AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO ADDRESSING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS USING SIMULATION

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Objectives

• Introduction to concept of population health-vulnerable populations and the use of simulations.
• Discuss specific simulations and interprofessional groups used.
• Review of student reactions.
• Discussion of future plans for integration of healthcare teams planning work with simulation for various vulnerable populations.
Vulnerable populations

- Homeless
- Poverty stricken
- Victims of domestic violence
- Post traumatic stress victims
- Mental Illness
- Alcohol and Substance Abuse
- Refugees
- Lesbian/gay/transgender/bisexual
- Incarcerated
What can simulation do?

• Helps to understand the challenges faced by vulnerable populations
• Identify one’s own feelings and emotions
• Advocate for vulnerable populations
Examples of simulations used

• Poverty Simulation
• In Her Shoes
• PTSD
• Hearing Voices
Interdisciplinary Professionals

• Criminal Justice Majors
• Social worker Majors
• Civic Engagement Groups
• Graduate counseling majors
• Public/Community Health Nurses- undergraduate as well as practitioners
• Public Health majors
• Nutrition Majors
• Psychology Majors
I know for me it drew up some emotions...the story of Danielle was extremely similar to my childhood. My mother, being the strong woman she is, did make the right choices, fight for a restraining order, and here I am today. It was hard for me to summarize her story without confusing it with my own. I kind of kept the idea of domestic violence out of my past. ...Had my mom not made the right choices there's a good chance I wouldn't be here at TCNJ today. This burden has followed me everywhere I go. I'm not looking for sympathy (quite frankly I turned out pretty good I think) but the reason I'm emailing is so maybe, somehow this lifelong journey can be included in the program. Possibly a backpack of bricks to carry around or something representing the "after effects", because I think that would increase sensitivity to victims and their families even years after the event occurred.
The College of New Jersey

- In Her Shoes
- Poverty Sim
Widener University

• Poverty Simulation
• In Her Shoes
• PTSD
• Hearing Voices
La Salle University

- In Her Shoes
- Purchasing poverty simulation
Challenges

• “Buy in” from all departments to participate
• Time consuming to set-up
• Can be costly
• Debriefing must address emotional issues and biases
• Training required for some simulations
• Coordination of disciplines
Plans for Future Use

- School Nurse graduate program
- RN-BSN classes
- Research- capturing data from student participants- pre and post
- Community Health partnership
- Adding more disciplines
- Adding new simulations
References


Reid, Carol, A. and Evanson, Tracy, A. Using simulation to teach about Poverty in Nursing Education: A review of Available tools Journal of Professional Nursing 32:2 2016 130-140

Questions?