

Project Title: Student and Preceptor Advanced Skills to meet Underserved Primary Care Needs HRSA-16-070 “Adding Practice Partnerships for Learning to Advance Underserved Service Efficiency.” (APPLAUSE) **Application Organization:** University of Texas Medical Branch School of Nursing 301 University Blvd., Galveston, TX 77555-1132 **PI:** Maureen Wilder, DNP, RN, ANP-BC 409-722-8241 mwilder@utmb.edu (fax# 409-772-3770). No funding preference requested.

Purpose: The purpose of this proposal will address the needed cultural, language appropriate, and advanced skills of MSN graduates from UTMB School of Nursing that prepares them to have competencies to work with the underserved population in the greater eastern gulf coast area of Texas. These skills include the ability to communicate effectively with Spanish-speaking patients and competency in performing advanced clinical skills to care for patients that enhances effectiveness, efficiency, and decreased costs of care for underserved populations receiving primary care in nurse-led, and rural, and FQHC clinics. In addition, the program will validate the clinical skills of the NP preceptors with formal documentation of procedural competency to meet the state board of nursing regulations practice requirement. Lastly, the proposal will add additional clinical sites for students to engage in immersion experiences to prepare them for practice in underserved communities.

Specific measureable objectives of the project are: 1) Develop, implement, and test an innovative educational model for the MSN FNP/AGNP online students that incorporates conversational and medical Spanish throughout the curriculum with immersion experience(s) during the clinical didactic at the nurse-led, rural and underserved clinics; 2) Develop student advanced clinical skills for common orthopedic and dermatologic office procedures through formal didactic training; 3) Evaluate student and preceptor clinical competencies using evidence-based tools supported by AACN QSEN and NONPF Core Competencies; 4) Expand clinical site placements for MSN students for immersion experiences to develop the needed competencies to support the workforce needs for the underserved; 5) Redesign curriculum to integrate conversational/medical Spanish and advanced procedural skills.

Project Description: This project addresses the advanced practice nurse education needs identified by the demographic population served and community needs assessments. The grant will significantly enhance an existing academic-practice partnership beginning with a faith-based organization serving a high volume of uninsured, underinsured Hispanic patients. The clinic director at this site is an FNP employed by the SON and SON faculty practice at this site. The clinic will serve as the nurse-led site. The second partnership is Texas Area Health Education (AHEC) East. This partnership serves 111 counties in eastern Texas. This collaboration provides the students access to five sites that provide primary care to rural and underserved populations. In addition, AHEC assists students with placement in underserved and rural communities through support for practice establishment and linkage to National Health Service Core. These clinics will provide unique immersion experiences for population-health management, addressing social determinants of health, and the opportunities for readiness to practice at the end of the program. A clinical assessment rapid debriefing system (CARDS) will be used to capture real-time data related to precepted clinical experience. Rapid Cycle Quality Improvement (RCQI) will be used to systematically test change through a continuous process of planning, testing, assessing, and acting on what is learned in order to accelerate improvement of processes and outcomes.