



APPLICATION FORM

All applications must include the following information. Separate applications must be submitted for each eligible program. **Deadline: June 3, 2019.** Please include this application form with electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact [Gage Harter](#).

PROGRAM INFORMATION

County: County of Henrico

Program Title: A Practical Nursing School Collaborates for a Healthier Community

Program Category: Health and Human Services

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Victoria Davis

Title: Public Relations Specialist

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SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Name: Anthony McDowell

Title: Deputy County Manager for Public Safety

Signature: 

Program Overview

Henrico County Public Schools expresses a divisionwide commitment to every student by communicating a vision of inclusiveness: “The right to achieve. The support to succeed.” The school division also embraces four critical cornerstones: student safety and wellness, academic growth, equity and opportunity, and relationships. As a part of Henrico County Public Schools, the mission of the school division’s practical nursing program is to prepare nurses to provide people with safe, effective and culturally competent nursing care. Clinical sites are imperative and provide positive learning environments, enabling us to support our mission for our students.

In fall 2017 we formed an affiliation with Nationz Foundation to provide education and information related to HIV-prevention and overall health and wellness, while inspiring the community to take responsibility for its health.

Henrico County-St. Mary’s Hospital School of Practical Nursing has assisted in providing canned foods for the group’s food pantry, providing “Wellness Wednesdays,” disseminating educational brochures, assisting with HIV testing, and working for prevention and wellness for people in Henrico County and the City of Richmond. This affiliation has benefited Henrico County citizens, Nationz Foundation and the school division’s practical nursing program.

Problem/Challenge/Situation Faced by Locality

As we look at trends in nursing and nursing curricula, we must increase our students’ knowledge in public health and community nursing. Public health and community nursing is expected to grow by 18 percent by 2022. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the United States is

experiencing a steep and sustained spike in sexually transmitted disease. The 2017 numbers surpass 2016 by more than 200,000 cases. Henrico County has reported more than 756 HIV positive cases and more than 2,100 have been reported in the City of Richmond. The collaboration with Nationz Foundation allows our nursing students to provide education and information related to HIV prevention and overall health and wellness. This opportunity helps Nationz Foundation with its overall mission, while supporting the nursing program and its efforts to expand community nursing.

How Program Fulfilled Awards Criteria

This collaboration between our nursing school and a local nonprofit filled gaps in health care services and expertise in Henrico County and the City of Richmond. Our affiliation with Nationz has directly affected the health and wellness of the individuals in our community. Our partnership has helped provide food to those in need, education to high-risk populations, and supported the students in the school of nursing. This could be replicated in other localities with similar resources and challenges.

How Program Was Carried Out

The mission of Henrico County-St. Mary's Hospital School of Practical Nursing is to "provide a quality program of nursing education designed and committed to preparing practical nurses to provide safe, effective and culturally competent nursing care to individuals across the life span in a variety of health care settings of the 21st century." This guiding aim is coupled with Henrico County Public Schools' mission to "actively engage students in diverse learning experiences that inspire and empower them to become contributing citizens." Nationz Foundation works to create

a more inclusive Central Virginia for individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, and asexual or allied. Nationz Foundation actively disseminates information to the community related to HIV, STIs, and cancer. The foundation initiated a discussion with the school of nursing to assist in its efforts to promote wellness and community awareness to the citizens of Henrico County and the City of Richmond, in response to the high rate of poverty and increase in cases of HIV and STIs. According to the Virginia Department of Health, more than 70 new cases are detected every year. More than 80 percent of those with HIV are African American, and the fastest growing population with HIV are men who have sex with men. Nationz Foundation provides free HIV testing and helps with resources and referrals for treatment. With this connection, our nursing students are learning to educate people about prevention and promote wellness in our community. This affiliation has aided Nationz, while preparing practical nurses to provide safe, effective and culturally competent nursing care to individuals in our community.

Students earn extra credit for the HIV screening days, and the student with the most volunteer hours earns an “Excellence in Service” award at graduation. Wellness Wednesdays are part of students’ leadership and management projects and the school provides materials for them to complete the projects.

Financing and Staffing

Few costs were involved in the affiliation agreement between Henrico County Public Schools and Nationz Foundation. All food items were donated for the food pantry by our students. Students have created educational materials about hypertension, oral health, nutrition, smoking cessation, stress reduction, effects of vaping and STIs, to name a few. These and other topics are presented on “Wellness Wednesdays” to provide education to the public. The nursing school pays for these

materials and provides them to students. Students volunteer to assist with community outreach days to help with registration for free HIV testing and to promote wellness and prevention.

Program Results

This year, our students have volunteered for Nationz Foundation for 734 hours, and have collected more than 5,000 food items for Nationz Foundation's food bank. In addition to these hours, each Leadership and Management course specialty section has one clinical day at Nationz. This day – a "Wellness Wednesday" is a chance for the students to provide our community with education on hypertension, heart disease, sexually transmitted infections, nutrition, oral health, smoking cessation and more. In addition to providing education on selected topics, students also participate in community-based HIV testing and education with the mobile Nationz Foundation unit. This has been a huge success for Nationz Foundation, as well as supporting the nursing program in its effort to expand community nursing.

The program filled gaps in health care services and expertise in Henrico County and the City of Richmond. Our affiliation with Nationz has directly affected the health and wellness of the individuals in our community. Our partnership has helped provide food to those in need, education to high-risk populations, and supported the students in the school of nursing.

Brief Summary

The mission of Henrico County Public Schools' practical nursing program is to prepare nurses to provide people with safe, effective and culturally competent nursing care.

The Nationz Foundation and the school of nursing formed a partnership to promote wellness and community awareness to the citizens of Henrico County and the City of Richmond, in response to the high rate of poverty and increase in cases of HIV and STIs. The collaboration with Nationz Foundation allows our nursing students to provide education and information, helps Nationz

Foundation with its overall mission, and supports the nursing program and its efforts to expand community nursing. Henrico County-St. Mary's Hospital School of Practical Nursing has assisted in providing canned foods for the group's food pantry, providing "Wellness Wednesdays," disseminating educational brochures, assisting with HIV testing, and working for prevention and wellness for people in Henrico County and the City of Richmond. This affiliation has benefited Henrico County citizens, Nationz Foundation and the school division's practical nursing program.