

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAMS *transforming lives*

**DNP Providers that are Changing the Face of Healthcare**

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**Background**

- Healthcare Reform, signed into law in March of 2010
- Access for the 40 million uninsured Americans
- The 2011 IOM Report, "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health"



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**DNP and Healthcare**

- DNP students must be prepared to be:
  - leaders
  - team builders
  - Evaluators
  - practice innovators
- Role of DNP programs is to provide students with:
  - knowledge,
  - Skills
  - comfort needed to advocate for healthcare



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### Mission of ODU DNP Program

- To produce DNP providers that address national policy initiatives as advocates and innovators in healthcare
- Focus experiential learning in the practice setting



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### Targeted Competencies

- Developing, implementing, and evaluating practice-based programs that impact healthcare outcomes through interdisciplinary teamwork
- Developing a business plan to address the needs of a population
- Providing leadership in the integration of healthcare technology
- Becoming actively involved in policy issues



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### PURPOSE

- Showcase three DNP students that significantly impacted the face of healthcare in their regions
- Three Students
  - DNP prepared Midwife
  - DNP prepared FNP/Business Owner
  - DNP prepared FNP/Telehealth Expert



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### DNP prepared Midwife

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- Background:
  - Rural Southwest Virginia had no Nurse Midwives
  - There was a shortage of OB providers for pregnant women
  - There was resistance to midwifery practice



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### Strategies for Midwifery Change

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- DNP/Midwifery student:
  - Collaborative relationship with Obstetrician to oversee her Clinical Experience as part of the DNP program
  - Worked with Obstetrician in developing and implementing Capstone Project
  - Capstone Project – Not midwifery oriented, “Reduction of Urinary Symptoms in Women Age 65 and Older”



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### Strategies for Midwifery Change

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- Her practicum included:
  - Leading an interdisciplinary team of healthcare professionals
  - Working closely with the state Midwifery organizations in developing strategies to overcome the barriers to midwifery service
  - Demonstrating her competency as a healthcare professional



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### Outcomes of DNP School Experience

- The obstetrician developed confidence in student's expertise as a clinician
- He supported her in being accepted as a midwifery provider in region
- Upon graduation, student was able to establish midwifery practice



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### Impact of DNP/Midwife

- The student has since mentored a second DNP student midwife that is also practicing in Southwest Virginia
- They are both actively involved in changing law impacting their practice in Virginia
- They have become well accepted by providers and patients
- Healthcare organization/administration has not been as supportive (i.e., parking)
- Learned to be change agents



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### Impact of DNP/Midwife

- The second student was the first Midwife in the history to be asked to speak at a Regional Perinatal Conference in Virginia
- Presented at National Nurse Midwifery meeting (ACNM)
- Active at National level (ACNM)



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## DNP prepared FNP/Business Owner

- Background:
  - There are a shortage of providers to care for those without insurance in Tidewater Virginia
  - The laws in Virginia still require physician supervision
  - There is some resistance to Nursing Providers expanding their roles



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## Strategies for DNP/FNP Business Ownership

- DNP/FNP student:
  - Through Business of Practice Course, the student:
    - Developed a business plan for establishing a clinic
    - Conducted an external assessment/SWOT analysis
    - Evaluated the laws that impact DNP/FNP practice
  - She was able to establish a need for the clinic as well as understand the barriers she would have to address



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## Plan for Establishing Clinic

- Viewed various practices to determine the type practice she wanted
- Chose to follow a practice strategy used in California based on a "Set Fee Clinic"
- Hired a physician to work for her as "supervising physician"
- Established protocols to meet all regulatory requirements
- Found a location and set up the clinic
- Mortgaged her house



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### Outcome as DNP/Business Owner

- "Set Fee Clinic" was opened four months after completion of DNP program
- Provides care for patients without insurance (indigent, homeless, those working without insurance)
- Fee is set for procedure, appointments and treatments.
- Fees are set at a low level
- Article on Businesses in Tidewater where her title of "Doctor" was challenged



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### DNP prepared FNP/ Telehealth Expert

- Background:
  - There are many rural areas in Appalachia where healthcare is not readily available to the community
  - Many of the elderly in this region suffer from strokes
  - No stroke experts are available to assist this population
  - Students works with stroke center at UVA



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### Strategies for DNP/FNP Telehealth Expert

- DNP/FNP student:
  - Through Clinical Practicum, student developed collaborative relationship with the providers in the UVA stroke telehealth program
  - Current UVA program focuses on providing telehealth services to rural Virginia on care of stroke patients
  - Student's Capstone Project focused on the development and evaluation of an on-line educational program for elderly in rural Appalachia



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**Strategies for DNP/FNP  
Telehealth Expert**

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- DNP/FNP student:
  - Compared stroke education face-to-face to stroke education through telehealth
  - Was able to show that they were equivalent, thus telehealth could be used readily to educate patients by experts from a distance

  
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**Outcome as DNP/Telehealth Expert**

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- Student has become active in American Telemedicine Association (ATA)
  - On Board of Directors
- Published manuscript on Capstone Project
- Surgeon General of Slovenia has approached her regarding a Telehealth Project

  
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**Telehealth Expert**

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- Contacted to provide expertise on establishing telemedicine programs:
  - Stroke prevention clinic in South Boston integrated it into the VAST system,
  - Nursing Telehealth group at UVA
  - Telehealth education project for other disciplines at UVA
  - Leadership projects for neuro-radiology

  
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## Conclusions

- DNPs are becoming:
  - Change agents
  - Patient Advocates
  - Political activist
- They are challenging the status quo
- They are well positioned to be an answer to the healthcare crisis facing our nation



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