Preceptor Role

The preceptor role for the linking project will be developed appropriate to each of the 5 linking project’s needs, assessment results, and symposium dialog. The following is only an example role.

A preceptor guides and enhances the learning of students by providing:

- ideas
- feedback
- resources
- information
- knowledge

Preceptor Qualifications

- Licensed professional registered nurse
- Public Health Nurse certification
- BSN plus eight years of experience in phn
- Advanced degree in ph or phn, plus five years of experience
- ANA certification credential as a community health nurse or clinical specialty in community health nursing
- A current interest in the phn interventions including systems, county, and individual levels of practice

The preceptor encompasses three roles, **nurturer, educator, and role model**.

Qualities of a Good Preceptor

- Enjoys teaching
- Empathic and respectful of learners
- Interested and committed to students learning
- Ability to be supportive and nurturing
- Good sense of humor
- Dependable, well organized
- Enthusiastic, motivated
- Strong problem solving ability
- Ability to articulate steps in decision making process
- Good role model
- Confident and competent in role
- Effective communication skills
- Demonstrated leadership
- Involved in agency and community

Responsibilities

- Attend trainings
- Facilitate group discussions with students
- Role model professional practice
- Act as a resource and support students
- Be available to students as designed in the clinical/practicum project
- Provide feedback and identify problems
- Monitor students progress in population-based competencies
- Evaluate the preceptor program

Benefits

- Gratification of advancing the practice of public health nursing
- Networking opportunities and support from other preceptors, MDH consultants and faculty
- Satisfaction of sharing your knowledge and experience
- The opportunity to sharpen your own skills
- Develop professional ability to coach/mentor others
- Continuing education credit for preceptor training

“Teaching is not designed to foster role inculcation, but preceptorships and mentorships can achieve this. That is why people say roles are not taught, but caught.”

Jean Pieri Flynn (1997)