Service Learning to Increase Cultural Competency in Migrant Latino Health

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Health Care in Global Context: Service Learning to Increase Cultural Competency in Migrant Latino Health

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The presenter has no conflict of interest or commercial support

Purpose: To describe an eight year inter-professional service learning course to increase students’ understanding of migrant Latino health.

Learner Objectives:

• Explain the relevance of culturally competent global health approaches to health assessment and interventions at home and abroad.
• Identify factors affecting global health and Latino immigration to include travel, cultural, social, economic, political and environmental factors.
• Understand and report Latino population health disparities, using epidemiological and demographic measures.
• Identify evidence based, cultural competency programs to improve Latino population global health.
• Promote culturally competent care through participatory service learning courses.
According to the 2010 US Census Bureau the Hispanic population accounted for > 50% of the 27.3 million increase in total population growth. 17% of US population identifies as Hispanic/Latino origin as of 2012.

2010 Census map http://www.indexmundi.com/facts/united-states/quick-facts/north-carolina/hispanic-or-latino-population-percentage#map
US Latino Health Disparities

• Hispanic adults have the largest age-adjusted prevalence of diabetes.
• Obesity: Prevalence largest for males < 20 yo,
• Birth rate for Hispanic adolescent 5x to 1.3 x greater
• HIV dx rate 2nd largest, (A-A are 1st)
• Highest fatal occupational injury rate
• Lowest adult completion rate for secondary education
• Hispanic peds twice as likely to hospitalized for asthma

How do we teach holistic care:

- Interprofessionalism team work
- Human caring behaviors
- Ethics
- Spirituality
- Cultural Understanding
- Community and family centered health
- Global health/public health
- Social justice
- Leadership/ambassadorship

And integrate this into practice?
Service Learning

Service and Learning are both valued and balanced.

It is a Team experience and an Individual experience.
2007 multidiscipline team of twenty
2014 Interdisciplinary Experience
Ethical issues related to short term missions

• Cultural understanding and language barriers.
• Who benefits? Is community involved in planning?
• Risk of harm? To patients, community or students?
• Responsible use of resources/costs $$
• Sustainability/continued support/referrals
Community Partnerships for sustainability: locally and globally

- **Compassion Med**
  - [www.compassionmed.org](http://www.compassionmed.org)
- **Grace Church**
  - [http://gracelife.com/](http://gracelife.com/)
- **Inglesia Misionera de Cristo**
- **UNC SON Carolina Nursing**
  - [http://nursing.unc.edu](http://nursing.unc.edu)
- **NGOs in Nicaragua**
Quality Improvement Using a Team Based Learning Approach
Preparation: Global Health Issues

- **Travel:** immunizations, passport and safety issues
- **Cultural understanding and language**
- **Fundraising/donations for vitamins, meds, school supplies etc.**
- **Student Presentations and Preparation**

Discussion board: Immigration issues after required readings to include: Sonia Nazario. *Enrique’s Journey: The Story of a Boy’s Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with His Mother.*
Student Presentations and preparation

- Water Born Diseases
- Diarrhea
- Using an interpreter
- Culture
- Domestic Violence
- Substance Abuse
- Skin infections

- Malnutrition,
- lead poisoning
- Parasites
- Malaria and Dengue Fever
- HIV
- TB
- Typhoid and Cholera
Water-Borne Illness
In Honduras by Julie Bentley

✓ **Diarrhea**: globally, there are approximately 4 billion cases per year with 1.8 million deaths (> deaths among children under 5).

✓ **Intestinal worms** infect about 1 in 10 people in the developing world. May lead to anemia and cognitive impairment.

Medications thanks to CMI
Arrival and Customs in Tegucigalpa
Old school buses don’t die. They go to Honduras!
Health screening day at school
Clinic

Family screenings; Alice Toher, FNP student
Distributing food packs. We fed 50 families with a week’s supply of groceries.
Delivering much needed supplies….
Impact

**Impact:** Following service learning experience students are expected to give presentations of their experiences. Impact will be measured by

- Identifying evidence-based programs to improve population-global health
- Applying CLAS standards to care.
- Educating the public on global health issues
- Reflection and self evaluation of their learning
I was overwhelmed by the crowds of patients waiting to see us. They stood with no complaints patiently while we set up clinic. I had the feeling they were waiting for hours before we even arrived. I felt so inadequate to meet their needs. When we starting seeing the patients in clinic I realized that I did in fact have something to offer -I was perhaps the only health care provider they had seen in a long time.

By Deb
I stopped for a brief moment to take this picture while everyone was seeing patients and was in awe on how well the team of strangers came together and the dedication of each individual.
Mother’s love by Emily

• I was impressed with the determination of this mother to bring her sick child to be seen. She had walked hours to the clinic and waited patiently. Her child was dx with OM and treated with antibiotics.
Role of the Women in Honduras

Grandmothers in Poverty
Empowering Women by Jill

• This is a picture of a tortilla press. Moises has set up small business loans for women so they can have an income to support their children, preventing broken families when mothers leave to go to the US or Spain.
My favorite photos

Education is the vaccine against delinquency, through education we change our lives
The night that the kids danced for us was memorable because I enjoyed how proud they were to share their culture. I could tell they put a lot of hard work into practicing! The girl to the right also touched my heart. She came to the green clinic on the first day complaining of lower back pain. It turned out that she was suffering from scoliosis and would need further medical help that we could not provide. Even though she was in pain, it did not stop her from flashing the enormous grin you see here. She was so sweet and patient with me as I struggled to communicate to her in Spanish. Her spirit and the strength of all the Honduran people was amazing. They endure things we would be constantly complaining about, but they do it with a smile. I have learned from this trip that it is important to find joy in life no matter what your situation.
“Through the trip, I gained critical clinical experience, particularly with asthma, dermatological conditions and nutritional deficiencies. Even more valuable than the experience, however, were the lessons I learned about culture, health and my role as a health care team member.”  Student quote from submitted article to Carolina Nursing: Spring 2008.
Hopes and Fears:
Websites for further info

• Compassion Med International
  http://www.compassionmed.org/
• UNC School of Pharmacy
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhdzFvM3rvQ
• UNC School of Nursing
  http://nursing.unc.edu/
Thank you, partners!

**Student Preceptors and Volunteers:**
- Dr. Ronald Herring, D.O., physician,
- Drs. Christine Walko and Dawn MacElroy, Pharm D, pharmacists
- Elizabeth Prata, MSN, FNP, and Schmucker, Monica, MSN, FNP
- Kent Kessinger and Emiko Davison are photo journalists,
- Dr. Gwen Sherwood, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and UNC SON Global Health

**Honduras Community Partners:**
- Dr. Jorge Aguilera, is a Honduran physician and director of Clinica Febe and Children’s educational program.
- Pastor Moises Chino Murillo, Pastor to Inglesia Misionera de Cristo with a clinic and compassion feeding program/educational services for children.
Questions/Discussion