

# MILLION HEARTS<sup>®</sup> PARTNER SPOTLIGHT From Collaboration to Community

Welcome to the Million Hearts® Spotlight!



There are more than 212 partners in the Million Hearts® initiative working together to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes through aligned evidence-based strategies, shared goals and the collective action of these diverse partners.

# SPOTLIGHT PARTNERS: The Ohio State University. Association of Public Health Nurses. Hood College.

The Ohio State University (OSU) was the first university wide partner of the Million Hearts initiative. In an effort to promote the initiative as a partner, the National Interprofessional Education and Practice Consortium to Advance Million Hearts (NIEPCAMH) was created in January 2013. Through the work of the Consortium, Ohio State faculty from nursing, medicine and pharmacy designed a free, online educational module. The Million Hearts Fellowship module teaches health care professionals, health sciences faculty, and health sciences students a uniform cardiovascular screening approach, consistent biometric interpretation, and a comprehensive approach to cardiovascular risk reduction patient education.

For Dr. Jennifer Cooper, an active member of the Association of Public Health Nurses (APHN) who serves on the nursing faculty of Hood College in Frederick, MD, the Million Hearts Fellowship program was a concrete way to engage her students and make an impact with more than 180 academic institutions across the country that have accessed the module since it was launched in 2013. Both Jen and her students value the community and prevention focus that has been incorporated into their curricula. With 10 community screenings and subsequent data collection as the second and third steps of the Fellowship module, students are provided a hands-on biometric screening experience and an opportunity to contribute to an important national initiative. Six Hood nursing students have completed the modules and have provided 42 screenings on campus, as well as over 100 screenings at partner locations such as the Frederick County Health Department, YMCA of Frederick County, various local pharmacies and county senior centers.



#### **MAKING MORE CONNECTIONS**

When one nursing student wanted to engage further with the Million Hearts<sup>®</sup> initiative in 2017, Jen was inspired to deepen her collaborative work and engaged the student in a study of APHN and their member's knowledge of the Million Hearts<sup>®</sup> initiative. Public health nurses play an integral role in working with communities to design protocols for hypertension, along with identifying strategies to refer patients to healthcare providers. However, the survey showed a number of knowledge gaps about the Million Hearts<sup>®</sup> initiative, the evidence-based strategies the initiative incorporates and the overall goals.

The survey results, combined with Jen Cooper's first-hand knowledge of The Ohio State University (OSU) modules inspired Jen and her student to pursue a further collaboration between APHN and OSU College of Nursing to provide access to the modules and free Continuing Education Units (CEU) to APHN members. As of November 2018, 23 APHN members accessed the modules and 11 members have earned CEUs already.



### LEADING THE WAY WITH STUDENTS

According to Jen, there isn't a better way to model her commitment to academic-practice partnerships (namely with community/public health) than through Million Hearts<sup>®</sup> and the modules offered by The Ohio State University and the NIEPCAMH. She firmly believes in the power of more than 500,000 nursing, pharmacy and medical students engaging in public health partnerships such as Million Hearts. And Jen sees her contribution to Million Hearts<sup>®</sup> as training future nurses to screen and educate more people about Million Hearts<sup>®</sup>, so that 5 million people could be reached.

The Ohio State University and its College of Nursing's National Interprofessional Education and Practice Consortium to Advance Million Hearts<sup>®</sup> have engaged 180 different academic institutions and organizations across the United States. In addition, as of April 2019, over 72,000 individuals have been screened for cardiovascular disease through the Million Hearts<sup>®</sup> Fellowship module. They too believe this is just the beginning of what students can do to promote the Million Hearts<sup>®</sup> initiative through incorporation of the Fellowship module into nursing curricula.

## **ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE**

To learn more about the Association of Public Health Nurses or Hood Million Hearts<sup>®</sup>, contact Jen Cooper at cooper@hood.edu or follow on Twitter:

APHN: PHNurse\_org

Hood College Nursing: @NursingatHood

To access the module: Go to http://go.osu.edu/millionhearts 2. Select Million Hearts Fellow (or Community Ambassador if applicable) from the list 3. Select Create new account if you are a new user or login with your existing account if you are a returning user.



This page is not an endorsement of any particular member, or organization, but simply a space to share the outreach efforts of various entities. If you are interested in being featured in the Million Hearts® Spotlight, please contact email@123.com.

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