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**Purposes/Aims:** The Imperial Valley Consortium for Nursing Workforce Development (IVC-NWD) project provides the opportunity for 70 primarily Hispanic Associate Degree (AD) nurses to quickly complete a baccalaureate degree in nursing, creating a larger pool of diverse baccalaureate prepared nurses to serve the largely Hispanic population in Imperial County. Imperial County is a rural, desert region situated on the Mexican border. The project innovates through course change and coaching. First, course change will prepare nurses to provide care in a rural context with increased awareness of cultural, ethnic, social, economic and political variables that influence health outcomes as an integral and sustainable part of their nursing education. The social determinants of health model will guide the community/public health nursing and leadership courses to engage students in the specific projects that require working within and bridging existing community partnerships. Second, local BS and MS prepared RNs will coach students as they progress through the program. Integrating coaching with community engagement allows faculty and staff to introduce social determinants of health as an overarching context for community action at this critical phase in professional formation. This addresses Institute of medicine and the California Collaborative Model for nursing Education guidelines.

**Rationale/Background:** 81% of the Imperial County population is of Hispanic descent and bilingual. Higher education is not highly valued or easily attained. Only 26% of the current population has any college education, with 6% achieving an associate degree and 7% achieving a baccalaureate degree. Historically, nursing students have had access to a community college for an associate degree in nursing, representing the largest percentage of RN graduates in the county. Adding 70 additional baccalaureate RNs will increase the supply of baccalaureate prepared RNs in Imperial County by approximately 8%.

**Methods:** The project will: 1) assemble a team to provide coaching of these students for academic and professional formation; 2) convene a consortium of employers, educators, and community organizations to describe and discuss health-related issues in Imperial County; 3) provide tuition support, stipends, and coaching for 30 RN-BS nursing students so they can complete the degree requirements in one calendar year; 4) provide stipends for an additional five students with the highest GPAs; 5) provide incentives for 15 additional students each year to attend coaching sessions; and 6) change the curriculum to include social determinants of health.

**Outcomes Achieved:** Work presented will be in progress. The project began 7/1/13 and ends 6/30/16. The evaluation will focus on the following: 1) consortium development and participation, 2) coaching, 3) graduation and retention rates, and 4) social determinants of health model integration in program and community activities.

**Conclusions:** The IVC-NWD model builds a pipeline of professional nurses ready to lead changes in a rural, border, desert region. The project provides opportunities for future exploration of graduate nursing opportunities. The IVC-NWD is not only a role model for other rural regions, but is being looked at as a model for California that emphasizes a collaborative, streamlined approach between a state university and community college partner.

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