

# Curriculum Development and Transcultural Service Learning in Post Earthquake Haiti



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# Learner Objectives and Disclosure

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Has no conflicts of interest to disclose

## Learner Objectives

- 1. Discuss the key elements of the transcultural service learning curriculum development**
- 2. Describe the preparation for travel and in-country service learning experiences**
- 3. Understand the impact on the community, students and faculty**

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# Haiti after the 2010 Earthquake

- ✦ On 12 January 2010, shortly before 5 PM, an earthquake, with a magnitude of 7.0 occurred in the small Caribbean nation of Haiti. It was the most powerful earthquake to hit the country in 200 years(World Health Organization, 2010)



# Haiti by the Numbers

1. Total population: 10.6 million
2. Life expectancy: 63 years for women and 61 years for men
3. Under age 5 mortality: 73 per 1,000
4. Number of doctors per patients: 1 per 1,250 in the cities/1 to 4,000+ in rural areas
5. Number of nurses per patients: <2 per 1,000
6. Population living below the national poverty line: 59%
7. Only 40% of the population have access to basic health care

World Health Organization (WHO), 2016

# History of Course Development



- ✦ **Incorporated York College Nursing Student Learning Outcomes:**
- ✦ Advocate for health policies that address local and global health issues through participation in nursing organizations.
- ✦ Effectively communicate with diverse client populations and disciplines using a variety of strategies and respecting clients' cultural beliefs and practices.
- ✦ **Essential Curriculum Concepts**  
Communication/Collaboration, Safety/Technology, Critical Thinking/Nursing Process, Leadership/Management, Professional Accountability/ Advocacy, Legal, Moral, Ethical and Research

# Course Goals and Student Selections



- ✦ Engage students in experiential learning that integrates theory into practice and provide a service learning experience where students could contribute to delivery of health care to underserved population on a global level.
- ✦ Provide Nursing students and faculty the opportunity to work along with other health professionals at the Mission of Grace Medical Clinic, Orphanage, Elementary School, and Senior Home.
- ✦ Develop Faculty-Student and Student to Student Mentoring Experiences.

## ✦ **Student Selection**

- ✦ Senior and junior nursing students-who have successfully completed at least one Med/Surg course in the program
- ✦ Submit a letter request-explaining why they should be selected.

# Course Preparation



- ✦ Creation of a Syllabus
- ✦ Assigned student readings
- ✦ Research on Cultural, Healthcare, Economic and Social Issues
- ✦ Immersion in the Creole language
- ✦ Attend an eight hour orientation the week before traveling

# Preparation for Travel



- ✦ Meetings with faculty and students
- ✦ Travel documents
- ✦ Packing day

## Course Work

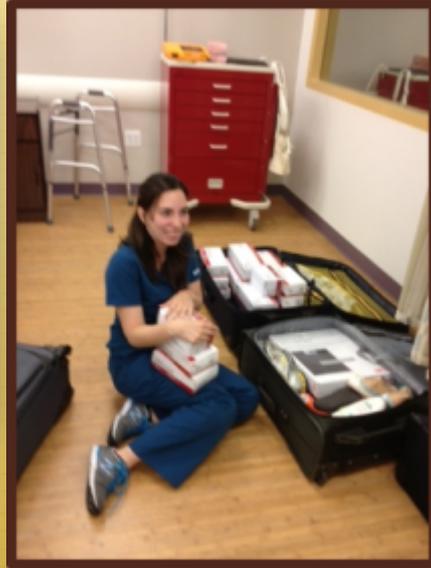
- ✦ Pre and Post conferences, Daily supervised clinical experiences, Daily journaling, Development of concept maps, Comprehensive plan of care, Focused assessments/patient Interviews, three reflection papers and a debriefing session within a week of returning home.

# Key Guiding Questions



- ✦ **Before I went, I thought?**
- ✦ **I brought?**
- ✦ **I saw?**
- ✦ **What did I leave behind?**
- ✦ **What did I take away?**
- ✦ **Now what?**

# Packing



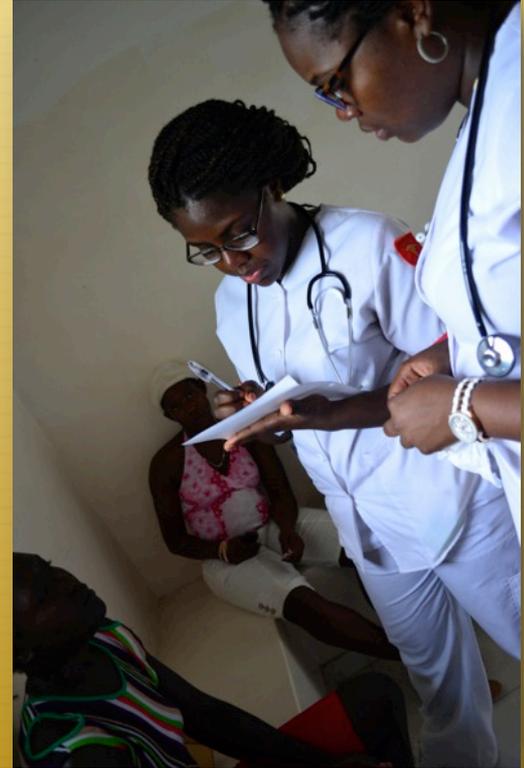
# Airport



# Oceanview



# Clinic



# Clinic



# Elementary School in Carries



# Senior Home in Carries



# Orphanage in Carries



# Cap Haitien



# Community School in Cap Haitien



# Farm in Cap Haitien



# Student Experiences



# Summary of Our experiences





# Summary of Our experiences



# Cohorts



## 2013 Cohort

**Maria Blasco, Iddan Brown, Guadalupe Burdier, Larochele Dayondon, Maria DiVito, Shane Headley, Toluwalase Jegede, Mery Mustafa, Natalie Tytman, Natalie Velasco, Laryssa Zephir-Toussaint, Dr. Renee Wright, Dr. Claudette McFarquhar and Katrina Moise**

## 2014 Cohort

**Poroma Babu, Iddan Brown, Vardley Gedeon, Colin Hall, Diana Mejia, Sandy Nelzy, Tiffany Noble, Linda Thomas , George Asmar, Katrina Moise and Kevin Glaudin**

## 2015 Cohort

**Donnika Clarke, Diana Mejia, Pierre Andre Elmira, Shanique Ivery, Michelle Muyibi, Sandy Nelzy, Med-Murielle Pierre, Annakay Rhule, Linda Thomas, Solange Wilson and Kevin Glaudin**

# Students



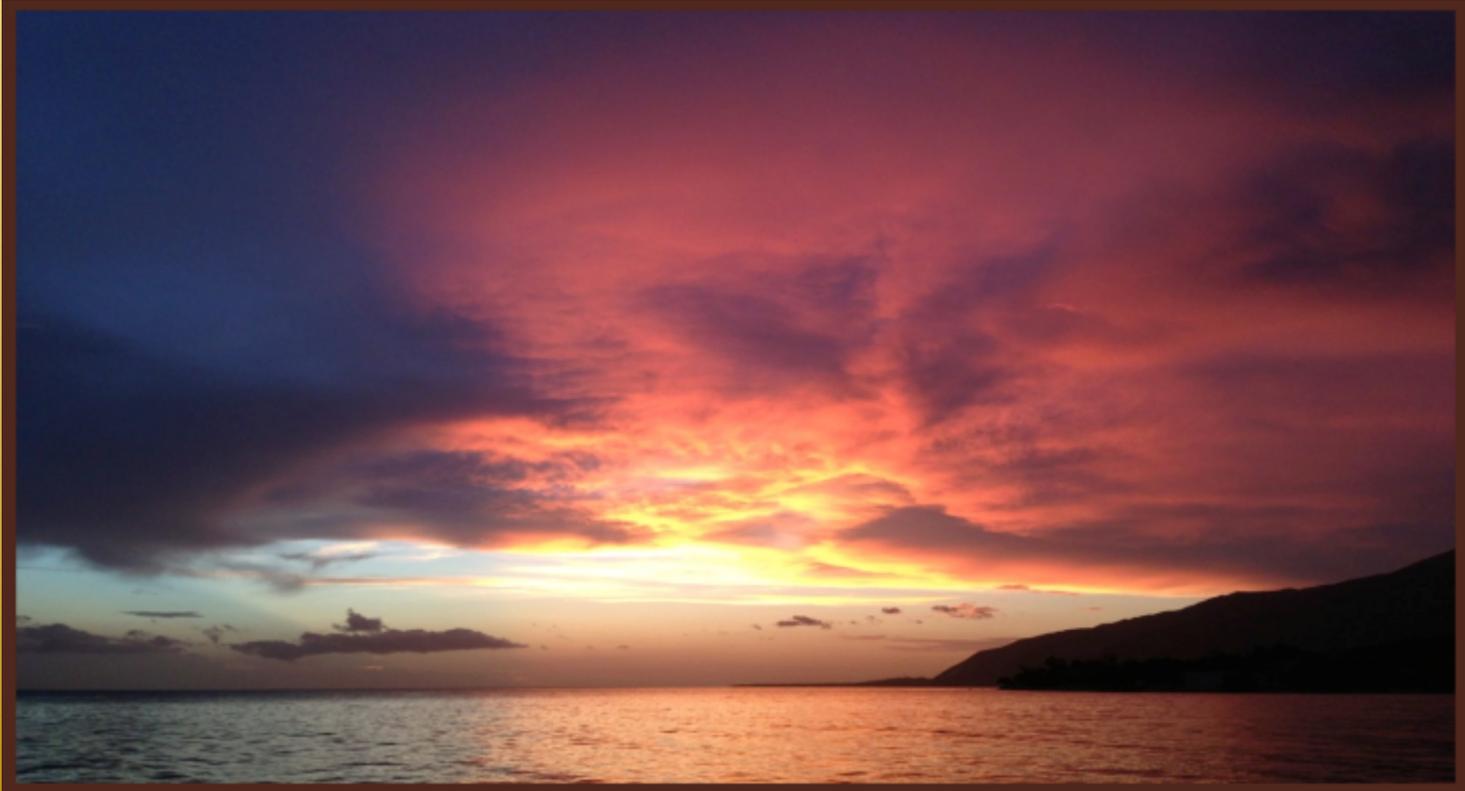
# Students' Voices

- ✦ **“This exposure as a student nurse in Haiti has enriched my educational experience and allowed me to grow as both a scholar and young health professional. I hope to continue to promote health in underserved communities and the need for understanding cultural diversity, especially when providing health care.”**
- ✦ **“Since my return to the United States, I have tried to stay focus on being a better individual. I have not forgotten about my experiences in Haiti or the few friends I have left behind. In fact, I say a prayer for them every night, in the hope that life will work in their favor.”**
- ✦ **“No amount of research could have prepared me for Haiti. It was a surreal, exciting, confusing and frustrating experience.”**
- ✦ **“I never realized how blessed I am to live in the United States, but at the same time I never realized how selfish I have been by turning a blind eye to the poverty and human injustices worldwide. I know I cannot save the world, but if I can at least save one person, then I know others can do it too, and if we all stood together, then the possibilities of change could be endless.”**
- ✦ **“This experience has changed my view of Haiti; even though there are many problems in the country; it is a beautiful country with very humble and appreciative people.”**
- ✦ **“Even though we could not always speak to the people their smiles showed what they were trying to say and I smiled back.”**
- ✦ **“I was a little afraid about this trip, but I am very happy that I came and experience this for myself. I want to come back.”**

# Reflections on next Steps...



# Questions & Answers



# References



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