Outcomes of an Immersion Experience in the Dominican Republic

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Project Goals

- Provide health care and education to underserved/unserved populations (migrant workers in the bateyes)
- Develop and/or enhance cultural competence of students Miami Dade College in partnership with the Haitian American Professionals Coalition (HAPC), Universidad Central del Este (UCE) and Escuela Básica Alemán
- HAPC consists of 12 Core Member Associations
Educational Benefits to Students

- Provide health screenings and educational opportunities in a different and unique setting
- Create interdisciplinary teamwork
- Enhance cultural awareness and competence
- Expose students to health care practices as well as service-learning in international settings
- Expose students to World Health Organization, Healthy People 2020 - UN Millennium Global Goals
Medical Mission Preparation
Shipped 102 boxes of medical supplies, clothing, shoes and medications
Over 375 backpacks were collected by both ADN and RN-BSN students.
MDC, HAPC & UCE Medical Team Cared for 1,098 patients
Batey – Sugarcane Plantations
Orientation & Collaboration
Patient Registration Area
MDC Students in Action
Conditions Seen
Pharmacy
Patient Education
Results/Outcomes

AGE GROUP

AGE 0-5 1
AGE 6-11 2
AGE 12-21 3
AGE 22-32 4
AGE 33-43 5
AGE 44-54 6
AGE 55-65 7
AGE 66-76 8
AGE 77-87 9
GENDER

- AGE 0-5
- AGE 6-11
- AGE 12-21
- AGE 22-32
- AGE 33-43
- AGE 44-54
- AGE 55-65
- AGE 66-76
- AGE 77-87

65%
35%
Nursing Implications

• Nursing students are passionate about having direct, hands-on clinical experience and interactions while in a host country.

• Time spent in planning/implementation of this international experience was worth the effort for its impact on future nurses.

• Further work needs to be done to delineate those experiences most beneficial to students.

• Increase number of ARNPs/students providing care
Nursing Implications

- Student satisfaction
- Enhanced Cultural Competence
- More interest in membership wanting to increase their education to obtain higher education for MSN/ARNPs & DNPs
“Never did I fool myself into thinking I had changed their lives, but I realized the last days they had changed mine.”

“Hearts were touched, lives saved, tears shed; lives have been changed forever.”

“Staring into the faces of poverty was the most challenging assignment I’ve ever had to face, the disparities of life are truly a mystery.”
Visit to San Pedro de Macoris Mayor’s office and tour of the city for cultural exploration
Questions


References
