CREATION OF A WEEKEND/ONLINE BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAM

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• Describe a model to offer baccalaureate nursing education via a weekend program for second degree students.

• Examine innovative partnerships between Texas Woman’s University (TWU) and clinical practice partners.
• Any college program that offers course credits that lead to a degree

• Are exclusively on the weekend
• New education model addresses one of the most pressing problems facing health care today – the current and future nursing shortage.

• Nursing programs have increased enrollments yet turn away qualified second degree students.
• Nursing innovation grant from Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board completed 2008
• Partnership between TWU and Baylor University Medical Center (BUMC)
• Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) grant from 7/1/10-6/30/13
• Partnership between TWU and:
  • Baylor University Medical Center (BUMC)
    – Parkland Health & Hospital System (PHHS)
    – Methodist Health System (MHS)
• Expansion of weekend nursing program (WNP)
Shortage of RNs has decreased efforts to improve patient care

Aging RN workforce

RN retirements

An additional 1.2 million nurses needed by 2014
LITERATURE REVIEW

- Aging U.S. population
- Older persons need for care
- Qualified applicants denied admission to RN programs-
  49,948 in 2009 (AACN, 2012)
• Six-semester program
• Weekends for class & clinical experiences
• Online courses for non-clinical courses
• Hospital clinical experiences at one partnering hospital
Texas Woman's University, College of Nursing at the Dallas Center, offers a six semester full-time program for people holding a bachelor’s or master’s degree in other fields who want to become registered nurses.
• Distance education methodology decreases the time students spend in a physical classroom.
• The program is designed to facilitate a career change for the more mature and experienced second degree student.
A weekend/distance education program will offer second career individuals an opportunity to work a Monday through Friday work week while pursuing a career change to nursing.
• BUMC was utilized for clinical experiences during the weekend, a time when nursing programs have traditionally not scheduled clinical courses.

• PHHS and MHS used for HRSA grant.
The ‘loaned’ adjunct faculty provided by BUMC addresses the acknowledged faculty shortage.

RN preceptors at PHHS and MHS are clinical associates; funds given to facilities for associates from HRSA grant.
The teaching faculty include 2 senior faculty to direct the program, teach the didactic/online courses, and supervise clinical faculty.

Thirty-five students graduated in May, 2014.

Forty-two students graduated in August, 2015.

Currently, 105 students are enrolled in WNP.
PHASES OF PROJECT

- Admitted 20 qualified students summer 2008
- Implementation phases began summer 2008
- Extension phase began spring 2010 with 45 new students
- Grant completed August, 2009
  - HRSA grant 2013 for $744,422
  - Program continues: 2014 35 graduates and 2015 40 graduates.
Graduation of 15 students May, 2010, and successful completion of the licensure.

Graduation of 16 HRSA grant students August, 2012.

Graduation of 36 WNP students August, 2015.
SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT

- Create a WNP to increase nursing school enrollment.
- Develop partnerships to provide students opportunities to serve underserved populations.
- Provide online didactic courses and clinical experiences on weekends.
Weekend Nursing Students