Increasing the Public Health Workforce by Incorporating Interprofessional Academic Service-Learning Projects

A CALL FOR PARTNERSHIP

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Goals & Objectives: Population Health

- Improve the patient/client experience of care (including quality and satisfaction).
- Improve the health of populations.
- Reduce the per capita cost of health care (IHI, 2013, para.1).
- Increase the population health workforce in community, public and mental/behavioral health.
Population Health

- Developing sustainable academic-community-public health partnerships are essential to escalate and elevate the caliber, intensive, and level of population health.

- The positive approach to creating meaningful learning opportunities for students from multiple disciplines and levels of health care providers should focus on:
  - Leadership
  - Community
  - Engagement
  - Community-population-public (CPP) health arena
Alaska

- Has over 70,000 students enrolled
- 13 institutions of higher education.
  - (Alaska Higher Education Almanac, 2018)
- Academic-Service Learning is an ideal approach for students’ competency needs for culture, diversity, family teaching/learning and improving the Healthy People 2020 and Millennium Development Goals for Alaska.
  - Fostering Partnerships with Families, Knight-McKenna et.al., 2019
Goal & Expected Outcomes

- Develop academic-service-learning projects to improve the Community Population Public (CPP) Health Care Initiatives.
- Focus on teaching at a raw level
  - Engaging the vulnerable
  - Assessing Adverse Childhood Events (ACEs) in Alaska
  - Understand the social determinants of health
  - Creating solutions to serious health care issues
- **THE ULTIMATE GOAL**
  - Is to change our approach to health care delivery.
Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies

- Assessment
- Patient/Population Centered Care
- Teamwork and Collaboration
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Informatics
- Reflection
  - Teaching and Learning in Nursing, Franzese et.al. 2020
An Example:
Sustainable Foot & Wound Care Clinic for Homeless in Alaska

INTER-PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC SERVICE-LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

SHELLY BURDETTETAYLOR PHD, MSN, RN, CWCN, CFCN, NPD-BC
Purpose/Aims

- To bring awareness of the unique needs of the homeless in Alaska.
- To foster empathy among future nurses.
- Provide Inter-Professional Academic Service-Learning for Medical, Nurse Practitioner, Nursing, Social Work, & Justice students at University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) & Alaska Pacific University (APU). incorporating students across colleges & universities.
- To provide unique clinical skill sets as a future health care provider.
Objectives

- Transition students to a more flexible semi-autonomous role in the community.
- Practice the role in a relationship-centered population.
- Expand students’ entry-level competencies to include public health, mental health, foot and nail, and wound care.
- Deepen awareness of scope and practice of community health.
- Integrate social justice competencies and citizenship behaviors with student’s practice serving homeless.
Project HOPE: Hearing Other People’s Experiences
Arianna Beech, Laurel Carlsen, Rae Cunningham, Stephanie Francisco, Joy Huffman, Maria Lee, Susan Nguyen, Ashley Sapp

Purpose
To bring awareness to the unique needs of the homeless population and foster empathy in future nurses

Population & Background
- Homeless population in Anchorage, AK
  - Endure harsh climates
  - Face unique health management challenges

Assessment
- Review of literature
- Informal interviews for qualitative data collection
  - Brother Francis Shelter
  - Central Lutheran Church
  - Project Homeless Connect
- Qualitative data analysis used by summarizing interviews and identifying themes

Nursing Diagnosis
Readiness for enhanced knowledge related to insufficient clinical experience with the homeless population available to nursing students

Intervention
- Presentation to NS 315 Students
  - Review of Literature
  - Qualitative Findings
  - Nursing Process
- Project HOPE in Health Sciences Building
  - Stories from surveys
  - Pictures
  - Quotes from population selected from surveys

Survey Findings
- Qualitative Themes
  - Barriers
  - Perception
  - Relationship
  - Trauma
  - Desire for Independence
- Demographic Data
  - 72% Male
  - 62% Alaska Native
  - 48% 46-59 years old

Evaluation

Social-Ecological Model

Conclusion
Students and faculty expressed interest in working with the homeless population and building better relationships with community service organizations.

Recommendations
- Expand students’ clinical experiences with the homeless population
- Promote positive role modeling in preceptors
- Educate students about unconscious bias
Alaska’s homeless are concentrated in Anchorage with roughly 1,200 people living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or makeshift camps outdoors (Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness 2015). While definitions vary by agency, homelessness as referenced in this paper describes the experience of a person “who has no fixed nighttime residence or who has a nighttime residence that is designed to provide temporary shelter or is a public or private place not intended to provide sleeping accommodations for human beings” (Maurer and Smith 2013, 534). With the election of Mayor Ethan Berkowitz in 2015, there is a renewed policy and effort in Anchorage to house the city’s homeless, turning the public spotlight on a population that often goes unseen (Andrews 2015). Social workers, shelter staff, law enforcement, and healthcare providers (HCPs) are among Anchorage’s……
The Facts

- Alaska ranked 9th in US for homelessness
- Over 1000 homeless in Anchorage
- Most homeless are Alaska Natives
- Fastest growing homeless are elderly w chronic illnesses
- Homeless at particular risk of LE issues
  - Infections
  - Amputations
  - Cellulites
  - Frostbite
  - Death due to Virulent Strept Infection of LE
  - Pain and Suffering
Health

4 dead this year as outbreak of new strep bacteria hits Alaska

Author: Laurel Andrews  Updated: November 29, 2016  Published November 28, 2016

Update 11 a.m. Tuesday: The Alaska section of epidemiology reported Tuesday morning that an additional death due to Group A Streptococcus bacteria was reported in Fairbanks. Fairbanks was not originally included in its data. The story has been updated to reflect four deaths from strep infection, instead of three, as previously reported.

Original story:

A new strain of group A Streptococcus bacteria first identified in Fairbanks in early 2016 has caused four deaths this year, mainly among the homeless population, a state health department official said Monday.
Classic Strep Infection
Grants Awarded

- Joshua Grant – Wheat Ridge Ministries in Illinois
  - Awarded $4000.00
  - $2000.00 in November
  - $2000.00 in May
- UAA – Center of Community Engagement & Learning
  - Awarded $2000.00
- UAA – Selkregg Award to WWAMI
  - Awarded $5000.00

Objectives

- Transition students from their prescribed nursing role in the structured acute care setting to a more flexible semi-autonomous role in the community setting.
- Practice the role of nursing in relationship-centered population care.
- Expand students’ entry-level nursing and advanced practice competencies to include public health, foot and nail, and wound care.
- Deepen awareness of scope and practice of community health.
- Integrate social justice competencies and citizenship behaviors with student’s nursing practice.

Goals of Grants & Project

- Serve the poor – vulnerable
- Offer academic-service learning opportunity
- Inter-professional opportunity
- Involve community health, faculty, students, volunteers
- Clinic experience includes
  - Physical Care
  - Therapeutic Touch
  - Learn to Listen – Be Present
  - Non-Judgmental, Culturally-Sensitive Care

Before

After

Data Collection Focus

- Demographics
- Intake Form with Consent
- Lower Extremity Assessment
- Identify Risk Level – Amputations, Falls, Infections, Neuropathic Pain, Wounds
- Interventions – Wound, Nail, & Skin Care; Pain Management; Other Therapies

Grant Approved and Funded Project

- Wheat Ridge Ministries
- University of Alaska Center for Community Engagement and Learning

Inter-Professional Team Role

- Identification of issues
- Assesment
- Early intervention
  - Nail Trimming
  - Skin Care
  - Prevention of Wounds
  - Therapeutic Shoes/Inserts
- Education
  - Foot Care
  - Nail Care
  - Disease Management – HTN, DM
  - Wound Care
- Referral
  - Alaska Native Health Care Consortium
  - Veterans Administration
  - Neighborhood Clinic
  - Brother Francis Wellness Center
Goals of Project

- Serve the poor - vulnerable
- Offer academic-service learning opportunity
- Future inter-professional student - led Free Health Care Clinic at Central Lutheran Church
- Involve community health, faculty, students, volunteers, increase the eyes and hands of public health workforce

Offers

- Physical care
- Therapeutic touch
- Learn to listen - be present
- Refer appropriately and timely
Referral

- Brother Francis Wellness Center – PA / MD
- Alaska Native Health Care Center - ANMC
- Veterans Hospital
- Neighborhood Clinic
- Providence Home Care partnership with BFS
- Central Lutheran
- Alaska Public Health Department
- Municipality
Partners - Central Lutheran Church (CLC) & Anchorage Faith and Action Congregations Together (AFACT)

- For over 10 years have opened their doors on a regular basis under guidance of Eddie Johnson
- AA Meeting – 12-step
- Donations – shoes, socks, inserts, clothes, toiletries
- Hot Nutritious Meal – with Cooking Class
- Environment that is Safe – Warm – Inviting
- Alaska Native Worship Service
- Wednesday Night Emergency Shelter for families
Hygiene Services for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

**Purpose**
To connect individuals experiencing homelessness with hygiene services

**Population**
Individuals experiencing homelessness in Anchorage, Alaska

**Natural Helper Model**

**Assessment**
- Review of literature
- Survey identifying hygiene resources
- Quantitative data analysis of agencies providing hygiene services

**Survey Analysis**
- 24 Surveyed Resources
- 11 Provide Hygiene Resources
- 4 Without Criteria
- 2 Free of Charge

**Goals & Objective**
- Identify 10 hygiene resources available
- Develop and distribute an easy to read resource guide
- Increase public health through access to hygiene resources

**Intervention**
- Production of Hygiene Resource Guide
- Distribution of Hygiene Resource Guide to agencies, providers, and individuals at two large events

**Evaluation & Conclusion**
- 80% found Hygiene Resource Guide helpful
- 65% stated would use resource
- 44% stated would distribute

Intervention was deemed useful to population

**Recommendation**
- Short Term
  - Increase font size
  - Include bus routes
- Intermediate
  - Creation of hygiene mobile app
- Long Term
  - Establish permanent Hygiene Day Center

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**Hygiene Services for Homeless Population**

Data calculated using only 12 agencies offering hygiene services.
Community Health Promotion

- Individual / family
- Community
- Systems
Outcomes

- Over 100 individuals have received foot care at CLC – not including individuals cared for at BFS
- Age range 19-67 – mean 45 years
- Clinical findings
  - Frostbite
  - Wounds
  - Onychomycosis
  - Strep infection
  - Maceration
  - Cellulitis
Future Aspirations

- Recruit other services from Allied Health and COH
  - Dental hygienist, Social worker, Justice
  - Computer training specifically to identify individuals interested in getting food handler training for employment
- Incorporate case studies / stories / video
- Apply IRB for future studies, presentations, publications
- Offer foot and nail care for STAND DOWN for homeless Veterans
- Interprofessional Academic Service-Learning Student-Led Free Health Care Clinic at Central Lutheran
- Mobile Shower, Laundry, Hand Washing, Personal Hygiene BUS - RV - Engineering
Partners

- Eddie Johnson - Homeless w Substance/ Abuse Ministry
- UAA - School of Nursing - College of Health
- UAA - WWAMI - College of Health
- Central Lutheran Church
- Community / Public Health Providers
- Brother Francis Shelter
- Listening Post
- First Christian Church Youth Group
  - Deployed to build Boot Dryers
- Mayors Office on Homelessness Project
- Project - Connect
- VA and Domiciliary - Stand Downs