

# Collaborating Community Nursing and Faith-Based Nursing

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### Introduction

It is essential for the government to ensure that there are proper health and safety programs in the nation. This makes it possible to achieve the set macroeconomic goals of production due to the focus on citizen safety. Community nursing and faith based nursing are vital in providing health care to the society. Community nursing is nurses who are focused on the management of public health through ensuring a safe environment. The community health combines with public health and clinical nursing in maximizing health status through community involvement and advice on lifestyle (Babenko-Mould, Ferguson & Atthill 2016). On the other hand, faith based nursing is also known as parish nursing which focuses on personal healing physically, emotionally and spiritually. The parish nurses ensure that there is disease prevention, health promotion and spiritual care for a stable community.

### Heritage of health and healing in faith communities

Faith communities were founded to ensure that there is an improvement in the performance of an individual through the healing of the body, mind and the spirit. According to Advocate Health Care and the OCEAN-HP (2015), Granger Westberg was the founder of faith communities which are mostly based in the church. The need of a nurse in the church was evident to ensure that there is quality healthcare in the community by considering the body and spirit improvement. This innovation of healing in faith communities made it possible to reach a large population globally handling main issues especially stress and depression. The environment of faith community nursing is effective to maximize the health and safety of the community. There are churches and hospitals to provide support to the sick in an effective way. The nurses in

faith communities have the ability to provide educational information about diseases and spiritual care for an increased social performance. The faith communities make it possible for people to acquire quality healthcare at affordable prices with all the health needs being handled by the faith based nurses.

### **Benefits of community nurses' partnerships with faith based communities**

The collaboration of community nursing and faith based nursing is highly profitable to the society. This is mainly because the partnership makes it possible to meet the changing health needs of the community. The community is supposed to be provided with quality health services by offering spiritual counseling in treatment. Physical and spiritual care is essential in healthcare for a sustainable nursing practice in the community. According to Opalinski, Dyess and Grooper (2015) the benefits of community nurses' collaboration with faith based communities are; one is where the nurses are able to provide educational services to the patients for quality healthcare services. Two is where the outcome in the health sector is improved from the partnership of community nurses and parish nurses. This is achieved through mental and physical healing of the community. Three is where the nurses are able to implement flexible timetable in serving the community to ensure that there is advice on the sustainable healthcare that will maximize on personal performance. Lastly is where the nurses are able to understand the needs of the community through direct interaction thus developing strategies to maximize on spiritual and physical healing.

### **Nurse's role as parish nurse in faith communities**

The parish nurses are focused on providing quality services that will ensure physical, mind and spiritual health to the community. The parish nurses in faith communities are highly

accessible as they are mainly found in worshiping places of the society. Riley (2015) states that the roles of the parish nurse are as follows; one is ensuring that there is a religious atmosphere when offering services to patients. This is where the healthcare functions are expected to follow moral and ethics rights of the community. Two is where the engaging in health promotion programs that will make it possible to reach a lot of people in the faith community. This is achieved through educational newsletters, websites and billboards. The promotion programs make it possible to counsel to the public for social and economic progress. Three is where the parish nurses ensure that there is personal health improvement in the community by offering required spiritual support to the depressed. Four is working together with the community to encourage sharing of experiences that will improve the faith of society in maximizing health and safety in the region. Lastly, is engaging in educational sections to handle various health issues facing the community through the analysis of the external health environment. The parish nurses nurture other nurses to enter into the nursing ministry for sustainable health services provided by the parish nurses.

### **Healthy People 2020 guidelines in program planning**

Health people 2020 guidelines provide a smooth flow of the health sector through provision of quality services to the public. According to Cdc.gov (2015) the primary goals of the Healthy People 2020 guidelines are attaining quality services in the community, improving health equity, promoting a healthy environment and promoting health development for the society. This makes it possible for the community nurses and faith based nurses to develop sustainable policies that will increase the health service provision to the community. The planning program should ensure that there is prevention of diseases and injuries. Nurses are

supposed to ensure that there is equity in serving patients in the society to promote a healthy nation that will positively contribute to the achievement of set long term goals of the community. The plans make it possible for the nurses to come up with a strategy that will focus on a standard healthy environment that will achieve assist in dealing with physical, mental and spiritual conditions.

### **Issues related to parish nursing**

It is important for the parish nurses to have an insight on the issues in the community which are legal, ethical and financial issues. According to Jacob and Vanderhoef (2014) legal issues are where the parish nurses find it difficult to identify the proper place to set up the medical facility due to the many rules and regulations. The medical policies vary in different nation making it hard to expand the parish nurses' services internationally. Two are the ethical issues where the rights and wrong of the community need to be evaluated for a smooth operation of health activities. There are communities with complex religious and cultural making it hard to offer services to target communities. Lastly, the financial issues faced by parish nurses due to the lack of finances to fully satisfy the needs of the community.

### **Conclusion**

From the discussion, it is clear that community nursing and faith based nursing makes it possible to provide quality health services to the community. The Healthy People 2020 guidelines provide the plan that increases the healthy sustainability of the society. Proper management of health services increases the social and economic development of the community.

## References

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