

Increasing Community Health Content In Nursing Curriculum

Mrs. Linda Christopher, Tutor, School of Nursing, S.M. Hospital, Ranipet, reports on a workshop held at Kolar :

It was my privilege to be one of the participants of the Workshop conducted by the Voluntary Health Association of India on the very important topic of "Increasing community health content in the nursing curriculum."

Five States were represented by eleven participants from various Schools of Nursing.

The Expectations

The opening day of the workshop was spent mainly in sharing with others individual expectation of the workshop. As many as 19 points were listed as expectations. The members were divided into several groups to discuss better, practical definitions for the terms like Health, Nurse, Community and to analyse the differences between public health and community health nursing in greater detail. In order to understand some of the socio-economic forces which can affect the health programme in a village, a chalk village name "Bethany Village" was created on a black board and participants were invited to discuss it. This discussion was very helpful to know that a black board village will function as a better tool to explain the importance of socio-economic status of the villagers to the Nursing students.

The second day was mainly devoted to the problem of choosing a village for health work. Members were divided into three groups and they were asked to select a suitable village in which they wanted to start the community health work, from four villages described on a map on the black board. This was followed by discussion which enlightened the members on the practical aspects a Community Health Nurse should take into consideration before entering to start a programme in a village.

A detailed picture about the

health status of India, its economic plan, funds allotted for community health work, and five-year plans were discussed.

The participants were also asked to list ten common diseases which on analysis were classifiable into four major headings:

1. Water Supply
2. Immunization
3. Nutrition
4. Hygiene & Sanitation.

The third day was mainly concerned with the co-ordination expected among the people involved in the different levels of community Health.

The game "Hollow Squares" helped the members to understand that only when the villagers are involved with the health team in giving information, making plans, and every other step of the programme, there will be real change and accomplishment in the village.

Next day the programme was centred around the Nursing Education Programmes. The present nursing pattern was discussed and a new plan of Nursing education was formulated. The diagrammatic system is given on p. 82.

Members of the workshop were taken around the E.T.C.M. Hospital and School of Nursing Demonstration where some new types of usual visual aids were conducted. The participants were divided into groups who discussed the following problems and presented the reports.

- A—Definitions
- B—Choosing Villages for Health Work
- C—Educational Objectives for ANM's
- D—Health Education (General Nursing)

E—Suggested changes in ANM Curriculum

F—Public Health Priorities

G—Suggestions for teaching Paediatrics in relation to CH. Nursing

H—Medical Nursing

I—Nursing and General Education Patterns (Present)

J—Nursing and General Education Patterns (Future Plans)

K—Sample Community Health-Related Questions in Medical-Surgical Nursing

L—Report on visit to Kolar Gold Field

M—Report on All India Missions Tablet Industry

N—Summary of the field trip and the Principles to be learned

O—Visit to the Community Health Centre.

The rest of the days were spent usefully on field trips to villages with the Mobile Clinics of Community Health Departments of E.T.C.M. Hospital. Arrangements were also made to visit Urban Health Clinic and Creche. The impressions of the delegates about these visits were shared among other members.

The Workshop was planned to impart to its participants sufficient experience not only in community health but also other spheres.

The members visited the famous Kolar Gold Field, where one of the World's best quality Gold is obtained. A trip to Bangarapet Mission Tablet Industry was helpful to the members to understand the different processes involved in Tablet Manufacturing Industry. Members on a visit to the Sericulture Centre could easily understand why the silk obtained from silk worms need be so costly.

All the participants returned home with a new song on their lips; yes we all joined together and practised a beautiful song in English: "Go to the People". The same song was even translated into other local languages like Kannada, Tamil and Malayalam.

The delegates were given chances to evaluate the usefulness of the Workshop which in my opinion was one which has really fulfilled its objectives by helping us to share our past experiences and to carry home better plans for future implementation during the training of Nursing Students for better Community Health Nursing.

I am sure that our professional colleagues would join me in recording our appreciation of Miss R. Harnar and Miss D.K. Singh, for holding this workshop.

The Workshop, during its entire 13-day course, maintained its activities directed towards the fulfilment of its valuable objectives. It has helped its participants to develop their knowledge in better planning of class-room teaching practical experiences for the students, preparing the students through increased knowledge of understanding, ability, commitment in order to take greater responsibility in Community Health Services.

How we wish a workshop of this nature should take place regularly, covering every aspect of nursing in order to keep the wheels of our profession moving steadily forward.

VEHICLE ALLOTMENT FOR NURSES

The Ministry of Heavy Industry has withdrawn the quota for Bajaj Scooters under "The Priority Allotment Scheme for Nurses and Doctors" and in its place Priya Scooters will be allotted. But Bajaj Scooters are now easily available on payment of foreign exchange.

The quota for Priya Scooters for nurses is also too meagre to meet the demands of the nurses registered with us for allotment. It may take considerably long time to get the vehicle through "Priority Allotment Scheme". The members who are registered with us for allotment of vehicle but are in urgent need may consider purchasing Vijay Delux, Lambretta or any other scooters which have been decontrolled and now easily available in the market.

Secretary, TNAI.

DONATIONS

DECEMBER 1976

Nurses Welfare Fund

Miss C. Henry, Jabalpur	Rs. 25.00
Miss S.V. Damle, Dehradun	Rs. 30.00
Mrs. Grace Cherian, New York	Rs. 207.50

Staff Welfare Fund

Miss C. Henry, Jabalpur	Rs. 15.00
-------------------------	-----------

Flood Relief Fund

Miss C. Henry Jabalpur	Rs. 10.00
------------------------	-----------

JANUARY 1977

Nurses Welfare Fund

Miss C.P. Vasanthi, Libya	Rs. 95.00
Miss S.V. Damle, Dehradun	Rs. 30.00
Sr. Aquines, Gujarat	Rs. 22.00
Mrs. A. Abraham, Kottayam	Rs. 150.00
Kamal D' Souza, Damiah	Rs. 100.000

THE NURSING JOURNAL OF INDIA

FORM IV

(See Rule 8)

The following statement about ownership and other particulars relating to the *Nursing Journal of India* is published as required by Section 19D, sub-section (b) of the Press and Registration of Books Act read with Rule 8 of the Registration of Newspapers (Central) Rules, 1956.

1. Place of Publication : Delhi
2. Periodicity of its Publication : Monthly
3. Printer's Name : Mrs. Narender Nagpal
Nationality : Indian
Address : L-16, Green Park, New Delhi-110016.
4. Publisher's Name : Mrs. Narender Nagpal
Nationality : Indian
Address : L-16, Green Park, New Delhi 110016.
5. Editor's Name : Mrs. Narender Nagpal
Nationality : Indian
Address : L-16, Green Park, New Delhi-110016.
6. Name and address of individuals who own the newspaper and partners or shareholders holding more than one per cent of the total capital. The Trained Nurses Association of India, L-16, Green Park, New Delhi-110016.

I, Mrs. Narender Nagpal, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Mrs. Narender Nagpal
Signature of Publisher

Date : February 18, 1977.