When I was Hungry: Integrating Learning & Service

“When I was hungry . . .” is both a metaphor and a lived experience for student learning. Combining service and learning, baccalaureate nursing students collaborate with community agencies to create specific programs that serve vulnerable, marginalized populations.

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I was hungry and you gave me food

School of Nursing

We came from Mexico or Central America, speak a different language, and are old, isolated and without many resources. You, Jade, Jessica, Kimberly, Libby, and Emily assessed for our health risks and provided education on health topics of concern to us.

Diversity

I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

We were thirsty for knowledge in how to care for ourselves. You, Wendy, Traci, and Mary Jane taught us how to take better care of ourselves. You, Missy, Jennifer, and Amy taught us to manage our pain.

Learning

I was naked and you gave me clothing

We are some of the many homeless who walk Omaha’s streets. We are Katrina refugees now living in Omaha. We are church members and employees at Trinity Cathedral. You, Libbie, Megan, and Monica made Omaha more inviting with your map of resources and your brochure for those who have needs and for those people helping to meet others’ needs.

Social Justice

Dignity

I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

We came from Mexico or Central America, speak a different language, and are old, isolated and without many resources. You, Jade, Jessica, Kimberly, Libby, and Emily assessed for our health risks and provided education on health topics of concern to us.

Collaboration

I was sick and you took care of me

We were sick and you took care of us. You, Angela, Ashley, and Julie provided the resources for a website so we can refer students to needed school resources. We were adolescents and hungry for knowledge in an alternative school setting. You, Catherine, Carly, Ashley, Shannon, James, Andrea, and Megan assessed for our health risks and provided education on health topics of concern to us.