

Academic-Practice Collaborative Opportunities Perspectives of Emerging Nurse Leaders in Maryland

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Background

- The Nurse Leadership Institute (NLI) has recruited over 200 nurse faculty and clinicians and prepared them to assume leadership positions, facilitate collaborative partnerships between academia and practice, and improve health outcomes for Maryland's citizens.
- The yearlong, NLI program has layered and synergistic components that facilitate and strengthen the collaboration among emerging nurse leaders from academia and practice.
- One of the major outcomes of the program is the development of a collaborative activity that builds on the networking of nurses in academia and practice.
- Over the past five years, the NLI program at University of Maryland has been successful in developing collaborative projects that highlight key challenges and opportunities from the lens of emerging nurse leaders.

Objectives

- In 2023, the NLI team completed a retrospective review of the collaborative projects that were designed over the prior five years to assess common themes and seek opportunities for translation of knowledge gained

NLI Program Description



Academic Practice Collaborative Projects

- Teams of participants from academia and practice work over a 6-month period to identify a current challenge in nursing, assess its impact on practice and academia, seek solutions, and make recommendations.
- Poster presentations are co-designed with nurse leaders from academia and practice and delivered at the NLI closing ceremony.
- The NLI team facilitates the collaborative, team-based leadership experience, including assisting fellow with identifying groups and project ideas.
- The emerging nurse leaders have a robust understanding of the current issues within the state's health systems and academic institutions and select a critical improvement opportunity.
- The collaborative work addresses a specific professional/health care topic or issue that can be examined in the context of their network and organizations.



Results

Over the past 5 years, fellows completed thirty-one (31) academic-practice collaborative projects. The projects have focused on nursing education, practice, research, and/or policy. **Our retrospective review of the collaborative projects revealed the following themes:**

Transition of New Graduates and Students into Clinical Practice

Nurse Leadership, Coaching and Teambuilding

Policy and Advocacy

Health Outcomes in Marginalized Populations

Work Environment and Patient Safety

Personal and Professional Resilience

Conclusion

The NLI program leaders have been successful in developing academic- practice collaborative projects that highlight key challenges and opportunities facing emerging nurse leaders in Maryland.

This information can be leveraged by nurse leaders, hospital administrators and key stakeholders to identify and address key challenges and opportunities for improvement in academic and clinical sites.