Growing a strong healthy Sigma chapter is not an easy task. It involves being intentional in day to day functions of the chapter. Our chapter recognizes the importance of recruiting good candidates, staying connected with membership, providing opportunities for growth, collaborating with other nursing organizations, and giving back to the community.

Recruitment

Recruitment of BSN graduates meeting the criteria for application allows the chapter to grow in numbers, but additional recruitment of community members allows the chapter to have stability and a great pool of workers. Recruiting new members and keeping current members engaged are the two areas needing the most focus. Sigma Theta Tau’s Iota Mu chapter has been successful in both of these areas.

Collaboration

Additionally, working with other nursing organizations such as the Texan Nurses Associate and the local chapter of Nurse Practitioners allows the opportunity to recruit new members while having intentional presence in the nursing community.

Opportunity for Growth

The Iota Mu chapter sponsors a Distinguished Speaker Series every spring which provides opportunities for CEU hours. Iota Mu has further worked with members seeking funds to present at national and international conferences by providing some financial assistance with travel and/or conference fees. The chapter is focused on professional growth of members, thus, five seed grants are awarded annually for research. This support allows presenters and researchers to have additional opportunity to disseminate their work presenting in one of the chapter meetings.

Success

These are some of the reasons this chapter has been successful in receiving the STTI chapter Key Award eight times. Growing and maintaining a strong chapter is an intentional process for members and leadership. It may be hard work, but it is worth it in the end.

Community Service

Giving back to the community is also important to the Iota Mu chapter. Members are actively engaged in the community through health screenings, food distribution, volunteering at the food bank and many other areas.

Abstract

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