

DARING

to Reach the Heartland

(Diversity-Advocacy-Respect-Innovation-Nursing Education-Growth)

A Service-Learning Approach for Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing

Catholic Charities of Omaha

&

Nebraska Methodist College

Catholic Charities

Mission

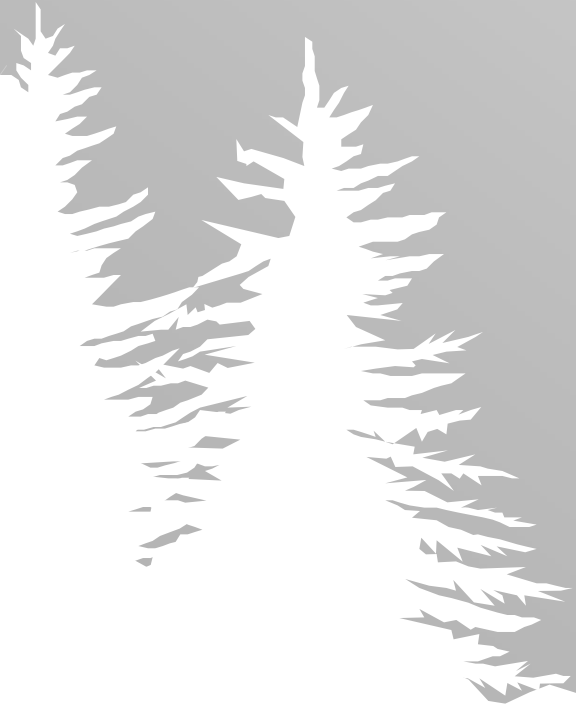
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Omaha works with individuals and families to build just and compassionate community.



Nebraska Methodist College
Core Values

CORE VALUES


Caring
Excellence
Holism
Learning
Respect



Nebraska Methodist College

Critical Success Factors

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS



Excellence in Teaching and Learning
Financial Stability
Commitment to Constituents
Cooperative Relationships
Highly Qualified and Committed People
Image and Visibility

Nebraska Methodist College

Vision

VISION

“Through the strength of our culture at NMC, we will optimize our reciprocal teaching-learning environment to better identify and inspire personal gifts, to more fully engage and empower individuals, and to deepen our commitment to the well being of the community.”



*Nebraska Methodist College
Affiliated with United Methodist
Church, Schools, Colleges,
Universities*

Overview

Nebraska Methodist College Department of Nursing Psychiatric/Mental Health Section and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Omaha, Inc. Have formed a partnership for service-learning. The partnership provides collaborative community-based experiential education for both associate degree and baccalaureate degree nursing students. This service-learning project has been initiated as part of the **Partners in Caring and Community: Service-Learning in Nursing Education Program**. The team of people from Nebraska Methodist College and Catholic Charities, Omaha, Nebraska, was chosen as one of ten teams selected nation wide to participate in the initiative. This display presents the progress of the team initiative titled: **“Daring” to Reach the Heartland, (Diversity, Advocacy, Respect, Innovation, Nursing Education, and Growth)**.

Faith-Based Collaboration

Nebraska Methodist College has entered into a service-learning partnership with Catholic Charities as part of Community-Campus partners for Health.

A dynamic synergy results when the two agencies' infrastructures are combined, the whole being greater than the sum of its parts.

COMMUNITY-BASED EDUCATION

- **Responds to the needs identified by the community and brings together participants from the college, community members, and health care partners.**
- **It builds on ongoing and true partnerships between education and the community and is a learning process that enables students to learn to provide nursing care with people wherever they may be.**

Definition of Service-Learning

Service -Learning: “... A method under which students ... Learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in the and meets the needs of a community and is coordinated with an institution of higher education and with the community; helps foster civic responsibility; is integrated into and enhances the academic curriculum of the students ... And includes structured time for the students to reflect on the service experience.”

(National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993)

Goals

While learning experiences are collaboratively and deliberately planned, many occur spontaneously as a result of reflection on the experience and the relationship between the team and the larger community. This is to say the the “aha” which is integral to service-learning is recognized and embraced.

- » Enhance critical thinking.
- » Encourage & develop leadership capabilities.
- » Expand the view of the student as a citizen of a larger community.
- » Encourage health care delivery based on active community involvement.

Project Specific Outcomes

➤ **Increase awareness:**

â **Diversity**

â **Advocacy Roles**

â **Community Needs**

â **Professional Collaboration**

➤ **Operationalize Core Value of respect, while enhancing personal and professional growth.**

➤ **Successfully address a community identified need and achieve concrete and measurable results.**

* **Development of a reputation of excellence in the application of community-based learning.**

PROCESS

- » **Team Training**
- » **Reflection of Training**
- » **Development of an Action Plan**
- » **Implementation Plan and Timeline**

STEPS/ACTION

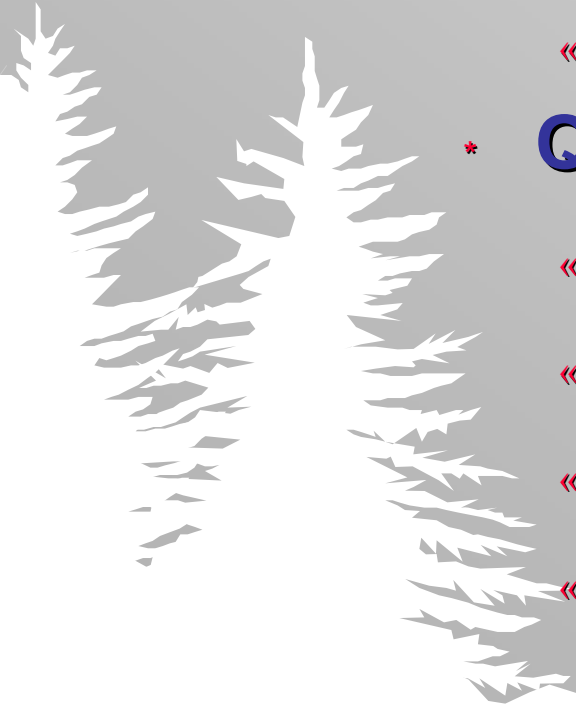
- » **Curriculum Review & Revisions**
- » **Develop Strategies for motivation and acceptance of concepts and process, for agency personnel.**
- » **Education of Agency Program Directors.**
- » **Provide support and facilitation to program staff .**

STEPS/ACTION

- » **Establish potential community-based learning projects.**
- » **Determination of final projects to be utilized.**
- » **Student Education & Mentoring.**
- » **Student Assignments.**

Reflection

- * **Examination of outcomes**
 - « **Ongoing**
 - « **Dynamic**
- * **Questions:**
 - « **What**
 - « **What Else**
 - « **So What**
 - « **Now What**



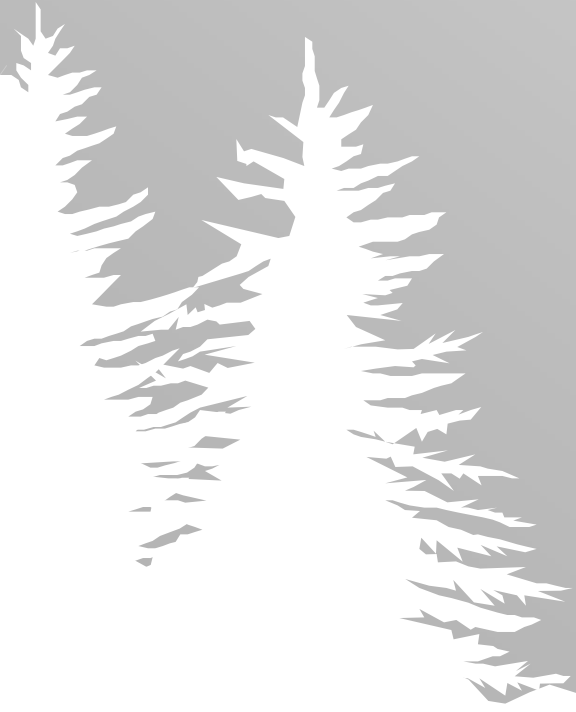
Reflection

The evaluation process is an ongoing and dynamic examination of outcomes related to quality service provision and enhancement, as well as the value of the student experiences as expressed in their individual reflections.

Reflection is necessary so that students, faculty and agency personnel can reach beyond providing service to learning from service. This critical reflection is continuous, connected, challenging, and contextual.

Values of Individuals in Partnership

- ▼ Commitment
- ▼ Competency
- ▼ Confidence
- ▼ Compassion
- ▼ Conscience
- ▼ Passion
- ▼ Excellence



Principles of Partnerships

- ▼ **Mutual mission, vision, goals, & outcomes**
- ▼ **Mutual trust, respect and genuineness**
- ▼ **Strength focused**
- ▼ **Sharing of resources & power**

Principles of Partnerships

- ▼ **Common language and excellent communication**
- ▼ **Agreed upon roles, norms and processes**
- ▼ **Share credit**
- ▼ **Patience over time - for development & evolution**

Characteristics of Excellence

- ▼ **Command of content**
- ▼ **Knowledge of community setting**
- ▼ **Excellent communication skills**
- ▼ **Enthusiasm about teaching in nursing**
- ▼ **Risk-taking**
- ▼ **Role-modeling**
- ▼ **Creativity**



CHALLENGES



➤ Coordination:

Schedules

Student Reflection

Sites

➤ Buy-In:



➤ Faculty

➤ Students

➤ Agency Staff

➤ Time Commitment

◦ Faculty

◦ Agency Personnel

Lessons Learned


- * **Flexibility tempered with structure**
- * **Humor**
- * **Increase awareness and understanding by the college and agency personnel... time, effort, supervision, and diplomacy required**

SUSTAINABILITY

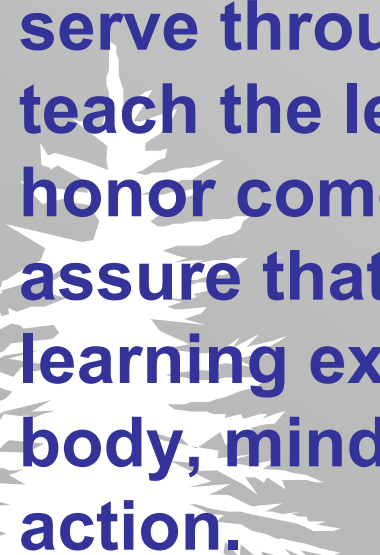
- ❖ Intensive involvement from Division of Service-Learning at Methodist College
- ❖ Continued administrative support, i.e. financial, resource availability
- ❖ Maintenance and enhancement of motivation and momentum of faculty and agency representatives
- ❖ Identification of new funding sources
- ❖ Incorporation of Community-based Learning within the College's overall curricula
- ❖ Continued focus on mutual mission of building community and social justice

Evaluation

- Reflection
- Methods and Strategies for Faculty Assessment & Reflection
- Methods and Strategies for Community Partner Assessment



We firmly believe that it is primarily through lived experiences that we can hope to touch the hearts and souls of our students and to challenge them in seeking opportunities to serve throughout their lives: It is an honor to teach the leaders of tomorrow, and with this honor comes the awesome responsibility to assure that we provide the best possible learning experiences and modalities to enrich body, mind, spirit and stimulate thought and action.



***A Prayer for
Faith/Community-based
Partners...***

**Good Morning! This is God... I will
be handling all your problems
today. I will not need your help--so
have a good day**