

A large, semi-transparent globe is centered in the background. Around the base of the globe, there are several grey silhouettes of people holding hands, forming a circle. The globe shows the Americas in green and yellow, with blue oceans.

# Beyond Buzzwords

Undergraduate Nursing Students Employ  
the CHN Standards of Practice to

**Change their World**

Em M. Pijl-Zieber, Mary Nugent, and Suzanne Harris  
**University of Lethbridge**

# Community Health Projects: The Why

## Nursing Programs

- Accelerated programs
- Year round programs
- Increased student intake
- *Programs need to be:*
  - Creative
  - New options
  - Choice
- *Need to provide:*
  - Quality
  - CHSoP
  - Clinical experiences

## Clinical Practice

- Patient safety issues:
  - New standards and guidelines
  - Privacy and quality care
- Clinical environment
  - More acute
  - More complex
  - Shorter stay times

# Community Health Clinical Education

## Diverse Roles of CH RN Abstract CH Concepts

- Population health
- Healthy public policy
- Community development
- Community capacity building
- Evidence-informed practice
- Social justice
- Socio-environmental perspective

## Innovative/Non-Traditional Placement Experiences

- Student teams
- Community projects enact the Community Health Nursing Standards of Practice
- Population/community based experiences

# At-Risk Youth Wellness Project

- Nursing students in collaboration with YWCA created a program to address “at risk” youth issues
- Assist youth to equip themselves with resources related to health and wellness



# At-Risk Youth Wellness Project



# Snack Shack Project

A collaborative project with AHS-Population Health produced a promotional resource that increases student access to healthier, reasonably priced foods, educates children about health food choices and ultimately improves health and quality of life for school aged children.



# Everyone Wins



# Vascular Risk Assessment Project

The purpose of this collaborative project with 2 employers (City of Lethbridge and U of L Human Resources) and the University of Lethbridge Nursing Program was to screen, assess, and educate employees regarding their personal heart health and vascular risks and provide them with the tools necessary to reduce health risks and improve quality of life.





# Everyone Wins



# Foot Care for the Homeless

- Faith-based organization seeking to increase service capacity
- Students completed a needs assessment, researched possibilities, started program
- Foot Fridays: A unique, weekly basic and medical foot care program



*Students working as part of a non-profit team providing foot care to homeless individuals.*

# Open Door Café

- Art and social space at homeless shelter
- Student-driven, agency- and funder-supported
- Life changing for many guests
- Social justice, access, individual capacity, empowerment



Students started an art space at a homeless shelter. It changed people's lives.

# Enacting CHN Standards of Practice

- Promoting Health
- Building Capacity
- Building Relationships
- Facilitating Access/Equity
- Responsibility / Accountability

# Challenges

- Initial change of delivery driven by logistics
- Administration: maintaining relationships, not over-burdening agencies, student perspective
- Preparation for entry to practice: lack of traditional nursing skills, defining the role of CHN
- Understanding the agency experience
- Ethics

# Meaningful Outcomes

## STUDENTS

- Standards of Practice
- Population/Community Health
- Health Promotion, Illness Prevention
- Diversity
- Advocacy
- Policy Development
- New View of Health

**G  
R  
O  
W  
T  
H**

## AGENCY / COMMUNITY

- Standards-Based Processes
- Increased Capacity
- High Quality Outcomes
- New View of Nurses

# Into the Future

- By enacting the Standards of Practice, students engage with core community health concepts as they prepare for practice.

# Questions?



A large, semi-transparent globe is centered in the background. Overlaid on the globe are several grey silhouettes of people of various ages and ethnicities, some holding the globe up as if supporting it. The globe shows the Americas in green and yellow, with blue oceans.

# Thank You!

**Beyond Buzzwords:** Undergraduate Nursing Students Employ the CHN Standards of Practice to Change their World

Em M. Pijl-Zieber, Mary Nugent, and Suzanne Harris  
**University of Lethbridge**