



NR586NP Concept Map Summary

General Instructions

Carefully read the assignment guidelines and rubric and complete each section of the worksheet below using complete sentences.

Include the following sections:

Description of Concept Map

a. Succinct description of the vulnerable population identified:

Homelessness can come from many different. This assignment has opened my eyes to the homelessness in my local area. I see it every day as I travel around my local area and when I am at work. We have a large group of homeless individuals who are repeatedly admitted to our facility for many reasons and are mostly admitted for the same reason each time. Many reasons cause a person to become homeless, and this assignment will discuss these reasons and hopefully help figure out a solution that can help the problem.

Homelessness refers to the estimated number of individuals who lack stable housing for many different reasons. These estimates are derived from a snapshot count taken at a specific moment, capturing people experiencing homelessness. In 2023, the estimated number of homeless individuals in Pasco County was 680, while the state of Florida reported 30,809 homeless individuals (Homeless Estimate, 2024).

b. Minimum of three variables that place the population at risk:

There are many different reasons as to why a person could become homeless. The following are the three variables that this assignment will discuss. 1. Extreme poverty and lack of affordable housing; 2. Substance abuse coupled with mental illness and 3. Unemployment

c. The identified

health risk(s) or disparity that the population is at risk of experiencing

There are many health risks that individuals have when they are homeless; these are some of the risks that I am discussing:

1. Infectious diseases/Chronic conditions:

There are many different

medical conditions that homeless people are at a higher risk for. They have a higher prevalence of respiratory infections, skin conditions, and



injuries, as well as diabetes and hypertension/cardiac issues. This is due to the lack of proper medical care and the environment in which they live. Older homeless people have a higher risk for uncontrolled hypertension, according to the National Health and Nutrition Examination Study from 2017-2020 (Seshadri, Morgan, Moore, & Parmar, 2023).

2. Malnutrition:

Food insecurity is defined as a state in which individuals cannot access safe, nutritious foods. Homeless people have a higher risk for food insecurity due to their inability to access any healthy food due to their situation (Loftus & Lachaud, 2021). This issue not only causes malnutrition among the homeless but also increases the risks of having mental health issues.

3. Suicidal ideations:

Individuals facing homelessness often exhibit elevated rates of mental illness, substance use disorders, chronic medical conditions, infectious diseases, and vulnerability to violence compared to the general population. These factors can significantly heighten the risk of suicide if their homeless circumstances persist (Kleinman & Morris, 2023). It is

d. Explanation of how the concept map portrays the relationships between each element

A concept map is a visual tool or diagram illustrating the relationships between different ideas, helping you better understand their connections.

Homelessness and poverty/lack of affordable housing are inextricably linked. When individuals or families cannot generate enough income to pay for housing, food, childcare, health care, and education, necessities with a high-cost burden sometimes fall by the wayside. With the cost of living and affordable housing increasing, many people are unable to manage to pay for these bills on their little or no income, and this increases the reason they are homeless.

Mental illness/substance abuse and homelessness are intertwined, and addressing one aspect can positively impact the others. Comprehensive support, including mental health services and substance abuse treatment, is essential for breaking the cycle of homelessness.

Unemployment and homelessness are intricately linked, and addressing unemployment issues can aid in the prevention of homelessness. Tailoring interventions and policy changes can help bridge the gap between homelessness and employment.

Intervention Proposal

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