Global Nursing Capacity Building and Collaborative Partnerships in Rural Haiti

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Learning Objectives

• At the completion of this educational session:
  
  – The learner will be able to describe strategies of an effective international collaborative partnership.
  
  – The learner will be able to define the concept of capacity building.
  
  – The learner will be able to summarize common health needs in rural Haiti.

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Setting: Rural Haiti
Snapshot of Haiti

- Population: 10 million
- Poorest country in Western Hemisphere
- Ranks 168 out of 187 on Human Development Index
- 83% of population live on less than $2.40 US dollars per day

Current Health in Haiti

- One in every 14 children die before age 5
- One out of every 83 women die during childbirth
WHO Healthcare Workforce

• For those Haitians who can afford healthcare services and find it available, there are only 2.3 physicians and 6.8 nurses per 10,000 Haitians (WHO, 2018)

• PRA result: distance to healthcare services a significant barrier (Neal, Knowles, DuMond, 2018)

King University
Medic Samaritan
UN Sustainable Development Goals

• Established by United Nations in 2015
• Address 17 goals to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all
• Collaboration among developed and developing countries to build capacity (Lu et al, 2015; Kligerman et al, 2017)
• Training local personnel (DeGennaro et al, 2011)
Building Healthcare Capacity

“Capacity Development—the process through which individuals, organizations, and societies obtain, strengthen, and maintain the capabilities to set and achieve their own development objectives over time” (UNDP, 2009)

Strengthening the local healthcare system
Short/Long Term Initiatives

• Responsible NGOs have a duty to assess their capacity to provide meaningful medical care (Jobe, 2010)

• Desire to help and serve is real, but short term projects are not answer to the community’s healthcare needs (Seager, 2012)

• Medical volunteers are most effective in delivery of medical care if they work as a member of an existing, organized system with a self-contained infrastructure (Jobe, 2010)
Collaborative Partnerships

- Non-profit enters into healthcare initiatives and access to shelter, education and clean water
- SEWing Sustainability
- Long-term community health development and sustainability
Community Health Nurse Midwife

- Local Sigma chapter supported tuition for Haitian nursing student
- Once BSN degree completed, student participates in a midwifery program
- Dual trained nurse midwife is deployed to work in rural villages to assist with deliveries, provide healthcare services, & education
Implications

• Opportunities for education and employment
• Building healthcare workforce
• Improving access to healthcare services
• Increased cultural awareness for US partners
• Baseline and periodic assessments to evaluate effectiveness
“There are many valuable contributions to be made by governmental and private organizations willing to contribute to healthcare improvements in the developing world. It is however important to understand the overarching public health needs of the area, the existing infrastructure and the cultural context of healthcare interventions”

(Jobe, 2010, p. 5)
Questions?

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References

References