Hello and welcome, to the seventh newsletter of the ANEW Traineeship!

Across the United States, COVID-19 has severely impacted our communities posing the most damage to our rural and underserved areas. During these extraordinary and unprecedented times, it is important for our health professionals to continue to work together for the safety and well-being of our community. Despite the increase in cases and limitations in prevention and treatment, ANEW trainee graduates are active frontline nurses screening and treating patients with COVID-19. As the rise in COVID-19 cases continues to impact our communities ANEW is committed to health service excellence and culturally competent patient centered care. As a result, we will continue to expand our online opioid use disorder training course for nurse practitioner students in the Fall semester. With this in mind, programs such as ANEW provide valuable and lifesaving clinical skills our healthcare providers require.

Please join me in celebrating our heroic frontline ANEW trainees and healthcare providers!

Tami L. Thomas, PhD, RN, CPNP, FAANP, FAAN
Associate Dean of Research & PhD Program Director
Why ANEW Matters: Past and Present Achievements

Over the past 3 years, ANEW has continued to address shortages of provider availability and specialization in rural Hendry and Glades County by preparing graduate nurse practitioner students specializing in adult, family, and pediatric care to provide primary and preventative care for patients of all ages. Specialized trainings in pain management and opioid use disorder, HIV care, and telehealth has amplified trainee clinical preparedness to address an array of health issues in our communities.

In total, the ANEW program has worked alongside 4 rural clinical sites, 7 rural preceptors, and prepared 16 graduate nurse practitioner students who have provided over 3,360 clinical hours and participated in community events such as health fairs and screenings. Moreover, the ANEW program has provided trainings in opioid use disorder and pain management to 40 graduate nursing students specializing in adult, family, pediatric care, and anesthesiology.

Moreover, ANEW program graduates are employed ARNP’s in rural and underserved communities nationwide including Florida, Virginia, California, Texas, and New York.
The ANEW Spring 2020 cohort was highly anticipated by our FIU Community and Hendry County partners.

Due to COVID-19, the Spring and Summer 2020 cohort was interrupted. Ms. Christy Koshy was unable to begin the ANEW program and in April 2020, ANEW trainees discontinued their clinical rotation two weeks before the end of the semester.

Presently, our rural clinical partners are actively screening and testing the community for COVID-19. Trainees include:

1 Family Nursing Student
Herold Jean Francois

2 Pediatric Graduate Nursing Students
Francisco Rico
Christy Koshy

Spring Highlights:
ANEW Trainees participated in the annual Hendry County Health Fair on February 8, 2020.

In addition, ANEW Trainees completed the online Opioid Use Disorder course and received Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) certification by the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA).

Trainees participated at the university COVID19 testing site.
ANEW trainee graduates are active frontline nurses in our communities working on COVID-19.

These trainees have administered testing and provided lifesaving care for patients with COVID-19 both in a primary care and emergency hospital care setting across Florida, Texas, California, New York, and Virginia.

Summer 2018 Cohort:

Mitchell Guanzon is working in the pulmonary / internal medicine department in Broward actively treating and monitoring COVID19 patients.

Luis Cuza is performing COVID19 testing in the greater Miami area at 10 different emergency hospitals.

Angelina St. Germain is performing testing on COVID19 in rural homestead.

Summer 2019 Cohort

Marteng Adolphe is treating patients recovering from COVID19 in the rural areas of North Florida.

Rita Ozomah is working in a rural clinic in Texas testing the community for COVID19.

Praveen Kumar is testing and treating COVID19 pediatric patients in Bronx, NY.

Spring 2019 Cohort

Jawed Mallick is working at Orlando Health Central Hospital admitting and treating COVID19 patients.

Spring 2020 Cohort

Francisco Rico assisted and provided testing at the FIU COVID-19 testing site.

Herold Jean Francois assisted and provided testing at the FIU COVID-19 testing site.
Innovations in Clinical Training

How ANEW addresses community engagement, rural healthcare research, and disease prevention:

The ANEW Traineeship Program has continued to successfully provide ARNP clinical training and rural healthcare resources. Data from student and preceptor process/outcome measures demonstrates 100% increase in clinical competency and mentorship skills for nursing students and preceptors, respectively. Moreover, data from the opioid use disorder training demonstrates 100% increase in student knowledge on OUD and pain management. In total, 40 Graduate nursing students gained critical knowledge and understanding on how to detect overprescription of pain medication, monitor and track patients dependent on prescription pain medication. As a result, ANEW Trainees have received Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) certification by the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. Details of both project findings have been shared in multiple international conferences and current manuscript development. Our work thus far has demonstrated the ANEW traineeship program serving dual aims of increasing accessibility to culturally competent comprehensive primary and preventative care in rural areas and examining incentives and innovations in clinical and academic training for health providers to serve rural communities. In guidance with current COVID-19 precautionary measures, rural clinical training has been delayed until the Spring 2021 semester. We will continue to showcase our online OUD course, starting Fall 2020. “SOPS” will be available to an additional 37 FIU Graduate Nursing students.

For more information, please contact Michelle Caldera, mcaldera@fiu.edu or visit https://cnhs.fiu.edu/ANEW/