



MEMORANDUM

To: Robert Wynegar, VP Academic and Student Affairs
From: Judith B. Cordia, Director of Nursing and Allied Health
Re: Potential Opportunity for Nursing Program Expansion
Date: January 30, 2016

Statement of the Problems:

1. First and second year nursing students from the Fallon area travel two to three times each week for classes taught on the Carson City campus. Round trip travel is approximately 140 miles.
2. Western Nevada has use of the current nursing laboratory located one mile from the Fallon campus. The laboratory has some state of the art equipment necessary for the education of nursing, CNA and EMS students. This semester the nursing laboratory is not used due to an unanticipated resignation in December 2015 of the CNA instructor and lack of enrollment in EMS 108. A major concern is that Churchill County will take back the laboratory space due to lack of occupancy by WNC.
3. Highland Manor Long Term Health Care Facility, which formerly provided clinical space for nursing and CNA students, has lost the privilege of serving as a training facility for CNA education. Hence, the only training facility for CNA students is Banner Churchill Hospital, which frequently has a low census of adult medical/surgical patients.

Goals:

1. Establish communication with the Nevada Health Department to discuss possibility of allowing Western Nevada College to use the Highland Manor clinical site for the education of CNA and WNC nursing students. This would serve to educate CNA students for employment at Highland Manor Skilled Nursing Facility, which now employs traveling CNAs due to lack of qualified local CNAs. Additionally, this could increase employment of professional nursing staff and certified nursing assistants who might seek employment at Highland Manor or Banner Churchill Hospital.
2. Seek commitment from Highland Manor to improve the clinical site environment for its residents to meet the expectations of the Nevada Health Department.
3. Seek funding from Banner Churchill Hospital, Highland Manor Long Term Care Facility, and Churchill County for employment of a PT or FT nursing faculty member to provide a pathway for education of individuals seeking employment as CNAs, EMS personnel and professional nursing.

4. The nursing faculty member would coordinate and participate in the division courses offered on the **Fallon campus**. The duties might include:
 - Provide education and practice opportunities through the use of simulation.
 - Coordinate the use of the nursing laboratory.
 - Teach laboratory courses for 1st and 2nd year students.
 - Teach NURS 141 (clinical course) taught during the 1st semester of the nursing program.
 - Coordinate or teach NURS 130 each semester.
 - Communicate with health care facilities who provide clinical experiences for students.
 - Serve as a representative of the college with such entities as the Fallon Naval Air Station and Fallon and Oasis high schools.

5. Seek funding from the Pennington Foundation for equipment and supplies necessary to educate:
 - Nursing students
 - CNA students
 - EMS students

Benefits of expansion of Nursing & Allied Health courses on the Fallon Campus

1. Increase the presence of the Nursing & Allied Health Division on the Fallon Campus.
2. Potentially increase enrollment in the Liberal Arts Division
3. Provide educational experiences on the Fallon campus for nursing students that might negate 250 to 300 miles of travel each week.
4. Increase enrollment on the Fallon campus.

I look forward to hearing from you about the ideas presented.