A Critical Reflection of the launch of the MCH NLA in South Africa

Christa van der Walt, PhD, M.Ed, RN, RM
Faculty lead
Associate Professor, School of Nursing Science
NWU Potchefstroom Campus
OBJECTIVES OF THE SESSION

- Develop an understanding of the challenges in piloting the MCH Leadership Academy in South Africa
- Discuss the leadership journey of faculty involved in the MCH Leadership Academy in South Africa
MDG 4: Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

MDG 5: Improve maternal health

MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
Being pregnant in Africa...

Efforts to achieve Goals 4 and 5, on maternal and child health, are not on track.

Thematic Report The Global Campaign for the Health Millennium Development Goals 2011

Fig. 1. Prenatal care in rural Ethiopia. Photo reprinted with permission granted by Save the Children/Ethiopia 2008.

Int J Gyne & Obst, 107 (S1) 2009
Towards the MDGs 4, 5 & 6

FIGURE 4: Priorities of the Global Strategy for Women’s and Children’s Health

LEADERSHIP
Political leadership and community engagement and mobilization across diseases and social determinants

Interventions
Delivering high-quality services and packages of interventions in a continuum of care:
- Quality skilled care for women and newborns during and after pregnancy and childbirth (routine as well as emergency care)
- Safe abortion services (where not prohibited by law)

Access
Removing financial, social and cultural barriers to access, including providing free essential services for women and children (where countries choose)

ACCOUNTABILITY
Accountability at all levels for credible results

Leadership
STTI LEADERSHIP

The philosophy and focus of this Academy is learning about, and practicing, leadership – with a clinical focus
ULTIMATE GOAL

Improved health for pregnant women, as well as children ages 0-5, through

a) increased leadership competency of nurses and midwives,

b) nurse/midwife projects completed during and after the program, and

c) changes in healthcare systems achieved by the projects, the nurses, the midwives, MCH as a whole, and other programs influenced by it.
18 MONTH SOUTH AFRICA MCHNLA PILOT: challenges
UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT

- 9 provinces
- North West Province

MAP OF THE NINE PROVINCES IN SOUTH AFRICA (WWW.GOOGLE.CO.ZA/IMGRES)
Three levels of public hospitals are available in South Africa, namely

• Level 1
• Level 2 and
• Level 3 hospitals
• Private hospitals
• Clinics
PLANNING MEETING: NOVEMBER 2010
MEETINGS AS PREPARATION

• Stakeholder analysis
• Headhunt mentors
• Identify Mentees
4 HEALTH DISTRICTS OF THE NWP

- Dr Kenneth Kaunda
- Naka Modiri Malema
- Bojanala
- Ruth Segomotsi Momphati district
CONTEXT: CLINICAL SETTINGS

Potchefstroom hospital
Klerksdorp hospital
Wilmed park hospital (private)
Potchefstroom clinic
Mafikeng clinic
THE FIRST COHORT
Workshop Sept 2011
On-site visits
Workshop May 2012
On-site visits
Celebration and presentation

Maternal-Child Health Nurse Leadership Academy – South Africa Pilot
Implementing Kangaroo Care in a level 2 hospital (Madile Mmoloke)

Using mobile text messaging to enhance wellbeing in pregnancy (Petro Swanepoel)

Facilitation of optimal use of the partogram (Janine Grobbelaar)

Quality improvement of in-hospital postpartum care (Miemie v Jaarsveld)

“Taking your preterm baby home” discharge programme (Rianette van der Linde)

Enhancing early testing for HIV during pregnancy (Yvonne Nkosi)
CONTENT WORKSHOP 2

Negotiating conflict

Inspiring as shared vision: Building relationships and team work

The leadership experience of the dyads

Challenge the process: Leading & managing change

Enable Others to Act
Highlights of Workshop 2
Faculty leadership journey

• Lessons learned had immediate impact on day-to-day work

• Although all faculty were in leadership positions, we started using the KP model and change toolkit in teaching and research in other fields

• Learned to work together as a team as all of us are strong leaders and as individuals have different styles.
Unexpected learnings
To the A-team!
The first SA MCH NLA cohort
May 2012 Potchefstroom, South Africa
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

JOHNSON AND JOHNSON
- Funding and support
  - Joanne Fillweber & Bonnie Petrauskas

STTI
- Funding and support
  - CEO, Dr Pat Thompson, Board of Directors, Karen Morin, Hester Klopper
  - Joanne McGlown, Lynn Lambuth, Cynthia Vlasich, Kathy Wodicka, Deb Cordes, Susan Spry, Danielle Hart

Leadership consultant
- Carolyn Miller

NWU
- SONS for support and funding
  - Team members
THE WAY FORWARD
FOR ENQUIRIES

Christa van der Walt @

Vanderwalt.christa@nwu.ac.za

christa.vanderwalt2@gmail.com