

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**March 25, 2026**

**ECU Health EastCare Visits Halifax Community College to Provide Hands-On Learning Experience for Nursing Students**



*Front row, kneeling: Lt. Col. Charlie Mauzé, EastCare Pilot & Chris Aycock, Flight Paramedic; Front row, standing: Kristin Holloman, Flight Nurse; Back row: (Second Level Associate Degree Nursing Students, Left to Right) Tatiana Provorov, Sara Wade, Kyle Roberson, John vonRosenberg, Hailey Whitby, John Page, Maddy Bryant, Maggie Butcher, Harley Staton, Philip Clayton, Kristen Rowe, Paul Pearce, Abigail Smith, Natalie Medlin, Heather Carter, Jade Pineda-Cruz, Kaylee Berwick, Ashleigh Edwards, Mindy DeGroff, Alexis Kearney, Michael Fox, Shannon Ridout, Trina Yeldell, Natalie Wells, Kennedy Hathaway, Katherine Lewis, Maeghan Cruz, Brittany Johnson, Erica Richardson, Alexis Fox, Rita Gonzalez.*



*Front row: Natalie Medlin & Alexis Kearney; Middle row: Maeghan Cruz, Ashleigh Edwards, Kaylee Berwick, Heather Carter, & Jade Pineda-Cruz; Back row: Trina Yeldell.*

**WELDON, NORTH CAROLINA** – On March 24, 2026, Halifax Community College (HCC) welcomed representatives from ECU Health EastCare, a critical care air and ground transportation service, to campus to engage with the Second Level Associate Degree Nursing Students. The visit provided students with a unique opportunity to explore advanced emergency medical transport and learn about career pathways in the field.



*Katherine Lewis, Mindy DeGross, Jade Pineda-Cruz, Trina Yeldell, Michael Fox, Ashleigh Edwards, Natalie Medlin.*

During the visit, the EastCare team showcased its specialized equipment and discussed the critical role of air and ground transport in delivering life-saving care. Students gained firsthand insight into how medical crews responded to emergencies, stabilized patients, and provided advanced care during transport to medical facilities.

ECU Health EastCare serves as the critical care transport program for eastern North Carolina, offering both air and ground services for patients experiencing trauma, cardiac events, and other serious medical conditions. The program operates multiple ground units and air transport helicopters across the region, providing rapid response and advanced medical care to critically ill and injured patients. EastCare also supports neonatal and pediatric transport and plays a vital role in connecting rural communities to specialized care.

“Experiences like this are invaluable for our students,” said Sarah Harris, Director of Nursing at Halifax Community College. “Exposure to programs like ECU Health EastCare allows our students to see the full scope of nursing beyond the traditional clinical setting and inspires them to consider critical care and transport nursing as a career path.”

EastCare team members also shared information about the education, certifications, and skills required to work in the field, including roles such as flight nurses, paramedics, and emergency medical technicians. The program’s outreach and education initiatives frequently partner with healthcare providers and community colleges to provide training and career awareness opportunities.

“Our goal is to prepare students for real-world healthcare environments,” said Kara Clary, Nursing Instructor at HCC. “Having professionals from ECU Health EastCare on campus gave students a deeper understanding of high-acuity care and the teamwork required in emergency situations.”

The visit reflected Halifax Community College’s continued commitment to providing experiential learning opportunities that connected classroom instruction with real-world applications. By partnering with leading healthcare providers such as ECU Health EastCare, HCC ensured that its nursing students are well-prepared to meet the evolving demands of the healthcare workforce.

For more information about Halifax Community College and its nursing programs, visit [www.halifaxcc.edu](http://www.halifaxcc.edu)

### **Halifax Community College’s Mission**

Halifax Community College strives to meet the diverse needs of our community by providing high-quality, accessible and affordable education and services for a rapidly changing and globally competitive marketplace.

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