The Partnership for People with Disabilities at Virginia Commonwealth University is the coordinating agency for SNIP. The Partnership is Virginia’s University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). The mission of a UCEDD is to support the independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion into the community of all citizens with developmental disabilities. Additional information regarding the Partnership’s programs and activities can be obtained by calling (804) 828-3876. Fred Orelove, Ph.D. is the Executive Director.

For More Information
Visit SNIP’s Website
www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Instruction/Health/sniphomepage.htm

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THE SCHOOL NURSE INSTITUTE PARTNERSHIP (SNIP)

HISTORY

In 1990, The Virginia Department of Health initiated the School Nurse Institute for the purpose of offering continuing education activities to school nurses in Virginia. Through contractual agreements with Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Nursing and the Partnership for People with Disabilities, the School Nurse Institute provided a variety of continuing education activities and resources for school nurses across the Commonwealth.

In 1997, Nancy Ford, RN, MPH (Virginia Department of Health), Gwen Smith, RN, MSN (Virginia Department of Education), and Ann Cox, Ph.D., RN, FAAN (Partnership for People with Disabilities at Virginia Commonwealth University), formed a School Nurse Partnership Steering Committee to determine the feasibility of developing public-private partnerships with school nurses and school nursing groups, as well as with institutions of higher education for the purpose of enhancing and coordinating nursing-related education activities throughout Virginia.

In 1998, the School Nurse Partnership Steering Committee spearheaded the formation of a statewide partnership: The School Nurse Institute Partnership (SNIP).

MISSION

To contribute to the professional development of school nursing personnel in order to enhance professional practice and health care of students in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

GOALS

- Assess the learning needs of school nursing personnel.
- Coordinate the provision of continuing education for school nurses.
- Disseminate information about educational offerings using instructional technology.
- Provide educational activities for unlicensed school health personnel.
- Support academic preparation in school nursing.

MEMBERS

The School Nurse Institute Partnership is comprised of representatives from the Virginia School Nurse Coordinators Group, the Virginia Association of School Nurses, the Virginia Departments of Education and Health, VCU/Partnership for People with Disabilities, six baccalaureate schools of nursing, and the Virginia Emergency Medical Services for Children Program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The 1997 School Nurse Institute Project, which published the Report on Staff Development Needs and Distance Learning Technology Capacity of School Nurses in Virginia’s Public Schools.
- Continuing education that has included Managing School Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Workshops.
- Marketing for School Nurses Workshop.
- School Health Services Institute.
- Training for Unlicensed Assistive Personnel.
- Development of the SNIP Website.
- Promotion of a strong statewide collaboration to achieve SNIP’s goals.

FUNDING

Funding for these activities has been provided by the Virginia Department of Health with funds from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Department of Health and Human Services, by the Virginia Department of Education, and by the Virginia Emergency Medical Services for Children Program.