

TITLE: The Challenges Student-Run Health Clinics Face

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: Yes

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Medical, Pharmacy, and Nursing students

NPs, Nurses, Doctors, and Pharmacists

ABSTRACT: 1. Context

Bridges Clinic is a student-run free clinic that has served the Portland homeless population for two years.

2. Question:

What are the challenges inherent in expanding a student-run clinic and how can these be addressed while preserving quality of care for our participants?

3. Approach:

Outline current mode of operations and describe existing challenges through interviewing team members.

4. Conclusions:

There are several challenges that student-run clinics face. There are barriers to expansion, as well as tensions in creating a model of care. Clinics must recognize and address the tension between patient care and education, as well as the relationship of inclusive interprofessionalism versus value-added volunteer experience.

5. Implications:

a. Recognizing the challenges associated with the interplay of student education, volunteering, and delivering quality patient care are important for creation of the model of care.

b. Improving upon the care model of the clinic will lead to greater satisfaction, usage, and will thus increase the impact of clinics.

c. Identifying barriers in expansion will be informative for future leadership who wish to continue the progress of the clinic.

OBJECTIVE(S): Describe the challenges that are inherent to expanding an established student-run clinic. Demonstrate how to recognize and address the tensions between patient care and education, as well as the tensions between inclusive interprofessionalism and volunteer experience. Identify methods to preserve the historical record of the operations of the clinic to

ensure that the future cohort of student leaders have the appropriate continuity to continue the clinic's efforts.
