

Recruiting and Retaining Nursing Students in Rural Communities

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Background

- Rural communities experience nursing shortages, stemming from limited nursing education opportunities, geographical isolation, and burnous can contribute to difficulties in both recruiting and retaining nurses in rural areas. At the same time, nursing students from rural home and educational backgrounds are more likely to remain and practice in underserved communities after graduation, highlighting the importance of supporting these students throughout their education.

Purpose

- The purpose of this poster is to examine how mentorship programs, scholarships, and fellowships support the recruitment and retention of nursing students in rural communities

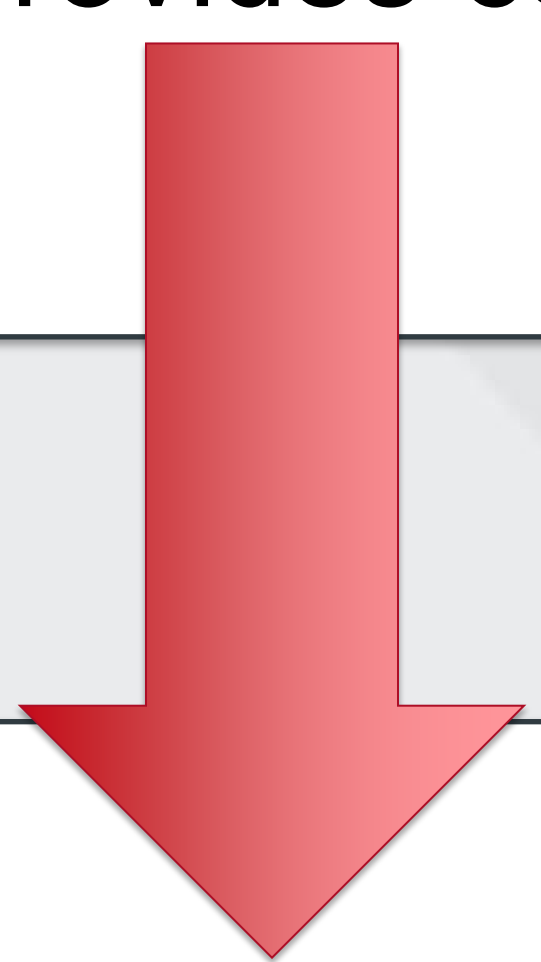
Recruitment	Retention
Cost of education	Financial Burden
Rural isolation	Lack of mentorship
Limited outreach	Clinical stress

Methods

- Mentorships
- Rrual Scholarship Opportunities
- Rural Fellowship Opportunities

Implementation Plan

- Mentorships serve as a beneficial support system in helping students improve academic success, increase confidence, and help students transition into practice when time comes.
- Scholarships help reduce financial burdens. Especially with rural specific scholarships encouraging students to apply and attend to underserved areas.
- Fellowships provide advanced training in rural communities and provides commitments to the rural areas.



Anticipated Outcomes

Mentorships

Increased Retention
Reduced Student Stress
Greater likelihood of rural employment

Scholarships

Increase recruitment incentives
Reduced student debts

Fellowships

Enhanced clinical competence
Stronger Rural workforce pipeline
Increased long-term rural employment

Conclusion

- Mentorship, scholarships, and fellowships are effective strategies for recruiting and retaining nursing students in rural communities. These approaches improve academic success, reduce barriers to education, and strengthen the rural healthcare workforce.



References

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Biography

Jenny Knobbe serves as the Rural Recruiter for UNMC- College of Nursing, supporting the Norfolk, Kearney, and Scottsbluff campuses. In this role, she is dedicated to strengthening connections with rural communities to promote nursing education and career pathways. She collaborates with prospective students, educational institutions, and community partners to raise awareness of healthcare opportunities in rural areas and to support students throughout their academic journey.

Contact Information



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