

**PROPOSAL TO INCREASE
PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH NURSE
PRACTITIONERS IN NEW MEXICO**

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PURPOSE

- The purpose of this proposal is to present a six year educational plan that will increase the number of psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners that remain in practice in New Mexico at least for three years.

MENTAL ILLNESS IN NEW MEXICO

- Mental illness is common in New Mexico. NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness (2010) estimates that approximately 2 million New Mexico residents live with a serious mental health condition which is approximately 1 in 4 adults.

MENTAL ILLNESS IN NEW MEXICO

- Centennial Care = approximately 170,000 New Mexico citizens will be newly insured and able to seek primary and acute care services.
- However, the federal government has designated 32 of the 33 counties in New Mexico as health professional shortage areas (HPSA)
- Only 12% of health clinics in New Mexico offer mental or behavioral health services (Health Data Report, 2012)

NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAMS AT NMSU

- The School of Nursing (SON) at New Mexico State University (NMSU) has the only DNP program in the state and surrounding geographical areas that offers a psychiatric nurse practitioner (PMHNP) program.
- The SON also offers the DNP in family nurse practitioner (FNP).
- Adult/Gero Nurse Practitioner program
- All of these programs educate primary care providers in the state.

NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAMS AT NMSU

- Currently, there are approximately 62 nurse practitioner students enrolled in our specialty tracks.
- To date 166 nurse practitioner students have been admitted to the psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner program and 115 have graduated.

NMSU EDUCATION PLAN

- **Train psychiatric nurse practitioner students and other certified nurse practitioner students to deliver services to rural and underserved areas using a variety of telehealth and mobile health devices and modalities.**
- **Provide a certificate program for family nurse practitioner for nurses certified as psychiatric nurse practitioner or other certified nurse practitioners.**
- **Provide a certificate program in psychiatric nurse practitioner for nurses certified as family nurse practitioners or other certified nurse practitioners.**
- **Provide stipends and tuition for students who enroll in the family psychiatric nurse practitioner program. These students will be asked to sign a contract promising to practice in New Mexico for at least 3 years.**

TELEHEALTH AND MOBILE HEALTH

Provide nurse practitioners with telehealth skills by integrating telehealth training across all the nurse practitioner specialty tracks at the NMSU School of Nursing.

- Each graduate is ready to use a variety of telehealth methods to provide health care services to rural and underserved areas.

STIPENDS AND TUITION

To encourage completion of the BSN-DNP and Certificate programs

- students will be offered a stipend and tuition of \$13,500 at the third year and if they contract to practice in New Mexico for 3 years.
- A similar stipend and tuition arrangement is offered to those nurse practitioners who are admitted into the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner graduate certificate program.
- This program will use the existing model “Minority Doctoral Loan for Service Program.”

FACULTY NEEDS

- In order to increase admissions in the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program, we will need to increase the number of faculty tenure-tenure track lines. Whereas we generally admit 5-8 students in the BSN-DNP program we will increase to a target of 12 yearly.

JUSTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL FACULTY

- The accrediting body limits faculty student groups to a ratio of 1 faculty for each six students. And each faculty is required to teach a workload of 9 credits which results in 2 clinical groups per faculty member.
- 12 students per faculty x (7) = 84 students. We propose to admit 144 students over 6 years. If we count the current students and current faculty we can support 132 (84 + 48) additional students over 6 years. We would expect some attrition over the 6 years. Therefore 132 is a reasonable number.

GOALS	INTERVENTIONS	EVALUATION
<p>1. Increase number of psychiatric/mental health NP's</p>	<p>Admit & retain 12 students to PMHNP certificate program each year</p> <p>Admit and retain 12 students into BSN-DNP PMHNP program each year</p>	<p>12 students successfully complete certificate program each year</p> <p>Graduate 12 BSN-DNP PMHNP program each year</p> <p>90% of PMHNP graduates will pass certification exams.</p>
<p>1. Increase number of PMHNP's in New Mexico</p>	<p>Provide stipends to 12 PMHNP students enrolled in certificate program each year</p> <p>Provide stipends to 12 BSN-DNP PMHNP students</p> <p>Each stipend student must agree and sign a contract to practice in New Mexico for 3 years</p>	<p>Survey graduates at 1, 2 and 3 years post graduation and 80% continue to practice in New Mexico.</p>
<p>1. All students will use telehealth in all clinical courses</p>	<p>Offer mandatory intensive summer workshop on telehealth technologies to all NP students including certificate students</p> <p>Provide every NP student with an IPAD and a wireless stethoscope</p> <p>Provide faculty development to support increased telehealth education</p>	<p>At least 95% of students will participate in intensive initial training in use of telehealth technology</p> <p>Survey alumni to determine their use of telehealth in their practice at year 1 and 2.</p> <p>2 faculty attend training conference to learn and integrate knowledge and skills into their courses.</p>

TIMELINE

YEAR	ADMIT	GRADUATE
1	24	12
2	24	12
3	24	24
4	24	24
5	24	24
6	24	24
TOTAL	144	120

Year 7 and 8 will have 24 graduates which will increase the total family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners to 144. These numbers assume 100% graduation rates.

CHALLENGES

- Identifying 24 qualified students each year.
- Identifying sufficient clinical sites to support expanded admissions.
- Identifying 7 appropriate credentialed faculty.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Create, maintain, and operate a nurse managed clinic at NMSU (not approved yet by administration @ NMSU)

- Provide additional clinical support for PMHNP students
- Improve sustainability of increased enrollments

