

## Learning Activity: Chronic Illness and Homelessness Forum

Description of Activity:	Chronic Illness and Homelessness online discussion forum prompts with grading rubric.					
Keywords:	Online learning forum, substance use disorder, mental illness, end of life.					
Type of activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Didactic <input type="checkbox"/> Simulation <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical	Recommendation on when introduced in curriculum?	<input type="checkbox"/> Early <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mid <input type="checkbox"/> End	Suggested Course:	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Promotion /Assessment/ Fundamentals <input type="checkbox"/> Acute care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chronic care <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacology	<input type="checkbox"/> Population/ Community health <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Competency addressed:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Provide respectful, compassionate, person-centered care for people experiencing homelessness (PEH) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Evaluate clients for social determinants of health needs, including housing status and related aspects of safety, access to food, social support and other relevant domains <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Collaborate with client and appropriate Interprofessional community members to optimize health in PEH <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Advocate for improved health for PEH					
Learning Activity:	<p><b>Forum 1 – Substance Use Disorders</b>          Submit your posts in the forum under "<b>Substance Use Disorders.</b>"</p> <p><b>Instructions:</b>          Listen to the following episodes of the podcast <a href="#">Outsiders by KNKX Public Radio</a>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Episode 1: "The Rain"</b></li> <li>• <b>Episode 5: "Let's Dance"</b></li> </ul> <p>Reflect on the narratives presented in the podcast. What stood out to you or resonated with you the most? What questions arose for you? Use your reflections as a starting point to explore supplementary materials related to homelessness and substance use disorders. In your posts, draw connections between the podcast, your supplementary materials, and the concepts explored in the course. Describe your insights and explain how the materials have influenced your understanding of substance use disorders and homelessness. Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What did you find surprising?</li> <li>• What questions remain?</li> </ul> <p>Include references and, where appropriate, integrate examples from your nursing practice or experiences.</p>					
	<p><b>Forum 2 – Severe Mental Illness</b>          Submit your posts in the forum under "<b>Severe Mental Illness.</b>"</p> <p><b>Instructions:</b>          Listen to the following podcast episodes:</p>					

- [Outsiders by KNKX Public Radio](#) – Episode 2: "What Happened Here"
- [Into the Fold: Issues in Mental Health by the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health](#) – Episode 78: "Mental Health and Housing: The Need for Alternatives"

Reflect on these episodes. What stood out to you or resonated with you the most? What questions do you have? Use your reflections as a starting point to explore supplementary materials related to homelessness and serious mental illness (SMI).

In your posts, draw connections between the podcast, your supplementary materials, and the concepts explored in the course. Describe your insights and explain how the materials have influenced your understanding of serious mental illness and homelessness. Consider the following:

- What did you find surprising?
- What questions remain?

Include references and, where appropriate, integrate examples from your own practice or experiences.

### Forum 3 – Chronic Illness and End of Life

Submit your posts in the forum under "**Chronic Illness and End of Life.**"

#### Instructions:

Read the following article:

- [Dying on the Streets: As the Homeless Age, a Health Care System Leaves Them Behind](#) – part of *The Conversation Project* by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

Reflect on what you have learned about homelessness throughout this term, particularly concerning end-of-life care and palliative approaches. To focus on the lived experience, watch the short video about an **unhoused person living with cancer**.

Consider the holistic needs of a patient with **advanced chronic disease** who is nearing the end of life and lacks stable housing. If you were a nurse encountering this patient (e.g., in a chemotherapy visit, outpatient setting, or emergency department), how would you prioritize their care plan?

Be sure to incorporate your understanding of **palliative care and symptom management** in your response.

### Forum 4 – Family and Trauma

Submit your posts in the forum under "**Family and Trauma.**"

#### Instructions:

Listen to the following episodes of the podcast [Outsiders by KNKX Public Radio](#):

- **Episode 3: "All My Nightmares"**
- **Episode 4: "Parallel Society"**

Reflect on these episodes. What stood out to you or resonated with you the most? Use your reflections as a starting point to explore supplementary materials related to **homelessness, family, trauma, and nursing**.

Since this is your final forum post, take time to reflect on your discussions, the materials you have reviewed throughout the term, and the insights gained from this week's podcasts. Consider the following:

- What unique nursing challenges arise when working with an unhoused individual?
- What approaches will you adopt?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>What considerations will you take into account when planning care?</li></ul> <p>Describe your insights and explain how the materials have influenced your thinking about the relationships between <b>trauma, homelessness, family, and nursing care</b> for unhoused individuals. What questions remain?</p> <p>Include references and, where appropriate, integrate examples from your own practice or experiences.</p>																				
Time Required:	Variable, online learning and discussion forum.																				
Preparation of the student:	<p><b>Activity Objective:</b></p> <p>Critically analyze the many factors that lead to and perpetuate homelessness, with an in-depth examination of the interactions between chronic illness, trauma and homelessness. You will do this through ongoing discussions in the forum with your peers, and thoughtful reflection on both the provided materials and the resources you find and share. During the course of the term, you will identify health care issues created or exacerbated by housing instability and explore the role of the nurse in addressing these issues.</p> <p>You will participate in this forum 5 times, at set times throughout the term. Topics for each discussion will vary, and specific instructions and materials for each forum topic.</p> <p><b>Grading Rubric:</b></p> <table><tr><th>Criteria</th><th>Exceeds</th><th>Meets</th><th>Developing</th><th>Does not meet</th></tr><tr><td>Create and Apply Initial Post: 40 %</td><td>Post exhibits comprehensive application of learning; demonstrating depth and breadth of all elements of the discussion question(s)/prompt(s). 40 Points</td><td>Post exhibits some of the elements of the discussion question(s)/prompt(s) but lacks depth or breadth. 36 Points</td><td>Post does not include elements of the discussion question(s)/prompt(s) and lacks depth and breadth. 32 Points</td><td>No initial post 0 Points</td></tr><tr><td>Timing (4%)</td><td>Initial Post submitted by deadline 4 Points</td><td>Initial Post submitted within 24 hours of deadline 3 Points</td><td>Initial posts submitted within 48 hours of deadline 2 points</td><td>Initial post submitted within 72 hours of deadline 1 point.</td></tr><tr><td>Connect and Collaborate 2 Response Posts: 40%</td><td>At least 2 response posts. Posts are pertinent to the collaborative learning experience, provide relevant insights, share pertinent experiences,</td><td>At least 2 response posts. Posts focus on some elements of the discussion but do not provide a thoughtful perspective or contribution to</td><td>Only 1 response, OR 2 response posts that do not include elements of the discussion prompt(s) and lack depth and breadth. Posts do not contribute to</td><td>No response posts 0 Points</td></tr></table>	Criteria	Exceeds	Meets	Developing	Does not meet	Create and Apply Initial Post: 40 %	Post exhibits comprehensive application of learning; demonstrating depth and breadth of all elements of the discussion question(s)/prompt(s). 40 Points	Post exhibits some of the elements of the discussion question(s)/prompt(s) but lacks depth or breadth. 36 Points	Post does not include elements of the discussion question(s)/prompt(s) and lacks depth and breadth. 32 Points	No initial post 0 Points	Timing (4%)	Initial Post submitted by deadline 4 Points	Initial Post submitted within 24 hours of deadline 3 Points	Initial posts submitted within 48 hours of deadline 2 points	Initial post submitted within 72 hours of deadline 1 point.	Connect and Collaborate 2 Response Posts: 40%	At least 2 response posts. Posts are pertinent to the collaborative learning experience, provide relevant insights, share pertinent experiences,	At least 2 response posts. Posts focus on some elements of the discussion but do not provide a thoughtful perspective or contribution to	Only 1 response, OR 2 response posts that do not include elements of the discussion prompt(s) and lack depth and breadth. Posts do not contribute to	No response posts 0 Points
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		provide a thoughtful perspective, and contribute to class learning. 40 Points	class learning. 36 Points	class learning. 32 Points	
	Evidence (4%)	At least a total of 2 references to scholarly sources across all posts. All references are cited and listed per APA. 4 Points	1 reference to a scholarly source. Reference is cited and listed per APA. 2 Points	1 reference to a scholarly source. APA not followed. 1 Points	No scholarly resources included. 0 Points
	Writing: (12%)	All posts are clear, concise and grammatically correct. 12 Points	Posts are mainly clear and concise; some grammatical errors. 10 Points	Difficult for reader to follow the main idea; multiple grammatical errors. 8 Points	Does not meet writing criteria. 0 Points
Resources:	Podcast: <a href="https://www.knkx.org/podcast/outsideers">https://www.knkx.org/podcast/outsideers</a> <a href="https://theconversationproject.org/">https://theconversationproject.org/</a>				
Developed by:	Helena Turner PMHNP & Rachel Richmond MSN				
Date:	3/24/2025				