

## **Exploring the Impact of a Community-Academic Partnership Project**

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**PRESENTATION FORMAT:** 15 minute oral presentation

**TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE:** public health professionals, academics, community health workers, nurses, students, policy makers, educators

**ABSTRACT:** The evolving face of community health nursing practice demands stronger student preparation in inter-professional collaboration through academic and public health partnerships. In response, an academic-public health partnership was established in 2011 with faculty and students from the University of Portland, School of Nursing (UPSON) and a non-profit partner, Village Gardens (VG). VG is located in a public housing project in North Portland's New Columbia neighborhood. A descriptive, longitudinal impact evaluation of the partnership project was conducted to examine the impact of participation on: building a collaborative relationship between partners; enhancing student skills; and meeting the community's health promotion needs. This panel discussion presents findings related to this evaluation in the following areas: student skill development, community health promotion, and relationship characteristics. Findings have implications in nursing education, policy, and community development.

**OBJECTIVE(S):** Identify effective teaching strategies to enhance student learning outcomes in community and public health competencies through community-academic partnerships.  
Describe community-academic partnership outcomes for students and community members.  
Discuss policies to enhance the development of collaborative relationships in community-academic partnerships.

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