BACKGROUND
The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing (JHSON) Health and Wellness Services at the House of Ruth Maryland (HRM) was founded in 1997 by dedicated faculty and students. The HRM is an emergency shelter for women and children escaping intimate partner violence (IPV). Women and their children come to HRM because of a history of physical and emotional abuse leading to a personal crisis with abrupt departure from their usual home and resources, including health care. JHSON nurses collaborate with HRM staff to assist families residing at the shelter with their health and social needs.

ACADEMIC-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Service – Learning

• Educating students and clients about “the” effect of violence on health and “the” well-being throughout the life span.
• Educating students and clients on best practices to meet health care needs and to navigate a complex health care system

Program Support – Extends Shelter Programs

• Developing supportive educational programs related to health promotion topics
• Case finding and reaching out to women and children in shelter who are at risk of adverse health outcomes based on social and economic barriers to receiving adequate health care.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES AT HRM TEAM

CCIAS Director
Community Health Registered Nurses
Healthcare for the Homeless Adult and Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
JHSON Faculty, Staff, and Students

SERVICES PROVIDED

Physical exams (provided by healthcare for the homeless providers)
Assess for health and social challenges (based on social determinants to health)
Individualized Health Counseling to assist clients:
  • Navigate through complicated health care system
  • Apply for health insurance
  • Locate Primary Care Provider
  • Connect with community agencies to further assist with mutually identified challenges
Health Education (individual and group)
Health Promotion and Wellness activities

CURRENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS VOLUNTEERS:

JHSOM Urban Residency Program
Medicine for the Greater Good
nursing.jhu.edu/Ruth