

Improving SC Rural Health Workforce Recruitment & Retention

Provide in-person trainings throughout SC that can directly reach 22 of the state's disease hotspot counties. These trainings include content on best practices related to rural interprofessional health services, improving retention of health professionals in rural areas, and capacity-building strategies to enhance retention efforts and promote resource acquisition within these areas. Secondly, develop interprofessional health practice, workforce retention & capacity building briefs and webinars, and a website on rural health practice for current students, graduates, and community professionals in rural areas. Develop a series of course modules for health profession classes that focus on rural health practice issues and skills. These modules will consist of materials from the SC Office on Rural Health, best practice information about rural health service delivery and interprofessional teamwork, and case studies about interprofessional rural health care. In addition, this project aims to place social work students in rural health field placement internships to receive in-vivo immersion training on rural health.

Project Aims

- Create Course Modules, develop new field placement sites in rural SC, match field students to rural placements
- Launch promote, and preform continuing tracking/maintenance/improvement
- Schedule 4 trainings across SC and create a training curriculum and apply for CEUs for training
- Psychometrically test Rural Perceptions, Attitudes, & Skills Scale (RPASS)

Successes

- We saw a significant increase in training attendance when we were forced to reschedule all in-person trainings as virtual trainings.
- We successfully submitted two papers based on findings from our scale development project and community needs assessment project.
- Successfully placed 27 students in 13 different rural or rural serving field placements across the state during the 2020-2021 academic year

Future Directions

- Disseminating our Rural Perceptions, Attitudes, & Skills Scale (RPASS) to community partners and state-or-nationwide networks in the health and medical field.

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