“EQUIPPING NURSES TO BETTER ADDRESS MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN FLORIDA SCHOOLS”

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Objectives

• GAIN A BASELINE KNOWLEDGE OF THE CURRENT NATIONAL AND STATE MENTAL HEALTH STATISTICS SURROUNDING CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

• UNDERSTAND THE BACKGROUND OF THE BRINGING MENTAL HEALTH TO THE FOREFRONT IN FLORIDA SCHOOLS

• UNDERSTAND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR SCHOOL NURSES TO BE EQUIPPED TO IDENTIFY, ADDRESS AND MANAGE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

• OVERVIEW OF MY DNP PROJECT
MENTAL HEALTH IN THE U.S.

- 1 out of 5 children in the United States will experience a mental health condition within a given year.
- 20% of children with mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders receive care from a specialized mental health provider.
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death in adolescents.

(Centers For Disease Control and Prevention, 2019)
MENTAL HEALTH IN FLORIDA

- 33.7% have felt sad or hopeless over 2 weeks
- 15.6% have seriously considered suicide
- 11.8% made a suicide plan
- 2.2% attempted suicide which results in injury, poisoning or overdose with required medical treatment

(Centers For Disease Control and Prevention, 2020)
Turning Point in Florida

- Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting on February 18, 2018
- Gunman Nikolas Cruz, 19 year old former student
- 17 students and faculty killed and 17 more injured
- Cruz’s background
Timeline of Florida Legislature

- Mar. 2018: Senate Bill 7026 passed
- May 2019: Senate Bill 7030 Recommendations made by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Commission
- July 2019: Senate Bill 1418 5 hours Mental Health Education
The Importance of School Nurses

- Schools function as the mental health system for up to 80% of children who would otherwise not receive care.
- Nurses spend 33% of time addressing mental health issues.
- The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) recognizes that registered professional nurses play a vital role in promoting positive behavioral health outcomes among students.

How does this affect school nurses?

- School health services program frameworks
- School nurse involvement in mental health plans
- Training
## Overview of DNP Project

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<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
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<td>Florida Department of Health (FDOH) IRB</td>
<td>Conduct a pretest to determine baseline confidence/involvement</td>
<td>Number of school nurses who participated in pre and post test</td>
<td>Short Term</td>
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<td>Florida Department of Education</td>
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<td>FDOH can utilize the educational intervention as a resource to school nurses and introduce the MH-TIPS training</td>
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### Inputs
- Florida Department of Health (FDOH) IRB
- FDOH IT
- Florida Department of Education
- School Nurses
- FSU Major Professor
- Current Literature Review
- FSU IT Department
- Travel to FSHA & FASN conference

### Activities
- Conduct a pretest to determine baseline confidence/involvement
- Develop an educational intervention tool
- Conduct a posttest to determine post educational intervention confidence
- Regular meetings with major professor

### Outputs
- Number of school nurses who participated in pre and post test
- Number of educational intervention sessions
- Number of nurses who are involved in local committees regarding mental health policies

### Outcomes

**Short Term**
- Nurses recognize their current confidence level in assessing for, identifying and managing mental health issues in schools
- Nurses are eager to partake in more in depth mental health education

**Long Term**
- Increased confidence of school nurses
- Nurses feel they gained valuable education

### Goals
- School health nurses in Florida will feel more confident assessing for, identifying and managing mental health issues within schools
- School nurses will become more aware of their own district policies surrounding mental health
- FDOH can utilize the educational intervention as a resource to school nurses and introduce the MH-TIPS training
- The groundwork will be laid for further collaboration between school nurses and school district administration
References

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References


Questions?

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