

Re-Imagining Our Curriculum: Graduate-Prepared Nurses Leading Interprofessional Efforts for Health Equity

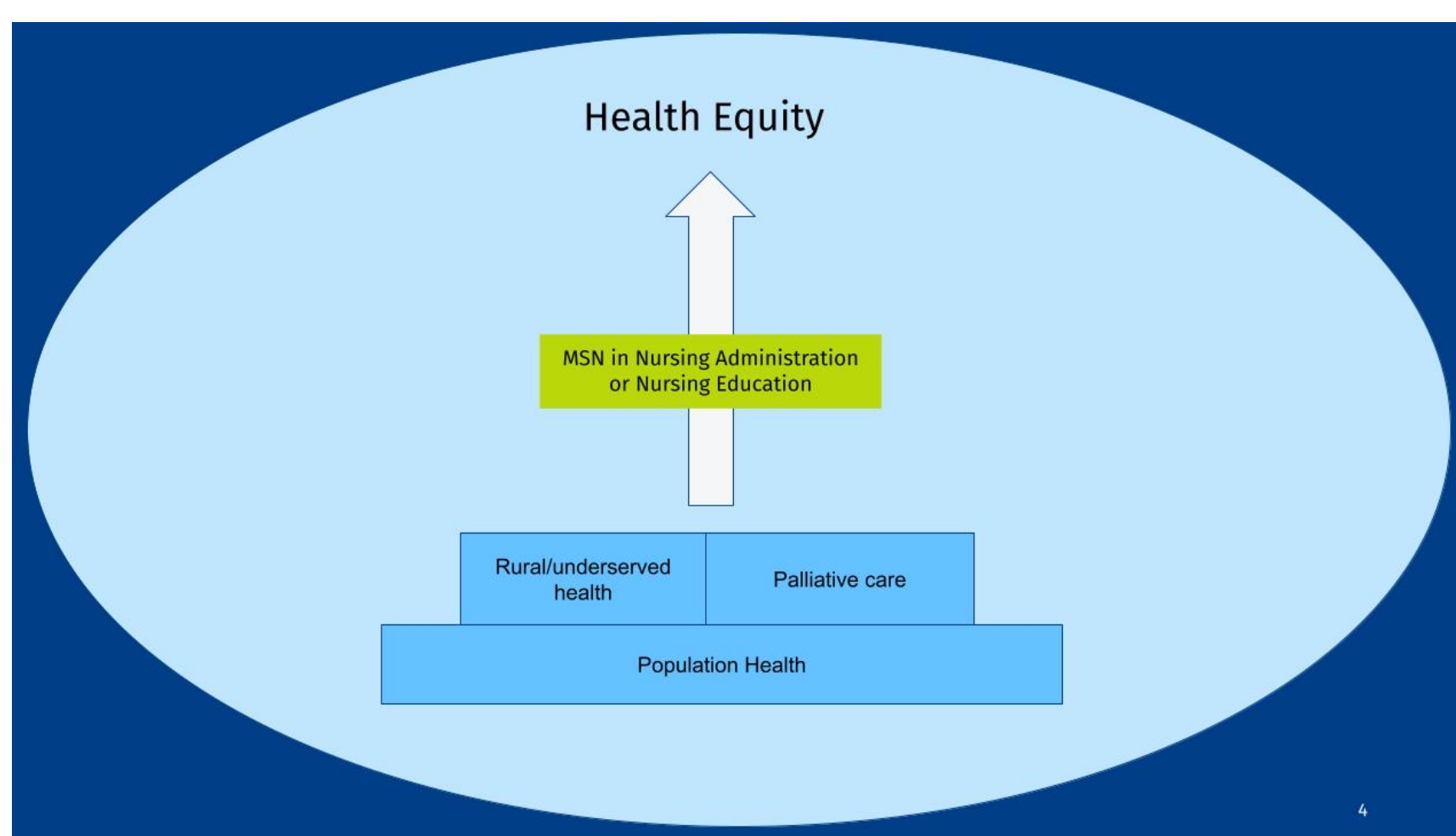
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Background

- As nurse educators navigate this strange "post-pandemic" phase, we must reimagine how to teach the social determinants of health to center those most impacted and to improve our inequitable health systems.
- Building on our accredited RN-to-BSN program, we are launching an innovative concept-based MSN program using an adapted model that has the potential to impact academic nursing for health equity advocacy.

Purpose

- To describe our innovative process in developing our population health foundation to prepare Nurse Leaders and Educators to shift from curative to palliative care and to center rural and underserved communities.



- In partnership with trusted community leaders and experts, we integrated personal and theoretical lessons to create our unique, place-based curriculum model. Our process has pushed us to reimagine beyond the AACN Essentials (2021).

Methods

After conducting a literature review, focus groups, and surveys, the planning team developed a **"Six A's" program model** (figure 1) based on the *Social Determinants of Health: Nursing, Health Professions and Interprofessional Education at a Crossroads* (Barton et al., 2020) and the social-ecological model (Bronfenbrenner, 2005) to infuse community-centered interprofessional systems practice. We operationalized the Six A's by cross-walking them with the core competencies for public health professionals (Council on Linkages, 2021) and mapping them with the AACN Essentials (2021).

Results

- Our approach pushed us to articulate specific population health knowledge, skills, and attitudes for graduate-level nurse educators and leaders by identifying varying ecological levels of targeted change (e.g., cross-sector partnerships at the neighborhood, organizational, and policy levels).
- We are reimaging graduate nursing education that is place-based, community-centered, and interprofessional.

Six A's Program Model

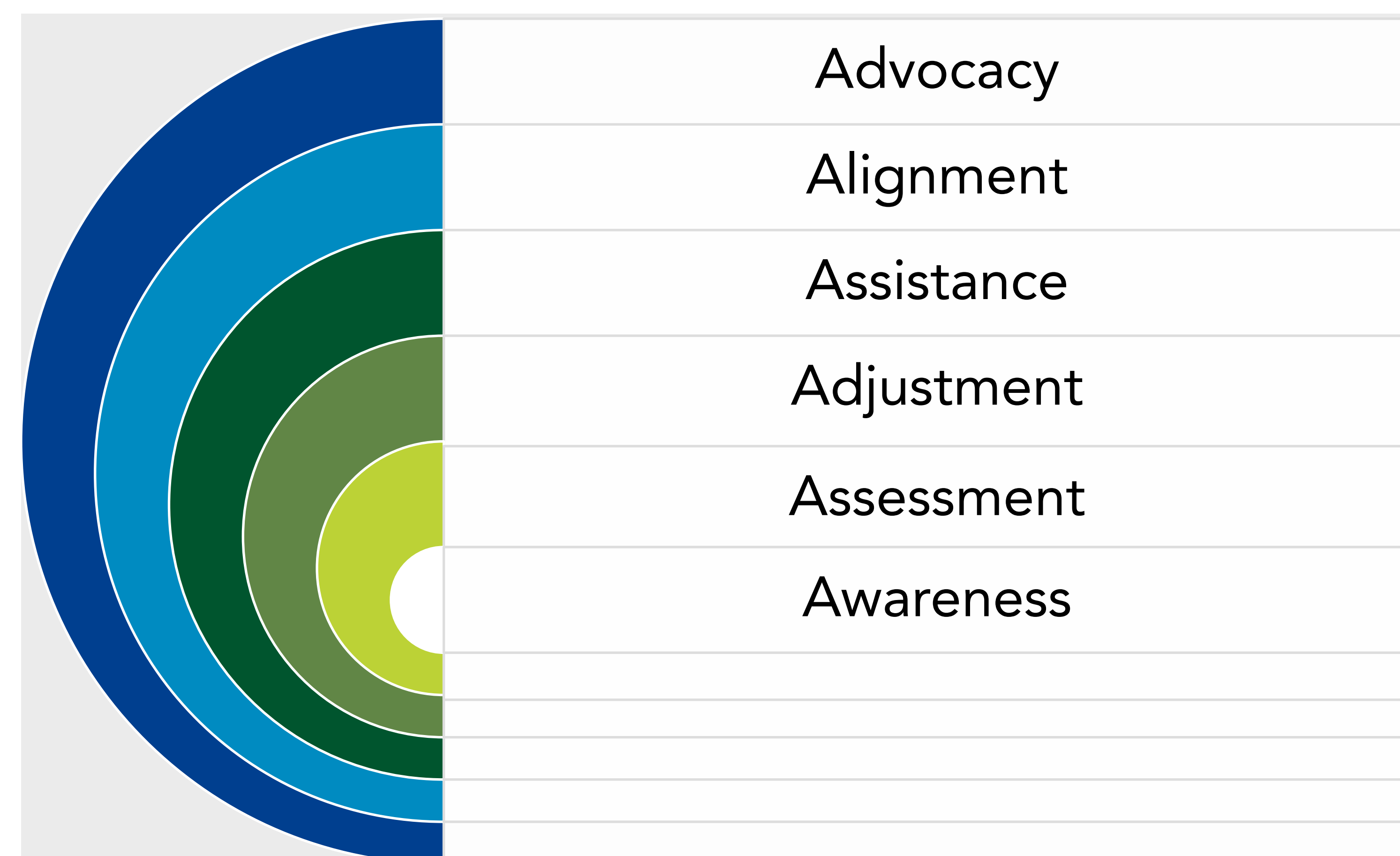


Figure 1. Western Washington University's Six A's Program Model for Graduate Nursing Education

Practice Implications

- We are in the early implementation phase of program development. Evaluation of our processes and outcomes are forthcoming.
- Our Six A's Model:
 - Pushed us to articulate specific ecological levels to guide our curriculum development to prepare students to lead change.
 - Ensured consistent integration of systems thinking throughout our crosswalk with the AACN Essentials.
 - Provided a heuristic tool for reimaging nursing education and designing our program in a way that centers communities.

References

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