



MARYLAND ACTION COALITION

Creating a Healthier Maryland

FUTURE OF NURSING™ CAMPAIGN FOR ACTION

Innovate, Integrate, and Implement - Response to the Clinical Challenge

Jana Goodwin, PhD, RN, CNE; Maeve Howett, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC, CNE; Sherrie Lessans, PhD, RN; Mary Pat Ulicny, MS, MHA, RN, CNE, CHSE; Amy Daniels, PhD, RN, CHSE

Abstract

One of the persistent challenges in pre-licensure nursing programs has been finding resources that can support and sustain traditional clinical experiential learning in nursing programs. This challenge became the primary issue when the COVID-19 pandemic came to the United States. Nursing schools across the country were met with the unprecedented need to shift from traditional clinical learning to virtual simulated clinical experiences. As we were able to resume in-person clinical, clinical partner restrictions remained with decreased numbers of students accepted on a unit or loss of a site altogether. The University of Maryland School of Nursing was faced with having to quickly innovate, integrate, and implement a clinical curriculum that would support student learning outcomes under the new socio-environmental constraints. This innovation led to increased virtual simulation, participation in vaccine clinics, and a different model of practicum.

This poster outlines the process of change. Implementation challenges were faculty and student buy-in, faculty development for virtual clinical, resource reallocation, and rapid process improvement. Student and faculty evaluations will be reviewed for further curricular improvements and sustainability.