

Texas Community College Teachers Association
"Building a Better Texas"
Social Responsibility Form

College: *Blinn College Associate Degree in Nursing Program, Community-Based Nursing Clinical: RNSG 2163, Theory Course: RNSG 1110, Students need to work 48 Hours for this Clinical Course*

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Submission Category: Citizen Building: Community Service

1) How did it come about/who started it?

Community-Based Nursing Clinical has been taught at Blinn College since the program began in 1989. It has been a goal to continually try to improve the clinical experience for the nursing students. Each semester the nursing students evaluate the clinical sites and make recommendations. The faculty for this clinical course then utilizes the evaluations to make improvements.

2) Who is charged with primary responsibility for the program? What support does the program receive from the senior leadership of the institution?

The two nursing instructors for the course have been primarily responsible for the program. The program receives support from the senior leadership of the institution. The nurses in all the community agencies try very hard to give the nursing students the best possible learning experiences.

3) How is it sustained? What is its budget?

The program is sustained by the two nursing instructors. The budget would include the salary of the instructors, who have both worked part-time with this clinical course. Some of the items that have been purchased in the last few years to help with doing health fairs include a stadiometer, vision and hearing screening equipment, a scales, blood pressure and glucose screening equipment.

4) How does this benefit your students, college, and community?

This benefits the students in that they have learned so much from these clinical experiences. They have done many procedures that they have not had the opportunity to do in the hospital, such as starting IVs, drawing blood, giving shots, and doing finger sticks to check for diabetes. This benefits the community as they are helping the staff at these clinical sites. More individualized attention can be given to patients and clients with the help of the students. Consequently, the clinical sites are better able to serve the health care needs of the community. Many of the students are from small towns in the area and have a great work ethic, and so they well-represent the college and the nursing profession. The students feel that by working in these agencies, they will be better able to refer patients in their future nursing practice. The Blinn College Service Learning Program has been placed on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the third year in a row, and the community nursing program has played a role in this recognition. The service learning hours are also identified on their transcripts.

5) Are there vendors or other outside resources you used that you would recommend to others?

The following is a list of the areas that the students have worked:

CLINIC SETTINGS

1. Low income clinic for the working poor and people with no health insurance
2. Clinic for patients that cannot get an appointment with their physician and need to be seen
3. Express care clinic
4. Two clinics for patients on Medicare or Medicaid or that pay out of pocket on a sliding scale depending on income.

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OTHER AGENCIES

5. Hospice (including interdisciplinary team meetings)
6. Home health agencies (nine different agencies)
7. Health department (TB and Immunization Clinics)
8. School nursing and screenings

HEALTH FAIRS

9. Large work site, where many of the workers have no insurance, and there are a number of abnormal screening results for diabetes, high blood pressure, vision, and weight.
10. Rural school gyms and cafeterias (done in conjunction with the local medical school)
11. Grocery stores
12. Mall
13. Homeless shelter
14. Hospice agency
15. Hispanic health fairs
16. Health and safety expos
17. Low income clinic

FLU/FLU MIST, TETANUS SHOTS, AND TB SKIN TESTS

18. Local fire department
19. Nursing Homes
20. Senior Centers
21. Large Multi-Practice Clinic
22. Blinn College students, staff, and their families

OTHER ACTIVITIES

23. Disaster drills and disaster seminars
24. Blood drives
25. Developed Diabetes pamphlets in English and Spanish
26. Diabetes, medication, and other health teaching-Group and Individual

MEDICAL CARE

27. Special needs patients relocated locally due to hurricanes
28. Special Olympics
29. Heart Walk
30. Pop Warner football games.

Students that live in small towns, a good distance away from the college, have worked at their county health departments, local home health agencies, rural health clinics, and wellness centers.

6) What advice would you offer to another institution that might consider implementing such a program?

It takes a lot of effort to coordinate the students going to a different clinical site every day, and some days the students go to two clinical sites. The local health department only wanted the students to come for a half day, so a clinic site was scheduled for the other half day. In many nursing programs the students only go to one clinical site, such as doing school nursing every clinical day. The students and the instructors feel that the students get a much better clinical experience going to different community clinical sites. Often nursing students think their only option for work in the future is hospital nursing. This clinical rotation makes them realize many of the different opportunities available to nurses. The nursing instructors check on the students each clinical day and try to develop good relationships with the staff at each agency and act as a resource for the staff. The ultimate goal of the clinical course is to improve the health of the community. The purpose of completing this form is to encourage nursing faculty at other colleges to broaden the experiences of students in community nursing clinicals.