



San Joaquin Valley  
**Nursing Education Consortium**

A PARTNER OF THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

# Consortium Progress Update – Panel Hospital Council Northern & Central California

## Nursing Summit

### September 10, 2008

### Pilar De La Cruz-Reyes, MSN, RN



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## BACKGROUND

- The San Joaquin Valley (SJV) has one of the lowest RN-to-100,000 population ratios
- California Institute for Nursing and Health Care (CINHC) gave the SJV an overall grade of “C” minus
- A few valley counties actually received an “F”
- “Houston, we’ve got a problem”



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- In the 2004/2005 academic year, 665 RN graduates in the SJV took the NCLEX; only 80% passed.
- 74% average retention rate in 9 valley nursing programs
- According to BRN data, the SJV had 2, 246 qualified applicants to their nursing programs in 2004/2005, but due to capacity limitations were only able to admit 949
- Faculty vacancies in most valley programs
- The Valley is very rural; hard for students to get in to nursing programs



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- Hospital Council of Northern & Central California (HCNCC), valley nurse leaders and CINHC submitted a grant proposal to the Governor's *California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley*
- \$500,000 2-year grant awarded (2007/2008)
- San Joaquin Valley Nursing Education Consortium developed
- Partners: 9 valley colleges, service agencies, RHORC, CINHC, HCNCC, RJI, WIB, NLC, & County offices of Education



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- Consortium's Purpose: to serve as the "go to" organization for the development and management of a strategically driven, comprehensive, and sustainable regional nursing workforce plan to meet the needs of the rapidly growing San Joaquin Valley
- Overseen by a Consortium Steering Committee
- Quarterly meetings around the Valley
- Quarterly newsletter sent to all interested participants



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## GOAL

- Increase the number of RN graduates in the SJV by at least 250 each year, beginning in January 2008

## 4 OBJECTIVES

- Increase retention and NCLEX pass rates
- Centralized Faculty Resource Center
- Computerized Clinical Placement System
- Enhance Use of Distance Learning



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## OBJECTIVE I

NCLEX pass scores have increased from 80% to 84.32% which translates to approximately 200 more RNs for the San Joaquin Valley

- Retention rates vary by school; still gathering data; slight improvement
- 2 workshops by Maria O'Rourke on Professional Role-Based Practice have been held for nursing students, faculty and preceptors; very positive results



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## OBJECTIVE II

- Faculty Training Course thru CSU Fresno developed; on-line; didactic plus practicum
- 23 RNs completed course in September, 2007; now teaching for valley programs
- New course began July 7; 2-unit graduate level on-line course. 33 RNs registered from all 11 valley colleges
- Grant pays \$380 tuition for each participant
- Potential for 56 new nursing faculty for SJV



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## OBJECTIVE III

- RFP process for Clinical Placement System
- San Diego Nursing-Education Consortium model selected
- Implementation scheduled for the 2009 Spring semester
- Goal is to find additional clinical space and decrease scheduling time involved
- Standardization of faculty/student orientations



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## OBJECTIVE IV

- \$5,000 given to both Modesto Junior College and Bakersfield College for their tutoring program of distance education students
- Nearly 100 nursing students have been assisted
- \$10,000 given to Fresno City College for their new cohort of LVN to RN students at West Hills College
- 15 new RN graduates in October, 2008



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## FUTURE PLANS

- Continue Faculty Training Course thru CSUF
- Continue to improve NCLEX scores & retention
- Develop seamless transition between ADN to BSN and to MSN programs
- Expand Computerized Clinical Placement Program to include postings for faculty openings and faculty availability
- Seek additional funding
- Develop a “mentorship coalition”



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**THANK YOU!!**

**QUESTIONS / COMMENTS**