

# Educating Primary Care NPs: Overcoming the Challenges of Practicum Placements

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### BACKGROUND

#### Demand For PCP Providers

- Affordable Care Act
  - 30 million more with access to PC
- PCP key to controlling HC cost
- PCP disproportionately distributed

#### Shortage of PC Providers

- Shortfall of 52,000 PCP by 2025
- Fewer MDs and NPs choosing PC
- PCP disproportionately distributed
- APNs are able to relieve the shortage

#### Shortage of PC Sites

- Increased demand on providers to see patients
- Competition for Sites
  - Residents, NPs, PAs

### CHANGING PARADIGM

#### Care moving to community

- Emphasis on:
  - Prevention and early screening
  - Care coordination
  - Personalized health care
  - Targeted interventions



### OUR CHALLENGE

- Provide meaningful pediatric PC learning experience
- Limited availability of pediatric PC sites
- Increased number of students needing pediatric PC experience
- Increased number of students with minimal pediatric background/knowledge
- Reshape program to meet changing HC paradigm

### PARTNERS

- Rutgers University College of Nursing
- Rutgers University Office of University-Community Partnerships
- Center for Urban Youth
- FOCUS Health Center
- Babyland Family Services, Inc
- Catholic Charities

### PROJECT

- Pilot experience within an established course
- 7 wks community/7 wks PC
- APN students trained to perform Screening test
- Students sent to urban preschools and child development centers to perform developmental screening, vision, hearing, BMI for infants, preschoolers and school age children
- Preceptor: PNP Faculty



### RESULTS

#### First Half

- 184 children screened (6mo-10y)
- 23 preschool referrals for obesity
- 6 school age referrals for obesity
- 4 preschool referrals for underweight
- 6 preschool referrals for vision
- 8 preschool referrals for speech
- 3 preschool referrals for gross motor evaluation
- Students "gave back" by giving free Family Nutrition Seminar

### STUDENT FEEDBACK

	Understanding Prior		Understanding Post	
	Full	Partial	Full	Partial
G&D	0	6	6	0
Ped Health Screen	0	6	6	0
Nutrition	1	5	6	0

	Comfort Level Prior		Comfort Level Post	
	Peds	Urban	Peds	Urban
Extremely	1	1	5	3
Comfortable	3	2	1	3
Uncomfortable	1	3	0	0
Extremely Uncomfortable	1	0	0	0

- "Some staff seemed threatened by our presence and were not welcoming."
- "Offer this experience again."
- "This rotation helped me with my class work and exams!"
- "There should be one day in a PC clinic and one day in the community setting."

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Offer orientation for staff to increase buy-in
- Include all students in this learning experience
- Use data to develop targeted interventions led by students
- Expand community partnerships

