

Service-Learning Reflection Journal

After completing the required 20 service-learning hours, students will complete a reflective journal to communicate how each of the student learning outcomes was met. Students should complete each question pertaining to each outcome.

1. Develop a habit of critical reflection as they integrate professional values and leadership principles throughout their career. (Service Learning outcome #1)

- a) Provide examples of learning experiences that met outcome #1.
- b) State the location of the service-learning hours.
- c) How did the experience will assist with future nursing practice?

a) A learning experience was that more people in my community are struggling financially than I would have thought. To apply this learning experience that was gained through volunteering at this non-profit, I developed my leadership skills, empathy, and collaboration.

b) Salt and Light in Urbana, IL

c) This experience will help my future nursing practice by improving my communication skills by working with many different types of people with differing communication styles and abilities. This experience will help my future nursing practice by also having practiced empathy, compassion, and delivering service without bias or judgments which is critical for nurses.

2. Incorporate an ethic of social and civic responsibility into their professional values and practice. (Outcome #2)

- a) Provide examples of learning experiences that met outcome #2.
- b) State the location of the service-learning hours.
- c) How did the experience assist with future nursing practice?

a) A learning experience that I had while volunteering was how important giving back to my community is. Many people rely on this organization not only for food and clothes but also for a sense of support from the community. I also learned that many of the people visiting the store are from marginalized groups within the community. From talking with them and working beside them I was able to learn about the needs of my community. This strengthened my sense of civic and social responsibility I will incorporate into nursing practice.

b) Salt and Light Urbana, IL

c) This experience will assist with my future nursing practice by strengthening my awareness of the needs of a community. My sense of civic and social responsibility which will translate into better nursing practice.

3. Develop an understanding of the complex underlying issues impacting family, population, and community health needs. (Outcome #3)

- a) Provide examples of learning experiences that met outcome #3.
- b) State the location of the service-learning hours.
- c) How did the experience will assist with future nursing practice?

a) I had several learning experiences which led to a understanding of complex issues impacting family, population, and community health needs. A specific learning experience occurred when I learned in orientation to this volunteering position that the organization has lowered prices for essential items and clothing due to financial needs of community members. I also spent several hours taking in donations and organizing them to be prepared to resell. A lot of people in this community need baby and children's clothes. This tells me that in this community there is likely a link between family size and financial need. Also, the community's health needs are evident here due to Salt and Light selling common over the counter medicines which are routinely restocked. This leads me to believe that the people who come to the store in need of discounted essentials may not be seeking professional health care and instead treating symptoms with the discounted medicine sold at Salt and Light.

b) Salt and Light Urbana, IL

c) This experience will assist in future nursing practice by being able to better coordinate with the patient, their family, and case management. By being more aware of the complex issues that can be affecting a family, population, and a community's health needs, I can more accurately support my client's needs.

4. Develop their ability to work collaboratively in a variety of settings. (Outcome #4)

- a) Provide examples of learning experiences that met outcome #4.
- b) State the location of the service-learning hours.
- c) How did the experience will assist with future nursing practice?

a) My learning experiences that relate to working collaboratively in a variety of settings including working in several different roles with several different managers as well as different co-workers. To provide a specific example, I worked with several co-workers who volunteer through a program designed for engaging special needs residents with the community to enhance their abilities in a work environment. One day, I learned that my co-volunteer who was volunteering through this program needed music on to stay focused and would otherwise get off task. Therefore, I was able to work in this setting. Also, I was able to collaborate with a fellow volunteer by creating a system for how we were organizing clothes that had been donated to optimize our effectiveness.

b) Salt and Light Urbana, IL

c) Working collaboratively in a variety of settings will help in my future nursing practice because it is likely that I work with many coworkers with differing personalities, values, and preferences. Volunteering at different stations within Salt and Light will help me in nursing practice because it is very possible to be floated to another unit and/or switch to working on a different unit or hospital within my career.

5. Learn about diverse cultural perspectives and develop a respect for cultural differences.
(Outcome #5)

- a. Provide examples of learning experiences that met outcome #5.
- b. State the location of the service-learning hours.
- c. How did the experience will assist with future nursing practice?

a) From volunteering at Salt and Light I had the opportunity for learning experiences with working with people of diverse cultural perspectives and differences. An example of a learning experience of working with people of diverse cultural perspectives at Salt and Light was working with a volunteer who was fasting for Ramadan. Due to this experience, I was able to learn about what Ramadan meant to her and why she was fasting. I also was able to work with someone culturally different from myself that I was able to have a learning experience from when I was working with a volunteer who was Amish. This was a learning experience since she shared her perspectives with me.

b) Salt and Light Urbana, IL

c) These experiences will assist in future nursing practice by having greater knowledge of diverse cultural beliefs and differences. This enhances my future nursing practice because as a nurse we care for all types of people, not just those of a culture we are most familiar with. To optimize patient care, equal and informed care must be given to each patient.

6. Observe organizational and community decision making styles and reflect on how these are utilized to promote health and wellness in communities. (Outcome #6)

- a. Provide examples of learning experiences that met outcome #5.
- b. State the location of the service-learning hours.
- c. How did the experience will assist with future nursing practice?

a) A learning experience that allowed me to observe and understand community and organizational decision-making styles to promote health and wellness in the community was observing the faculty meeting where decisions were made based on what would most benefit the community being served. This related to health and wellness by aiming to protect their community members by providing enough warm clothing in the winter and cool clothing going in the summer. These decisions were made with several faculty members weighing in.

b) Salt and Light Urbana, IL

c) Observing organizational and community decision making styles and reflect on how these are utilized to promote health and wellness in communities will assist with future nursing practice by increasing my decision-making competency. This is an important aspect in patient care for nurses.

Approved 4/29/2024

Maggie Casey

Meeting the service learning outcomes will meet program outcomes for graduation.
Each student must meet all outcomes.

Meeting Program Outcomes

Service Learning outcome #1 meets program outcome # 5

Service Learning outcome #2 meets program outcome # 4 & 5

Service Learning outcome #3 meets program outcome # 4

Service Learning outcome #4 meets program outcome # 1 & 7

Service Learning outcome #5 meets program outcome # 6

Service Learning outcome #6 meets program outcome # 1