



# GRADUATE NURSING STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN A COMMUNITY CLINIC

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## Introduction

### I. Description of the clinic

- The Parkview Medical Clinic (PMC) is a branch of the Parkview Outreach Community Center (POCC) which is located at 1205 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way in Haines City, Florida.
- PMC is an independent nondenominational faith-based, non for profit organization offering free medical services to qualifying (200% of poverty level), uninsured and underinsured residents of Polk County.
- The clinic began providing limited medical services in February 2009 using several volunteer medical providers who saw the need in the local community.



### II. Purpose

- The building that currently houses the clinic was built by Parkview Christian Center at the request of medical providers and community volunteers who had been delivering free medical services, twice a month, under an oak tree in the Oakland Community of Haines City.
- After a year of operation using a part time volunteer leader, the Board of Directors for POCC requested funding from the Parkview Christian Center to hire a consultant and part time staff member to pursue funding through grants and contracts.

### III. Grant Funds

Grant funds have been used to:

- Hire two full-time staff members, Clinic Administrator/ARNP and a Medical Assistant
- Purchase medical supplies and equipment
- Pay operating expenses
- A part-time bookkeeper has recently been added.

Staff work with a plethora of volunteer physicians, ARNPs and nurses along with non-medical volunteers who assist with administrative functions. POCC is managed by a nine-member Board of Directors who represent a wide variety of professions and provide expert advice and insight to the operations, goals and mission of the organization.

### Funding Methods

- 2010 Parkview Christian Center provided temporary funding through a loan
- Polk Health Care Plan awarded a \$100,000 grant October 1, 2010
- PHCP grant increased to \$140,000 in 2015
- February 1, 2011 the clinic received a three year \$100,000 grant from Florida Blue Foundation
- Fund Raising Gala of 2015 resulted in \$60,000
- Fund Raising Gala of 2016 resulted in \$100,000
- POCC has also received grants from the Community Foundation of Central Florida and smaller donations from several local churches

### IV: Meeting CCNE Requirements/Masters Essentials

Since 2013, PMC has been a clinical site for a handful of local and national universities' nurse practitioner programs. NP students fulfil their clinical requirements and are allowed to:

- take medical histories, examine patients,
- make differential diagnoses
- create a plan of care, which includes treatments, order diagnostic services
- write SOAP notes, under the direct supervision of their preceptor. The preceptors then evaluate the students per their individual university's protocol.

Students are taught to collaborate with other members of the health care team.

### III. Student Clinic Experience

For the Fiscal Year 2014-2015, PMC provided a primary care (medical home) for 1,960 patients, of which 511 were new patients visits. Two hundred forty of those visits were considered emergency room aversions. Top diagnoses include:

- Diabetes Mellitus,
- hypertension,
- asthma,
- hypocholesteremia,
- hyper/hypothyroidism,
- depression and
- dermatological issues, to name a few.

The demographics of PMC's patient population offers exposure to risk factors and cultural mores of different ethnic groups. Following is one students' statement:



*"As a Nurse Practitioner student, I had the privilege of doing two clinical rotations at PMC. The first day on site, I was extremely impressed by the care provided by the Staff. The patient population seen at Parkview is diverse. The care each individual receives is culturally based and patient centered. The Clinic treats the acute medical needs of the uninsured in the (Polk) county and also manages the chronic conditions/diseases many of these people have. Every patient at the clinic is treated holistically and their medical needs as well as any psychosocial concerns are incorporated into the care they receive. Nurse Practitioner students are empowered to learn and make the transition from the nursing model to the medical model."*

*Equilla Cherry, Florida Southern (College NP Student)*

### IV.

### Conclusions

- The experiences provided by clinics, such as PMC, exemplify foundational principles for which Nurse Practitioners are educated: Providing health care to people who do not have access to health care, for whatever reason.
- Providers and students are challenged to find solutions and concrete answers to basic human physical and psychological needs often using services created by other philanthropic entities, governmental services, or private sector providers.



### References

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