



Jamie Boyd, RN, MSN, FNP, PhD is an assistant professor and nurse researcher focusing on education and training that leads to living-wage jobs among rural, junior-college students. She currently coordinates a nursing-pathway program that attracts students who seek living-wage employment but lack training and skills. Students start training as Nurse Aides, with the goal of linking to LPN and RN programs for career advancement. Students in the pathway participate in various academic and lifestyle activities that are designed to improve students' employability and wellbeing. Dr. Boyd is no stranger to the arduous path from entry-level nurse aide training to doctoral nurse researcher. She spent the past 18 years balancing the roles of student and acute care nurse, overcoming many of the same barriers that she works with students to overcome. Prior to establishing herself as a respected educator, Jamie spent 15 years in nursing, 7 as a nurse practitioner in a junior-college health center, where she also designed and tested a college-based nutrition and physical fitness course. She effectively infuses Polynesian culture in job-readiness training in ways to naturally include wellness promotion so that students ultimately gain skills to overcome multiple barriers simultaneously. She published her recent study with college students in Preventing Chronic Disease, 2007.

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