The goal of this program is to make health science topics more interesting and accessible, to motivate high school students to improve their grades as they consider careers in the health sciences, and to promote the various health science related career opportunities. The workshops are coordinated with the school teachers to maximize the level of student learning and complement their classroom curriculum and academic level. The workshops are funded through education grants Patrick F. Taylor Foundation and the Baptist Community Ministries (BCM) Science Youth Initiative awarded to Dr. Fern Tsien, faculty in the Department of Genetics.

Dr. Tsien and trainees from the LSUHSC Schools of Graduate Studies, Dentistry, Nursing, Public Health, Medicine, and Allied Health Professions host middle, high school, and undergraduate class hands-on workshops at LSUHSC. During the morning-long or day-long field trips, students learn about science careers, including research, public health, clinical medicine, audiology, medical technology, and more. Anatomical specimens are displayed including the smallest and largest bones in the body, normal lungs, emphysema and cancerous lungs caused by smoking, normal liver and cirrhotic liver due to alcohol consumption, enlarged hearts due to hypertension. Students are also given lab tours, including a highly interactive visit of the Human Simulation Lab. Students perform forensics experiments and how to check for lead in the environment. More than 300 students are reached through this program per year.

The workshops are held at LSUHSC. To volunteer for the high school workshops, click here.