The Young Pediatric Nurse Clinician Program (YPNCP) is a mentored program for undergraduate nursing students with an interest in pediatrics. YPNCP students participate and host activities in healthcare facilities and the community under the direction of a faculty mentor and expert pediatric nurse clinicians to better the lives of children.

Diabetes Busters

Diabetes Busters is a Diabetes prevention program, sponsored by the American Diabetes Association that takes place in 3rd/4th grade classes at local elementary schools. During the program, students rotate through three stations where they are taught about diabetes and the difference between Type I and Type II Diabetes, and about the importance of nutrition and physical activity. As members of the Young Pediatric Nurse Clinician program we each take the lead on a station. As the student lead for the station you help with and participate in the educational portion.
Health Fairs

In October, we were able to participate in our first health fair with Mom’s Blog. We volunteered at their event, putting temporary tattoos and stickers on the costumed children. This was a fun and safe way for younger children to participate in Halloween. We are already looking forward to participating next year! In the middle of April we participated in the Washington Health Fair, in Washington Iowa. The event was coordinated by another University of Iowa nursing student group, the Young Community Health Clinician Program. We, along with the University of Iowa Association of Nursing students, helped to run multiple booths put on during the fair. We were able to help with diabetes education, we helped give a basic overview to the children and their families about what diabetes is and how to live a healthier lifestyle. We also helped with the blood pressure screening station, where we practiced our skills. We are looking forward to helping out with more health fairs in the future!

Healthy Family Study

A few of our members were able to participate in a research study looking at childhood obesity and the effectiveness of a health coach. This entailed weekly phone calls to the children and their families. Getting practice caring for the whole family was an invaluable experience, and we can’t wait to continue it next semester!
Cooking Dinner at The Ronald McDonald House

YPNCP served dinner at the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City during the fall of 2014 and spring of 2015. We prepared walking tacos for the families staying at the house, which are tacos assembled in bags of Doritos. We even baked some fresh chocolate chip cookies!

Prescription for Success

This year, the YPNC Program had a booth at Progressive Nursing Day. We created a poster showcasing all the projects we were involved with, the volunteer work we had participated in, as well as a little bit about the program itself. Our members stood at the booth and talked with other nursing students about the program and encouraged those interested to apply. We were able to answer questions, promote the program, and tell our peers what we have learned from our involvement. We also shared about the experience we've gained, and how the program has helped us professionally to network and learn more about pediatric nursing.

Fleece Blankets

YPNCP presented the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit with fleece blankets for the unit of all sizes. We all got together, ate dinner, and made blankets. We came up with the idea after hearing from one of our students (who had her internship in the PICU) that they did not have enough ‘cute’ blankets to go around. The idea was born. We went out and found some adorable patterns for all ages and got to work. It was not only a productive night, but was a good bonding experience for the program. We hope to continue helping the pediatrics units at the hospital.
This year, the senior YPNC’s had the unique opportunity to attend the National Association of Pediatric Nurses Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV. They attended various educational sessions to increase their nursing knowledge of the pediatric population. They were also able to explore the endless opportunities pediatric nursing has to offer.

The students of the Young Pediatric Nurse Clinician Program are able to host and participate in all of these wonderful opportunities by utilizing funds from fundraising activities and community donations. If you would like to donate to the YPNCP, please send a check (made out to YPNCP) to:

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