Preparando avançadas Práticas de Enfermeiras para Impactar a Saúde da População através de Currículo de Política de Saúde

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Health Policy Creation and Advocacy

• Evidence-based health policy leads to:
  – Improved population health outcomes
  – Increased access to care

• Identified need to increase knowledge, skills, and attitudes of nurse practitioners
Nurse Practitioners and Health Policy

• Nurse practitioners work in areas with:
  – Increased health disparities
  – Rural and underserved populations
  – Patients who need an advocate
Nurse Practitioners and Health Policy

• Nurse practitioners impact population health through health policy
  – Understand the populations served
  – Have insights to the unique needs
  – Cognizant of necessary changes
Curriculum Needs

• Minimal exposure to health policy in academic preparation

• Many schools rely on traditional PowerPoint and standard assignments
Curriculum Needs

• New nurse practitioners lean on established providers for education

• Successful strategies may not be communicated

• Bias towards certain policies or roles may be seen
Curriculum Needs

• Consequences of traditional education
  – Lack of understanding what health policy means
  – Unprepared to create or advocate for policy
  – Intimidated to speak with legislators
  – Apathy towards health policy
Project Overview

• Collaboration between two schools of nursing

• Neighboring states with similar practice environments

• Family nurse practitioner students enrolled in Master’s or Doctoral plans of study
Project Overview

- Faculty involved in health policy at the state and national levels
- Allowed for real-world situation incorporation in the curriculum
- Faculty experiences influenced assignments
Project Activities

• Presentation and group discussion about health policy

• Outlined differences between:
  – Health promotion
  – Health policy
  – Politics
Project Activities

• Group work included:
  – Community scenario
  – Research current health policies
  – Create a new evidence-based policy
  – Advocacy strategies
Project Activities

• Timed-Elevator Speech
  – Identified a pertinent topic to the health of the state
  – Recorded a time limited elevator speech including an ask
  – Students critiqued each other on perceived effectiveness
Project Activities

• Breakfast with legislators
  – Hosted by state nurse practitioner association
  – Discussed current bills with state legislators

• Attended current bill hearing after breakfast at state capitol
Results

• Students carried learning forth to subsequent semesters

• Reported positive experiences with the assignments

• Demonstrated deeper understanding of health policy and advocacy
Results

• Impact:
  – Attended a national health policy conference
  – Elected to state nurse practitioner association
  – More active in next legislative session
Conclusions

• Nurse practitioners need to be aware and comfortable with health policy

• Need to be able to communicate population needs and impact health policy for improved health

• Crucial for schools to provide health policy curriculum and experiences