



Introducing the Maryland Clinical Simulation Resource Consortium

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The Maryland Clinical Simulation Resource Consortium (MCSRC) is a statewide funding initiative authorized under the auspices of the Nurse Support Program II (NSP II) and jointly approved by the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) and the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC). The program is designed to create a sustainable increase in the quality and quantity of simulation used in nursing education throughout Maryland's academic and practice institutions. The purpose of the presentation is to inform the audience of the opportunities available to nurse educators through the consortium.

The initiative began with visits to 26 pre-licensure nursing simulation programs and conducting an assessment based on the National Council State Board of Nursing simulation guidelines for faculty and program preparation (Alexander et al., 2015). Aggregate data from the assessment informed development of curriculum for a train the trainer program and workshops. The MCSRC Train the Trainer program is a three-day intensive workshop; developed across Benner's Theory of Novice to Expert (2001) using recognized simulation standards and guidelines. Participants are selected through a nomination process then, self-select according to criteria into one of three levels: Simulation Education Leader (SEL) I, II, or III. The impact of simulation as a teaching-learning strategy is significantly influenced by the level of expertise of nurse educators utilizing simulation. As each nurse educator moves through the program, the consortium will build sustainability across the state.

Workshops have been developed in key areas as identified by the assessment: Foundations in Simulation, Debriefing Basics, Debriefing: A Deeper Dive into Methods and Evaluation, Curriculum Integration of Simulation-Based Education and Evaluation in Simulation. The workshops have been through a prototyping process and will launch August 1, 2016. Academic and practice institutions can request workshops through the MCSRC website.

The MCSRC awards \$250,000 annually toward simulation material and equipment to colleges or universities for optimization of simulation programs. Schools request material and equipment according to a rubric with unbiased, external reviewers making award decisions.

The MCSRC completed the first year of a five year award educating 51 Train the Trainer participants from academia and practice. Five colleges and universities received material and equipment. In collaboration with an external evaluator, the MCSRC developed an evaluation plan using Kirkpatrick's Four Levels of Evaluation (Jeffries, 2012). Evaluation from the inaugural year will be shared including salient findings from the assessment of simulation programs. The MCSRC website will be explored to inform the audience of important documents, social media and "What's Simmering," a portal to simulation news.