

TITLE: Quality of Care Implications through Community Food Pantry-based Service-Learning

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: No

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Quality of Care

Service-Learning

Population Health Nursing Educators, Practitioners, Nurses, Students

ABSTRACT: Service-Learning is an educational strategy that can enhance students' academic performance, civic engagement, and professional development. Service-learning can also provide tangible benefits to faculty, community, and university-community relationships. A descriptive, post-test only impact evaluation with mixed methods was used to describe and understand the value of a Community Nutrition Service-Learning Project for pre-Nursing students and community food pantry partners, and opportunities for improvement. The impact evaluation for students and partners was guided by three main project goal areas: Collaboration, Skill-building and Health Promotion. Overall, the Service-Learning Project in both year 1 and year 2 demonstrated value to student learning that could not have been achieved by the didactic Nutrition course alone. Improvements from year 1 to year 2 in - 1) student understanding of didactic course material and 2) the relationship between partners and faculty - were noted upon evaluation. Reciprocal benefits of participation in Service-Learning such as enhanced: student awareness of personal biases and partner awareness of organizational operations, can improve quality of care for vulnerable populations served/to be served by food pantry partners and future nurses.

OBJECTIVE(S): Describe the structure of the Community Nutrition Service-Learning Project for pre-Nursing students

Identify student and partner Community Nutrition Service-Learning Outcomes

Compare and contrast structure and outcomes from Year 1 to Year 2.

Discuss areas for future project improvement.

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