Healthy Children Learn Better: Public Health Nurses and School Nurses Fostering A Culture of Health in Maryland

Sharon Hobson, MSN, CPNP-PC – Howard County Health Department
Aimee Carlesi, RN, MSN, NCSN - Howard County Public School System
Pat McLaine, DrPH, MPH, RN – University of Maryland School of Nursing
Carolyn Nganga-Good, DrPH, RN, CPH – Health Resources Services Admin.

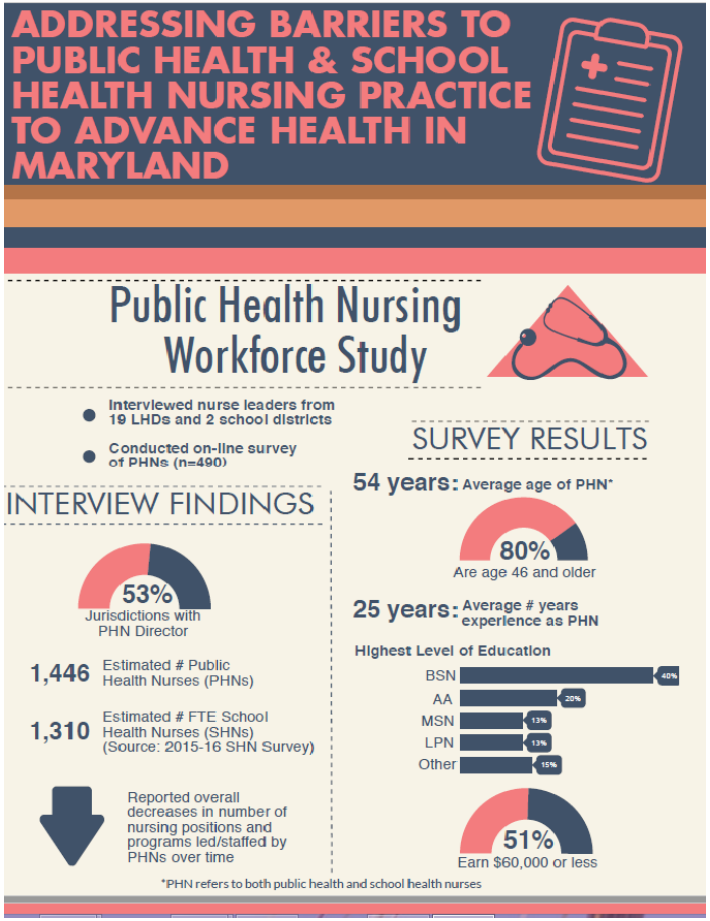
Maryland Public Health and School Health Nurses Workforce Study Updates

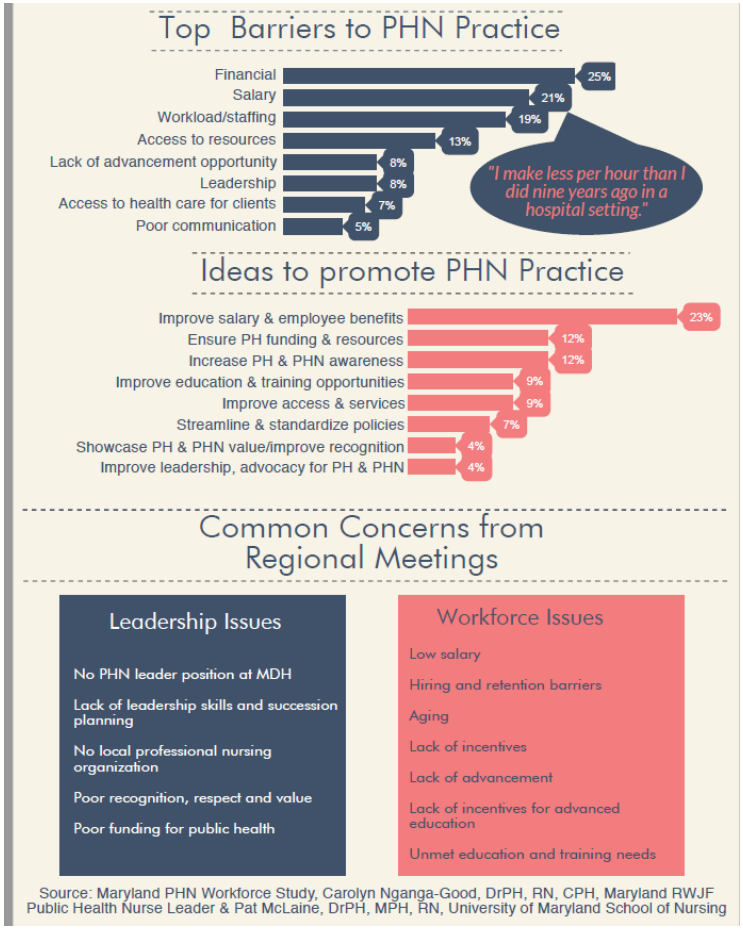
- Qualitative data analysis
- Manuscript development
- Dissemination
  - Association of Public Health Nurses
  - Maryland Action Coalition Summit
  - Maryland Nurses Association
- Nurse engagement and collaboration efforts

National Academy of Medicine, Future of Nursing 2030 Listening Tour, November 30, 2018

RWJF Publication: In Their Own Words: Nurses Insights On Unmet Needs of Individuals
https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/collections/nurses-nursing-and-population-health.html

Maryland Health Officer's Meeting, December 12, 2018





Maryland Public Health Nurse Directors Council
One-pager proposal for a State Director of Nursing Position

Created by Amy Bergmann, courtesy of Cindy Bosley & Tierney Youngling, Carroll County Health Department

Background: School Nurses

- Serve as intermediaries/connectors in fostering a culture of health
- Provide prevention and screening services and chronic care management
- Act as the entry point into the healthcare system
- Connect students, teachers and parents to deliver health, social, and educational services
- Improve health and education outcomes and reduce costs
- Opportunities
  - Recent CBS media coverage - tragedy in Philadelphia shows how the national shortage of school nurses may be putting children's lives at risk
  - Policy recommendation by the National Association of School Nurses and American Academy of Pediatrics to have at least one registered nurse in every school
  - New federal legislation proposed – Nurses for Under-Resourced Schools Everywhere Act (NURSE Act May, 2019)

www.brookings.edu/research/nurses-as-intermediaries-in-the-promotion-of-community-health/

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND YOU

SCHOOL-BASED WELLNESS CENTERS PROGRAM

Sharon Hobson, MSN, CPNP-PC
Howard County Health Department
Aimee Carlesi, RN, BSN, NCSN
Howard County Public School System

HOWARD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Promote. Preserve. Protect.

hchealth.org

SCHOOL-BASED TELEMEDICINE PROGRAM VIDEO

TELEMEDICINE IN THE SCHOOL SETTING

Keeps students in school and ready to learn!!

BENEFITS OF SCHOOL-BASED TELEMEDICINE

- Saves valuable health care dollars
- Removes barriers to health care including lack of insurance and transportation
- Enhances quality of health care

SCHOOL-BASED WELLNESS CENTERS PROGRAM

Schools Providing Services Via Telemedicine in Howard County:

- Deep Run Elementary School
- Ducketts Lane Elementary School
- Hanover Hills Elementary School
- Phelps Luck Elementary School
- Running Brook Elementary School
- Talbott Springs Elementary School

SCHOOL-BASED WELLNESS CENTER PROGRAM

Enrollment and Visit Data

Number of Current Program Enrollees	Total Number of Visits	Adjusted Returned to Class
2292 (as of 5/4/19) 57% of schools' combined populations	**850 (1/9/15-5/02/19)**	**98% (SY18-19) Estimated Prior Return To Class Rate Before Telemedicine-75%**

SCHOOL-BASED WELLNESS CENTERS PROGRAM

Health Insurance and Primary Care Physician Status of Enrollees SY18-19 as of 5.4.19

Medical Assistance	Private Insurer (Includes Employer-Sponsored and ACA Purchased)	No Insurance/ Unknown Insurance	% Enrollees Without Reported Primary Care Provider
43%	32%	10% /16%	10%

Health Insurance Status of Users SY18-19

Medical Assistance	Private Insurer (Includes Employer-Sponsored and ACA Purchased)	No Reported Insurance	No Primary Care Provider Reported
29%	**30%**	**40%**	**18%**

SCHOOL-BASED TELEMEDICINE PROGRAM BENEFITS

(BASED ON AN EVALUATION BY GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY OF SY 15-16 & SY 16-17)

- 6.5% (.53 days per year) reduction in days absent in the 6 schools
- Net annual benefit of $81, 754 (95% CI: -$118, 126; $267,009). With lowered licensing fee for SY 18-19, the estimated annual net benefits has increased to $108,607 (95% CI: -$91, 273; $293, 862)

IT SOFTWARE AND EQUIPMENT - MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS

- Computer with preferably a i3 or i5 processor (2.0 GHz+ required)
- 3 GB of DDR3 Ram or higher
- HIPAA compliant HD video platform
- Operating system compatible with software for cameras and stethoscopes
- Secure and reliable Internet connection via Ethernet with a bandwidth minimum of 15 Mbps download speed and 5 Mbps upload
- If videoconferencing, adapt to changing bandwidths without losing connectivity

IT SOFTWARE AND EQUIPMENT - MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS, Cont'd

- High definition, integrated, movable web camera (1.2 MP or better)
- Attachments or instruments to examine and transmit images of body parts
- Auscultation platform for remote stethoscope
- Web-based, EMR software that is HIPAA compliant for documentation, e-prescribe, and laboratory test ordering that meets federal requirements for security

IT SOFTWARE AND EQUIPMENT - MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS, Cont'd

- Headset with microphone (noise & echo cancellation is recommended)
- Monitor large enough in size to allow viewing screens for provider, school nurse, and parent or guardian
- Technical support and maintenance

Questions?

Contacts:

- shobson@howardcountymd.gov
- aimee_carlesi@hcpss.org
- mclaine@umaryland.edu
- cnganga@yahoo.com