



Reimagining Post-Graduate NP Residency Training Programs for Community Health in Native Hawaiian Communities to Aid in Culturally Competent Care

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INTRODUCTION

Who We Are

Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) was founded 50 years ago to care for one of the world's largest Native Hawaiian populations. Due to the significant provider shortage in a medically complex under-resourced community, **WCCHC implemented the Na Lei Kukui (Lei of Enlightenment) Nurse Practitioner Residency Program with the goal of developing a highly skilled and culturally informed workforce to serve the Islands of Hawaii.**



Native Hawaiian Health Disparities

- Compared with non-Hispanic white populations in 2018:
- 2.5 times more likely to receive a diabetes diagnosis
- 2.5 times more likely to die from diabetes
- 4 times more likely to suffer a stroke
- 30% more likely to die from a stroke
- Nearly twice the infant mortality rate

What our Nurse Practitioner Residency Program does

Hands-on Training:

- Primary care continuity clinic
- 18+ specialty rotations
- Behavioral Health and Addiction Medicine rotations
- Procedural Skills

Weekly Didactics

Combination of in-house & in partnership with CHC, Inc. Covering over 35 health topics

Cultural Curriculum

"E Hā Ola Mau I Nā Mea Hawaii" *Hawaiian Traditions sustain life throughout the generations.*

- Huaka'i (Community Tour)
- Wahi Pana (Sense of Place)
- Oli (Chant)
- Kahili (Featherwork)
- Lomilomi (Hawaiian massage)
- Ulana Lauhala (Weaving)
- La'au Lapa'au (Plant medicine)
- Kukui (Preparing & using kukui plant)
- Hawaiian Protocol
- Ho'oulu (Closing process & graduation)



Rural Health Project

Travel to a neighbor island
The goal of developing relationships and building a skilled workforce to serve all the islands of Hawaii

Future Directions:

Expand training on the history of Hawaii and cultural trauma

References: Department of Health and Human Services. (2021, March 1). *Diabetes and Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders*. Office of Minority Health. <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?vl=4&lvid=78>

Integrating Native Hawaiian cultural training into a residency curriculum: A step toward reducing health disparities.



FEEDBACK FROM OUR NP RESIDENTS

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"As providers we get wrapped up with meeting timelines when seeing patients and may not consider some of the socioeconomic issues or viewpoints of our patients. While residents may be commuting into Waianae for work, he wanted to stress upon the culture and remind us why we wanted to work here. **This cultural tour furthered my resolve to work at FQHCs...."**

-Resident Journal



"To be honest, I thought I would know a lot of the information already because I'm from Hawaii, have grown up here, and have been studying hula since I was a little girl. **It was a nice (and humbling) surprise to learn something new this week! It helped me see how important the land (aina) and values like lokahi (harmony) are in Hawaiian culture, belief system, and health. I found the experience enlightening, and now I can better understand the need for spiritual harmony and well-being as it relates to health relating to Hawaiian culture. I look forward to our future cultural days and realize now that I have a lot to learn!"**

-Resident Journal

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CULTURAL INTEGRATION



A culturally tailored **diabetic diet education** poster is placed in exam rooms as a teaching tool

CONCLUSION

By providing cultural training within an NP Residency Program that serves a large indigenous population, the immediate and continual benefits help not only the NP Residents but their patients as well.



2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
NP Residency Prog. Created w/ Cultural Training Included	Increased from 3 to 6 NPs	Increased to 7 NPs	Largest Cohort & incl. 2 PMHNPs	Received Grant Funding	First Rural Health Project COVID Vax in rural comm.	Received NNPFTC Accreditation