



Curriculum and Faculty Development in Community-Based Care

Georgia Narsavage PhD RN,CS

Assoc. Professor & Director, MSN Program

Debbie Lindell MSN RN,CS Instructor

The Bolton School of Nursing

Case Western Reserve University



The Challenge – MSN Program

- Nearly all 13 clinical specialties had clinical experiences that focused on meeting individual patient needs in traditional settings.
- Students' education would be enhanced through community-based experiences.



The Challenge – Cleveland: CWRU's Community

- Cleveland's residents, of diverse cultural perspectives, are often low income, at risk for numerous health and social problems, and medically underserved.
- Community agencies struggle to provide increased services with limited personnel & other resources.



The Challenge - Nationally

- Health professions education → multi-disciplinary, community-based experiences focused on health promotion/disease prevention.
- Funding priority to interdisciplinary partnerships.



The Response: Service-Learning

- A teaching methodology.
- Combines community-service with explicit academic learning objectives, preparation, & reflection.
- Roots in experiential learning (Kolb).
- K-12 & higher education – including health professions.



The Response: Service-Learning

- Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
 - Committed to fostering partnerships between health professions schools and communities for improved student education, civic responsibility, & the overall health of communities.
 - Principles of Effective Partnerships



The CBC Project

- Curriculum & Faculty Development in Community Based Care.
- Helene Fuld Health Trust
- May, 2000-May, 2002
- Staff
 - G. Narsavage, Project Director
 - D. Lindell, Project Manager
 - Members of MSN faculty
 - Graduate Assistant



The CBC Project: Aims

- Use principles of service-learning to partner faculty & students with community agencies
 - Enrich education of MSN students
 - Address Cleveland's critical health care needs
- Revise the curriculum to incorporate service-learning.



The CBC Project: Aims

- Positively affect graduate students' awareness of, and attitudes toward, community needs.
- Disseminate knowledge to other graduate nursing programs in urban settings.



CBC Project :Summer, 2000

- Establish CBC Advisory Group
 - Project leaders
 - MSN faculty
 - CWRU staff
 - Representatives of community agencies
- Join CCPH
- Link with CCPH Mentor Network



CBC Project: Summer, 2000

- Develop plan for implementation by semester & course.
- Hire Graduate Assistant.



CBC Project: Fall, 2000

- Orient faculty, students & members of advisory group to service-learning.
 - During meetings of Advisory Group.
 - Workshop in Fall, 2000
 - Students –1 hour
 - Faculty & Agency Reps – 1 day
 - G. Narsavage & D. Harper (CCPH Mentor Network)
- Pilot – FNP & So. Euclid/Lyndhurst SD



CBC Project –Implementation

- Service-Learning Library
- Spring, 2001
 - Advanced Physical Assessment – Health Museum of Cleveland
 - Acute Care NP – Hospice of the Western Reserve
 - CNS in CHN – American Red Cross



CBC Project – Implementation

- Summer 2001
 - Adult NP – Diabetes Association of Greater Cleveland
 - Gerontological NP – Golden Age Centers of Cleveland



CBC Project – Implementation

- Fall, 2001
 - Health Promotion (Core Course) -Health Museum of Cleveland, CWRU Intergenerational Project, Shaker Senior Program, Senior Center of East Cleveland
 - Pediatric Portion of Family NP – So. Euclid-Lyndhurst School District & CMSD
 - Pediatric NP – Ohio Help Me Grow Initiative



CBC Implementation:

- Fall, 2001 – continued
 - Collaboration & Administration – American Red Cross
 - Workshop on Integrating S/L in Health Professions Education -10/12/01
- Spring, 2001 semester
 - Remaining MSN specialties



CBC Project: Evaluation

- Students
 - Quantitative Survey – pre/post
 - Qualitative
 - Focus groups
 - Reflection activities
- Faculty - Feedback Form
- Community Agencies – Feedback Form



CBC Project: Evaluation

- Advisory Group
 - Qualitative Feedback after 1 year



CBC Project: Findings



CBC Project: Scholarship

- Faculty funded to integrate S/L
- Publications
- Presentations
- Research
- Consultation
- The Engaged Department



CBC Project: Lessons Learned

- Include mid-level employees of the partner agency in the planning process.
- Communication is key – faculty, agency contact, students, other agency personnel.
- Aim for long-term partnerships