

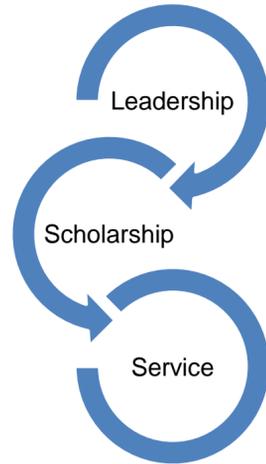
Leadership, Scholarship, and Service: Living Our Values Through Humanitarian Aid

Gwen Sherwood, PhD, RN, FAAN, ANEF, Professor and Jean Davison, DNP, FNP-BC, Clinical Associate Professor
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing

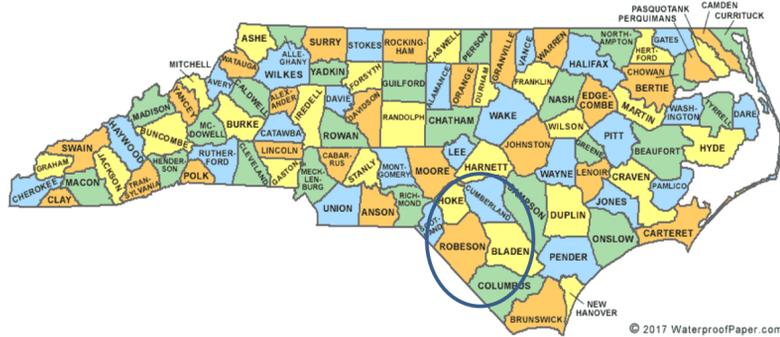
Alpha Alpha Chapter Service Learning



Living Sigma Values
Improving health of populations



Alpha Alpha chapter modeled Sigma's core values by leading a spring break humanitarian response for residents in two North Carolina counties, Robeson and Columbus Counties, both ravaged by flood waters resulting from Hurricane Matthew in which 26,000 homes were flooded.



Using The Circle our chapter reached out to others in our region, developing a collaboration with the Nu Omega Chapter to leverage resources to address the overwhelming health care needs.

Local health care facilities were largely inoperable following days of flooding leaving many without access to health care, particularly vulnerable populations.

25 volunteers provided health care having a significant impact on the community

Strategies

Developed local partnerships with other schools, UNC Alumni Organization, local NGO's, churches, and campus centers to collect items needed such as hygiene kits to give out at the Health Fair-- the fun was at the Packing Party prior to departure!



Health Fair:

- Provided health education delivering best practices based on latest evidence on common recurring and chronic conditions as well as basic health screenings and referrals.
- Advised residents who had lost their medications on how to proceed.



By deploying the school's mobile health van, members provided mental health screening to help cope with the aftermath of the destruction including loss of life.



Reflecting on the Experience

Daily - Onsite pre and post debriefing

Post Service Learning – Reflective Presentations

Reflection, a critical part of service learning's effectiveness, helped frame the experience through planning (reflection before action), pauses during the four days (reflection in action), and debriefing at the conclusion (reflection on action).



Results

Faculty worked alongside students to provide learning experiences far beyond the usual curriculum.

The visibility of our chapter demonstrated the power of membership and what can be accomplished when groups collaborate to make a difference in the community.

