post-secondary? (Nov 2022)
>50 rural youth + 15 student panelists + 8 health science programs exhibited.
Prepared rural youth for applying to post-secondary schools.

Rural Healthcare Careers Virtual Event (April 2023)
>20 rural youth, undergrad. & med. students + 2 panels of rural health science students & professionals + 12 health science programs exhibited. – Info about rural healthcare careers.

Conclusions:

Virtual mentorship for rural high school and pre-health students is a promising strategy for rural healthcare worker recruitment.