Comparison of Rural Providers and Consumers Regarding Community Health Assets and Deficits

Diane Kenski
Department of Nursing, Boise State University

This poster was also presented at the 2010 Western Institute of Nursing Conference and was a Runner-up for Best Poster in the Research and Information Exchange category.
Comparison of Rural Providers and Consumers Regarding Community Health Assets and Deficits

Diane Kenski, BSN Student
Jeri Bigbee, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, FAAN, Jody DeMeyer Endowed Chair

Purpose
• Compare rural health care providers’ & consumers’ perceived community health assets & deficits

Background
• Population health research often focuses on deficits, identifying needs & problems of the health delivery system
• Some recent research focuses on health assets, joint problem solving & health promotion
• Limited research addressing rural areas & few studies have compared providers and consumers

Method
• Descriptive comparative design
• Convenience sample, 123 residents (17 providers & 106 consumers) from 3 rural Idaho communities
• Interview responses recorded anonymously
• Responses classified using the Typology of Community Assets for Health Promotion (Stokols et al., 2003)

Results
• Significant difference between rural health care providers & consumers in natural capital strength (p=0.004)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material Resources (Capital)</th>
<th>Human Resources (Capital)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>Social</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural</td>
<td>Moral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human-made Environmental</td>
<td>Human</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technological</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion
• Rural health care providers & consumers differ in their perceptions of community health assets & deficits
• Input regarding health assets & deficits from both providers & consumers is essential in health care planning
• Limitations include a relatively small convenience sample from one state
• Further research using larger samples is indicated
• Data should guide rural community nursing interventions to build on community assets

Material Resources (Capital) Human Resources (Capital)
Economic Social
Natural Moral
Human-made Environmental Human
Technological

- Background
- Material Resources (Capital) Human Resources (Capital)
  - Economic Social
  - Natural Moral
  - Human-made Environmental Human
  - Technological

- Discussion
  - Rural health care providers & consumers differ in their perceptions of community health assets & deficits
  - Input regarding health assets & deficits from both providers & consumers is essential in health care planning
  - Limitations include a relatively small convenience sample from one state
  - Further research using larger samples is indicated
  - Data should guide rural community nursing interventions to build on community assets

- Results
  - Significant difference between rural health care providers & consumers in natural capital strength (p=0.004)
  - Assets:
    - quality of health care professionals, hospitals, community support
  - Deficits:
    - large geographical areas, inadequate primary care & specialist providers