

ELMHURST COLLEGE

Deicke Center for Nursing Education

**Restoring the Pipeline: A Summer Nursing Academy for
High School Students**

**A Departmental Initiative Proposal
Presented to
The Faculty Development Committee**

March 10, 2003

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DEPARTMENTAL INITIATIVE PROPOSAL
ACADEMIC YEAR 2003-2004

March 10, 2003

Restoring the Pipeline: A Summer Nursing Academy for High School Students

Purpose: To establish a Summer Nursing Academy for high school students from the Elmhurst community and surrounding areas in order to enhance the recruitment and retention of a diverse nursing workforce for this community.

Background and Need

Healthcare agencies across the United States are feeling the effects of an acute shortage of professional nurses. Many facilities have closed beds and clinical units due to a lack of nurses. A recent American Hospital Association study of 715 hospitals found that 25 percent have diverted patients from the emergency department to other hospitals due to a lack of beds; 28 percent have reduced bed capacity; and 15 percent have cancelled surgery. This problem is better described as a crisis.

Healthcare agencies surrounding the Elmhurst community are not immune to these trends. A surge in the aging and chronically ill populations is taxing the abilities of the existing workforce to meet these needs. Of special concern is the aging of the nursing workforce. The average age of employed professional nurses is 45. Nurses, as a group, are aging at a rate twice that for other professions. It is imperative that nursing attracts a younger, more diverse population of candidates to assure that future nursing positions will be filled. A potential pool of eligible candidates has been identified by the Deicke Center for Nursing Education and Elmhurst Memorial Hospital. This pool consists of all high school students in the primary hospital service area. These high schools are listed in appendix A.

Project Description

A group of 12 to 15 high school students from the hospital service area will be recruited to participate in the Summer Nursing Academy. These students will be exposed to the challenges and triumphs faced daily by today's nurses. Including clinical experiences and classroom sessions, the Academy will be offered in

partnership with Elmhurst Memorial Hospital. Faculty and students from the Deicke Center for Nursing education as well as members of the nursing staff at the hospital will provide a preview of what nursing school is all about. Topics and activities are listed below and a complete Academy schedule is included in Appendix B.

Academy topics and activities will include:

1. Basic patient assessment techniques for monitoring blood pressure, temperature, and pulse
2. OSHA regulations for hand washing, infection control, blood-borne pathogens, and fire safety
3. CPR instruction and certification
4. Introduction to medical terminology
5. A “mock” anatomy and physiology laboratory experience
6. At least three clinical shadowing experiences at the hospital
7. Instruction in PowerPoint techniques to record Academy experiences
8. A graduation ceremony for parents and friends

Timeline

The first summer Academy for Nursing will take place during the summer of 2003. The week of June 9th to June 13th has been selected. The academy will be offered each summer thereafter based on availability of funding and sufficient interest by local students.

Partners

Elmhurst Memorial Hospital has offered to make hospital facilities available for student clinical and observational experiences. Joint planning will occur during the months of March, April, and May. Members of the Elmhurst College Student Nurse Association will participate also as student mentors and hosts. The Deicke Center for Nursing Education has enjoyed a long partnership with the hospital. We currently utilize both the hospital and the Elmhurst Memorial Center for Health for student clinical experiences and internships. During

spring term 2003 we have utilized additional placements at York Community High School through the school nurse program under contract to Elmhurst Memorial Home Health. This project will be another example of the two institutions working together for the benefit of the community.

Budget

Funds are sought to cover meals for students, transportation, teaching materials and supplies, CPR instruction by the Addison Fire Department, and stipends for faculty who participate. Please see the attached budget proposal in Appendix C.

Staff

All members of the Deicke Center will participate in the planning and recruitment activities for the Academy. Three faculty members, to be named, will conduct the Academy this summer. The nurse recruiter from Elmhurst Memorial Hospital will assist with the clinical arrangements for student clinical experiences at the hospital. Hospital staff members will serve as guest lecturers as well as preceptors during the clinical experiences at the hospital.

Benefits to the College and the Elmhurst Community

Studies show that the majority of nursing students choose to attend a nursing program near their home. Studies further show that nurses are more likely to work at a healthcare agency near their home. An analysis of current enrollment data at Elmhurst College indicates that 62 percent of all nursing majors live within 10 miles of campus. A similar survey at the hospital demonstrated that 71 percent of their registered nurses live within 10 miles of the hospital. This project will build on these data to challenge the young people of this community to pursue nursing as a career choice, preferably at Elmhurst College, and to choose to work in this community after graduation.

Evaluation of Outcomes

Success of the Academy will be based on:

1. Number of students who enroll in and complete the Academy
2. Satisfaction of students with the topics and activities
3. Comments and observations by faculty and staff nurses

4. Enrollment trends over the next 5 years

Specifically: Do more local students enroll and complete the nursing program?

Attachments

- A High Schools in the Elmhurst Memorial Hospital Service Area
- B Curriculum Design
- C Proposed Budget

Appendix A

**Public and Private High Schools in the
Elmhurst Memorial Hospital Service Area**

Primary Service Area

Addison:	Addison Trail Driscol Technology Center of DuPage
Bensenville:	Fenton
Elmhurst:	Immaculate Conception Timothy Christian York Community
Franklin Park:	East Leyden
Glen Ellen:	Glenbard West Glenbard South
Hillside:	Hillside Academy Proviso West
Lombard:	College Prep of America Glenbard East Montini
Melrose Park:	Walther Lutheran
Oak Brook:	IBYC/ATIA
Northlake:	Parkview Baptist Academy West Leyden
Villa Park:	Islamic Foundation Willowbrook

Secondary Service Area

Bartlett:	Bartlett
Carol Stream	Glenbard North
Hinsdale	Genesis School Hinsdale Central
Maywood:	Proviso East
Streamwood:	Streamwood
Westchester:	Immaculate Heart of Mary St. Joseph
Wheaton:	St. Francis Prep Wheaton North Wheaton Warrenville

Appendix B

**Proposed Curriculum Design
Summer Nursing Academy**

	Monday 6/9	Tuesday 6/10	Wednesday 6/11	Thursday 6/12	Friday 6/13
9AM	Introduction to Careers In Nursing	Clinical	Clinical	Clinical	RN Guest Speakers Debriefing
	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1PM	TPR BP Practice	OSHA Precautions and Medical Terminology	CPR Instruction and Certification	Prepare Power Point Programs For Friday	Graduation Ceremony

Appendix C

Preliminary Budget

Teaching Materials	205
Transportation to Hospital \$60 x 3 days	120
Meals/Refreshments \$40 x 15 students	600
CPR Instructor \$25 x 15 students	375
Stipends for Faculty \$400 x 3	<u>1,200</u>
Total	\$2,500