

**Project Title: FirstGenRN- Rural Eldercare Advancement Program (FirstGenRN-REAP)**

**Applicant Name:** University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Nursing

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**Funding preference priority:** Substantially Benefits Rural Populations

The **FirstGenRN- Rural Eldercare Advancement Program (FirstGenRN-REAP)** project is an academic clinical partnership between the University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing and Hartnell College, a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) community college in Salinas, California. This project will 1) train first generation to college nursing students (FirstGenRN) to provide high quality elder care to rural populations and 2) build rural eldercare capacity among clinical instructors, practicing RNs, and faculty to mentor and train future registered nurses. Hartnell College serves the Salinas Valley, a fertile rural agricultural region some 10 miles wide and 100 miles long. Hartnell has a highly diverse student body, of which 56 percent are the first generation in their family to attend college with an ethnic makeup that includes 60 percent Hispanic.

**FirstGenRN-REAP** expands and intensifies our focus to strengthen and prepare first generation to college registered nursing students to work with rural elder populations in the county from which they hail. We will focus on assessing and implementing strategies that nurture scholars' social determinants impacting their education, providing academic and peer support and mentoring through the career development FirstGenRN program, and bolster the role of the Salinas Valley Pathway Partnership Program in recruiting potential REAP scholars and linking academic, clinical, and community partnerships whose role is to expand the healthcare workforce capacity in this region. Through the **FirstGenRN-REAP** project we will expand clinical training experiences in rural elder care sites and will develop opportunities to add clinical training experiences in rural primary care settings with a community primary care partner.

The curricula will specifically focus on two areas: Social determinants of health in rural and immigrant populations and the 4M Framework using the Institute for Health Improvement/The John A. Hartford Foundation's Age Friendly Health Systems as a guiding initiative. The curricula will supplement REAP scholars' traditional RN training. This curricula will incorporate didactic content specific to caring for older patients in rural areas with an emphasis on chronic disease prevention and management, population health of underserved elders, and health equity. Through RCQI cycles this content will be fully embedded into the curriculum before the end of the Year 2 grant cycle. REAP scholars will receive scholarships and traineeship funding to support bi-weekly travel for the clinical experiences, a weekly fresh produce box to minimize food security concerns that are common among this population of students, and participate in a culturally-responsive financial literacy education course.

**FirstGenRN-REAP** also focuses on building capacity among the current RN workforce in the rural Salinas Valley by expanding practicing RNs, nursing faculty, and clinical instructor knowledge, skill, and attitudes in rural and eldercare populations. This professional development training will focus on accessing learners through Hartnell and UCSF's robust alumni community and our community clinical partners.

We are requesting statutory funding preference for **substantially benefits rural populations**.