

## ***“ROAM Communities Mental Health Nursing” a model of care utilizing the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program***

This paper presents findings from a three month study of the development of a mental health nursing service under the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program (MHNIP). This model has been developed in partnership with a major community based psychiatry service and in conjunction with a major university. This service delivery platform has been integrated with an innovative model of standardized mental health student development with the goal of enhancing workforce development.

Aims:

- 1) Identify the processes involved in the provision of Mental Health Nursing services under the MHNIP to assist the development of new nursing services that compliment community psychiatric services.
- 2) Evaluate the impact of the innovative model of collaboration between education providers and community based psychiatric practice in workforce development;

Methods

The study is underpinned by the theoretical framework of realistic evaluation (RE). Developed on the action research framework, RE enables to the evaluation of both outcomes and processes of a program. Evaluating a social program (such as this Mental Health Nursing program) is essentially evaluation of a social system (Pawson & Tilley, 1997).

Results

- 1) Evidence regarding the expedience of service models under the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program in community psychiatry.
- 2) Evaluation of a collaborative model for workforce development.

Conclusion

- 1) This paper will contribute evidence to the role of mental health nursing in community psychiatry.
- 2) This paper will provide evidence for the outcomes of an innovative model of mental health student education to address workforce issues