

Developing a Community Action Summit: A Novel Graduate Practicum Experience in Rural Upstate New York

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Objective

To develop advanced practice nursing skills in leadership, interprofessional collaboration, community health, health promotion, and use of the media.

Background

Healthcare in the U.S. has Been Undergoing a Transformation

- Healthcare in the U.S. is changing from an acute care model focused on treating illness, to that of prevention and promotion of health on the community level (Mason, 2016; Storfjell, Winslow, & Saunderson, 2018; Thornton & Persaud, 2018).
- Nurses are charged to become fully engaged health care practitioners and leaders who collaborate with interdisciplinary and interprofessional teams in providing high quality, evidence-based care (Institute of Medicine (IOM), 2010).

Nurses Must be Educated in Care Outside of Acute Care Settings and Participate in Community-Based Practicum Experiences

- The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) *The Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing* (2011) supports the IOM report in that health care delivery is complex and dynamic (IOM, 2010).
- To meet the AACN guidelines and goals for the nursing profession championed by the IOM and others, a capstone practicum project was designed using a public health framework. The focus was on preventing disconnection in youth, opioid addiction, and the lack of access to treatment and recovery services in Eastern Delaware County, New York
- The project culminated in a Community Action Summit held in January 2019 in the village of Margaretville, New York

References

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Implementation

Develop Competency in Interprofessional Teamwork

Volunteer Coalition

- Collaborative, interprofessional planning and work with a volunteer coalition from multiple local community sectors –education, criminal justice, mental health, business, the arts, and health care

Regional and National Organizations

- Collaboration with youth centered organizations such as Clatsop Works in Clatsop County, Oregon, and a Community Coach through the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps Initiative at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute

Foster Leadership Skills

- Research and organization of supportive evidence to frame the work of the Summit
- Maintaining fiscal responsibility with grant funds
- Co-development of the: 1. Coalition logo and marketing of the Summit, 2. Summit agenda, 3. Summit materials, 4. Speaker recruitment, 5. Public speaking and presentation, 6. Facilitation of a breakout group
- Organization of a professional community event

Use Media to Educate the Public and Promote Health

Collaborative Communication Plan

- Education of the Community
- Collaborative production and co-hosting of bi-weekly radio programs on disconnected youth, prevention, treatment, and recovery for opioid addiction
- Informative articles published in the local newspaper that echoed the radio program topics
- Development and application of social media and website design skills to educate the public on disconnected youth, addiction, recovery, and treatment

Interprofessional Teamwork



Figure 1. Catskills Addiction Coalition Steering Committee Meeting [Digital image]. (2019).



Figure 4. Catskills Addiction Coalition logo (PNG file). (2019).

Leadership Skills



Figure 5. Community Summit, Margaretville, New York [Digital image]. (2019).



Figure 2. Anna Stampler Clatsop WORKS [Screen capture]. (2019). Used with Permission from Anna Stampler



Figure 3. County Health Rankings & Roadmaps Initiative logo (PNG file). (2019). Used with Permission from Karen Odegaard, Community Coach, County Health Ranking & Roadmaps



Figure 6. Karen Driskill presentation at the Community Summit [Digital image]. (2019).

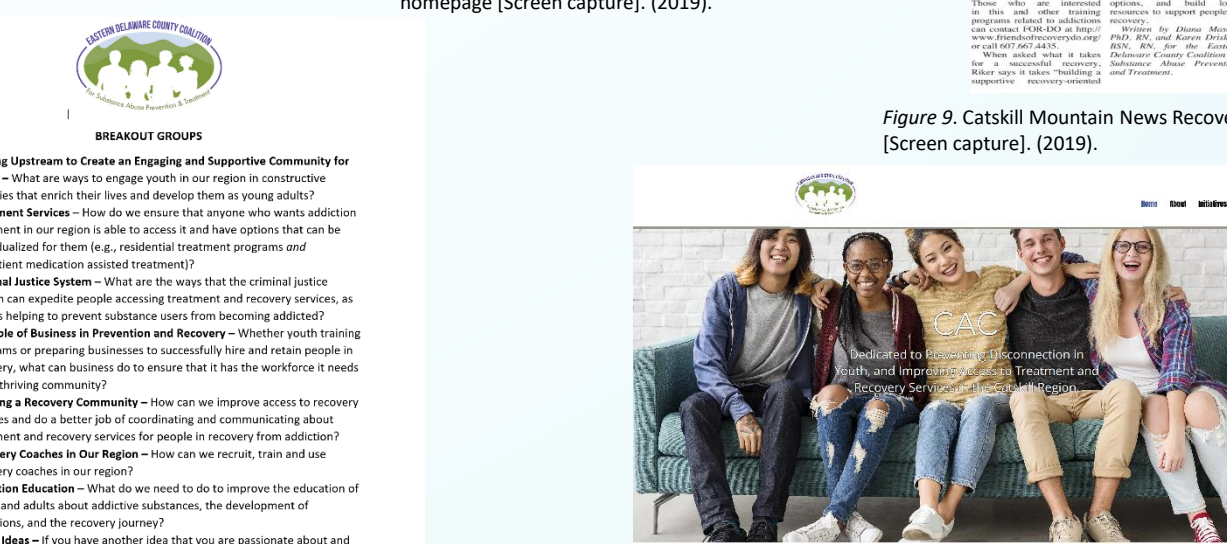


Figure 7. Community Summit breakout group topics [Screen capture]. (2019).

Use of the Media

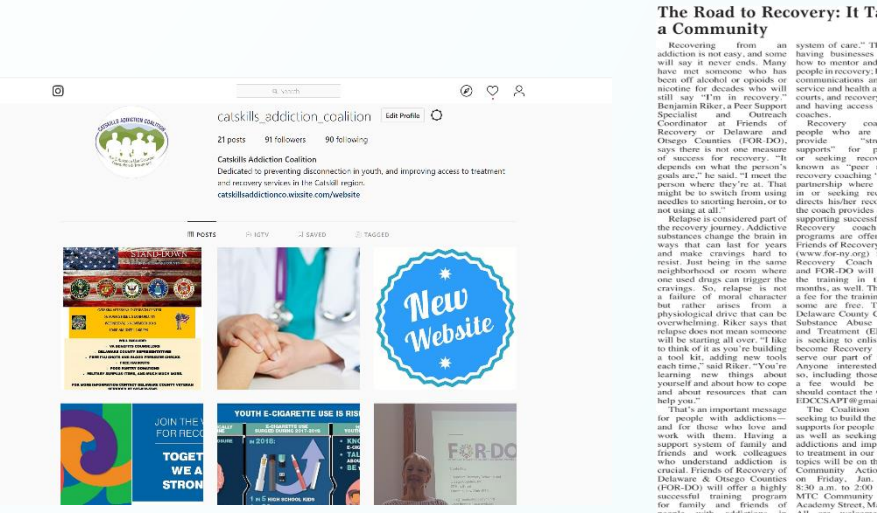


Figure 8. Catskills Addiction Coalition Instagram homepage [Screen capture]. (2019).



Figure 9. Catskill Mountain News Recovery Article [Screen capture]. (2019).



Figure 10. Catskills Addiction Coalition Twitter homepage [Screen capture]. (2019).

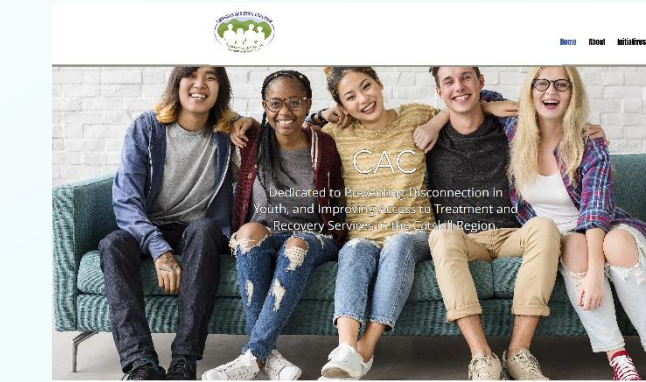


Figure 11. Catskills Addiction Coalition website homepage [Screen capture]. (2019).



Figure 12. Karen and Diana on air for HealthCetera in the Catskills. WIOX Radio [Digital image]. (2019).

Evaluation

Evaluation of the Student

Learning Contracts

- Dynamic contracts included outcomes, planned projects, and a summary of activities with evidence of successful completion

Practicum Presentations

- Interactive web-based VoiceThread presentations developed at the end of the practicum experience to provide evidence of accomplishments, reflections of the work completed, and achievement of the learning outcomes

Continued Coalition Work

- Invited by the Coalition steering committee to continue work as a volunteer member

Evaluation of the Community Summit

Post Summit Participant Survey

- Evaluation of the Summit was measured using a post-Summit survey. Between 95-97 % of respondents rated the objectives as "highly met"

Conclusion

- The practicum was a personal and professional undertaking of enormous growth and impact for future advanced practice
- Through the development of leadership, community building, and media skills, nurses can make a considerable impact on the health of a community

Implications for Practice

- The introduction of complex, community-focused practicum opportunities for graduate nursing students should be incorporated into nursing curricula now
- Nurses need to develop their skills in using the media to speak with authority on health topics. However, to do so they require education in messaging and use of the media (Mason et al., 2018).
- Integration of multifocal community-based practicums will provide graduate students with the leadership, media, interprofessional and collaborative experiences needed to care for communities now and in the future

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