**Advocacy Through Legislation**

Identify a problem or concern in your state, community, or organization that has the capacity to be advocated through legislation. Research the issue and complete the sections below. For each topic that requires the listing of criteria, a minimum of two criteria should be identified and discussed. Add more rows as is appropriate for the topic/proposal.

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| **Problem**  *In no more than 250 words, describe the problem, who is affected, and the current ramifications. Explain the consequences if the issue continues.* | | |
| Florida has been allocating the lowest capita to the mental health of its insured and uninsured population. According to statistics, 61.7 percent adults are suffering from mental illness and this population did not get any kind of treatment in Florida (Apostolopoulos et al., 2016). Whereas, according to the State of Mental Health in America. Florida is considered to be on 44th ranking. Suffering from issues including depression, anxiety, and other personality disorders are the considerations of mental health. The most affected population is said to be adults, and this may hinder the overall development of the state. If this is not controlled, then this will result in higher rates of health issues and increased mortality rate. | | |
| **Idea for Addressing Solution**  *In no more than 250 words, outline your idea for addressing the issue and explain why legislation is the best course for advocacy. 70* | | |
| The reason behind highlighting this issue is that, the adult population is more vulnerable towards mental health issues. These issues when not tackled, will increase unrest in the whole society; moreover, most of the population will not be able to contribute in the development. Legislation can be a best course for advocacy because it is the state, which allocates the resources, and the budget (Lake & Turner, 2017). More budget for mental health will contribute in the advanced treatment facilities in the mental health care institutions. | | |
| **Research the Issue**  *Perform research and compile information for your idea. Present substantive evidence-based findings that support your idea for addressing the problem (studies, research, and reports). Include any similar legislation introduced or passed in other states.* | | |
| *Evidence 1* | Based on the studies and research it can be said that there is a need for improvement in the mental health care provisions. | |
| *Evidence 2* | Relating the mental issue with the vulnerable population, the studies show that adult population is more vulnerable towards mental health issues in Florida. | |
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| **Stakeholder Support**  *Discuss the stakeholders who would support the proposed idea and explain why they would be in support* | | |
| *Stakeholder(s) Supporting 1* | State institutions may be one of the stakeholders for the reason of allocation of budget and other resources for the citizens. | |
| *Stakeholder(s) Supporting 2* | Community members can be a support because awareness can be created from the basics with the inclusion of them. | |
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| **Stakeholder Opposition**  *Discuss the stakeholders who would oppose the proposed idea. Explain why they would be in opposition and how you would prepare to debate or converse about these considerations.* | | |
| *Stakeholder(s) Opposed 1* | Health institutions because of over burden in the services. | |
| *Stakeholder(s) Opposed 2* | Financial institutions because of lack of budget. | |
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| **Financial Incentives/Costs**  *In no more than 250 words, summarize the financial impact for the issue and the idea (added costs, cost savings, increased revenue, etc.). Provided support.* | | |
| Increased revenue will contribute in making improvements in the mental health issues. Health sector is the source through which financial support can be utilized. | | |
| **Legislature: Information Needed and Process for Proposal**  *Discuss the how to advocate for your proposal using legislation. Include the following:* | | |
| *Provide the name and complete contact information for the legislator.* | | ABC |
| *Describe the steps for how you would present this to your legislator.* | | Creating links and community meetings will be the initial step, and then a proposal will help convey the concerns to the legislator. |
| *Outline the process if your legislator chooses to introduce your idea as a bill to congress.* | | Modifying the proposal with the help of peers will be done and this will be presented to the congress through the legislator. |
| **Christian Principles and Nursing Advocacy**  *In no more than 250 words, discuss how principles of a Christian worldview lend support to legislative advocacy in health care without bias. Be specific as to how these principles help advocate for inclusiveness and positive health outcomes for all populations, including those more vulnerable, without regard to gender, sexual orientation, culture, race, religion/belief, etc.* | | |
| The principles of Christians can be a source to lend support to the legislation by promoting charity healthcare clinics. This includes all the segments of the society and community to be a part in the health sector, this will encourage positive outcomes in the health sector. (Cuellar De la Cruz & Robinson, 2017). | | |

References

Apostolopoulos, Y., Sönmez, S., Hege, A., & Lemke, M. (2016). Work strain, social isolation and mental health of long-haul truckers. *Occupational Therapy in Mental Health*, *32*(1), 50–69.

Cuellar De la Cruz, Y., & Robinson, S. (2017). Answering the call to accessible quality health care for all using a new model of local community not-for-profit charity clinics: A return to Christ-centered care of the past. *The Linacre Quarterly*, *84*(1), 44–56. https://doi.org/10.1080/00243639.2016.1274631

Lake, J., & Turner, M. S. (2017). Urgent Need for Improved Mental Health Care and a More Collaborative Model of Care. *The Permanente Journal*, *21*. https://doi.org/10.7812/TPP/17-024