

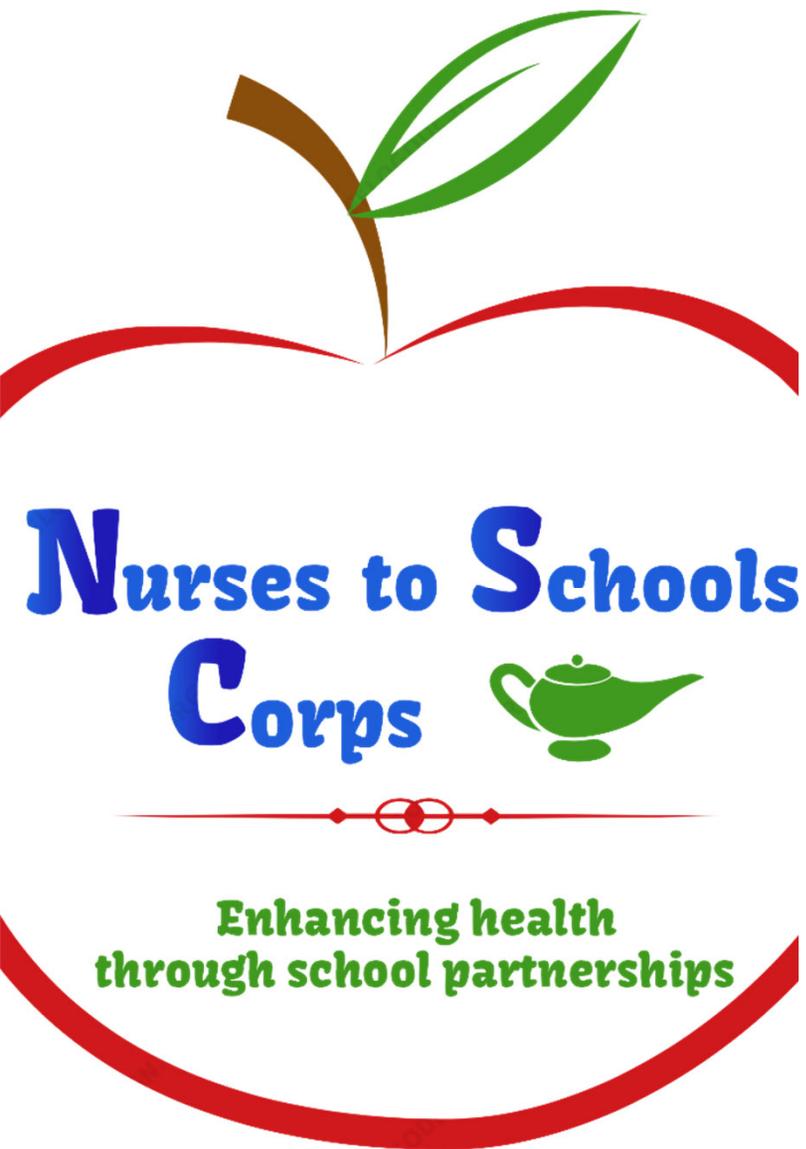
**Nurses to Schools Corps:
An Innovative Pilot Community Partnership for
Community Health Clinical Placements in an
RN to BSN Program**

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Background

- Traditional community health clinicals involve placements in the public sector and/or school nurse setting.
- Societal changes have highlighted the need need to build resiliency skills in youth impacted by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES.)
- In addition, a growing competitive marketplace in terms of access to clinical sites created a need for innovative solutions.
- These factors lead to the goal of enhanced opportunities for community health clinical placements beyond the traditional parameters.





Objectives

1. Establish innovative collaborative community health clinical placements for RN to BSN students.
2. Measure student absenteeism over a 5-year pilot period to determine impact of Nurses to School Corps in the selected middle schools.
3. Measure student suspension rates over a 5-year pilot period to determine impact of Nurses to School Corps in the selected middle schools.

Nurses to Schools Corps.

Samuel Merritt University is collaborating with Encina Preparatory High and Martin Luther King Jr Technology Academy.

The RN to BSN Nursing Program students are placed in low –academic performing schools with economically disadvantaged student populations known to be highly impacted by adverse childhood experiences (ACES).

The RN to BSN program provides the clinical placement to fulfill the 90 hours of community health clinical internship required to apply for a Public Health Nurse (PHN) certificate by the State of California Board of Registered Nursing.

The RN to BSN Community Health program partners with middle schools in ways that promote innovative roles for community nurses.



Methods

- The RN to BSN students perform the following tasks as part of their clinical rotations at specially selected and contracted ACES impacted schools:
 - Running the school health club
 - Building a school Wellness Room based on the Caritas™ Processes of Jean Watson.
 - Conducting mind, body, spirit (MBS) workshops and activities for middle school students and staff.
 - Planning, designing, and implementing lunch and after school wellness-promoting activities based on community needs assessment data.



Goal

Long-term impact of the collaboration will hopefully lead to less student absenteeism over a 5-year period, increased presentism, reduction in the numbers of students expelled due to behavioral problems, and fostering more compassionate school environments.

References

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