

The Guilford Rotary Club has been completing projects to improve the health care system in the Republic of Moldova since 2011. Through 2025, the total of district and global grants has totalled about \$500,000. Club member Steve Mackler has been the champion for this work and was the key driver behind the formation of the NC-Moldova Nursing Collaborative. Shown below are the key activities and results of this collaborative.



North Carolina-Moldova
Nursing Collaborative

History of NC-Moldova Nursing Collaborative

- Education and consultation began in 2011 to help advance nursing and health care in Moldova
- NC members – nurses from several universities and healthcare organizations, retired nurses, other healthcare professionals
- Moldova partners - Nurses Association of the Republic of Moldova, College of Medicine & Pharmacy-Center of Excellence, and Testemitanu State University of Medicine & Pharmacy (USMF)
- 20 international exchanges
 - 12 North Carolina delegations to Moldova
 - 8 Moldova delegations to North Carolina
- Grant Funding
 - **Principal source - local, district, and international Rotary**
 - US Congressional Office of International Leadership (COIL)
 - Nursing associations





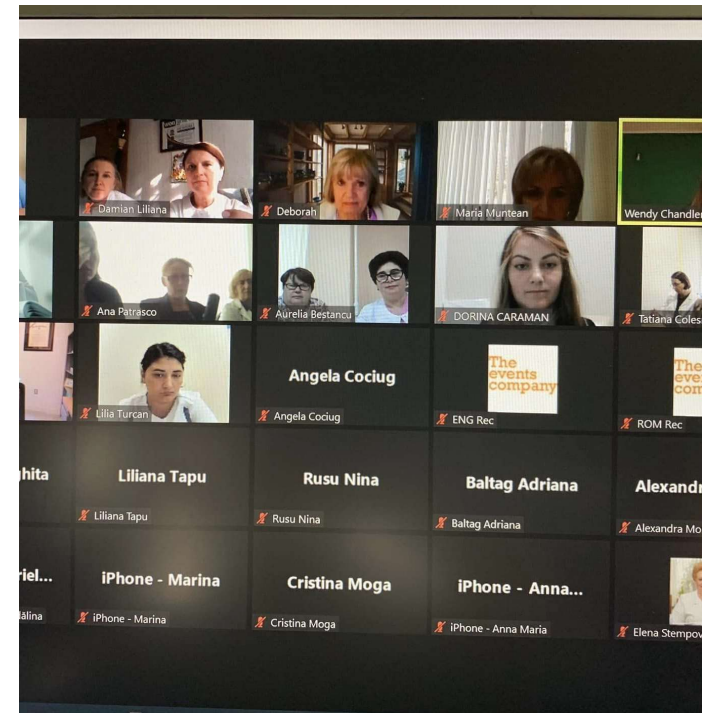
Focus of Our Work



- Education for practicing nurses, nurse leaders, nursing faculty, students, and healthcare and academic leaders
- **Examples of impact**
 - Handwashing campaign to decrease hospital-acquired infections
 - Training workshops to improve health care for the elderly
 - Six COVID-19 webinars - 200-500 nurses, nursing and medical students, and physicians attended each between August 2020 and June 2021
 - Ten webinars to address physical and mental health needs of refugees - recorded between March and May, 2022; disseminated through YouTube by the Nurses Association

Currently Offering a Patient Education Course

- Moldova nurses identified a need for more knowledge about how to teach patients to manage chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, high blood pressure
- A 22-module course was developed; hosted on Moodle, a web-based learning management system; includes webinars, handouts, quizzes
- Nurses complete modules independently or in small groups, and participate in monthly seminars via Zoom
- **Impact**
 - In April 2024 30 nurses completed the pilot offering and conducted their first teaching project for their own patients. Both nurses and patients were satisfied with the experience.
 - In Sept. 2024 154 nurses enrolled; will finish in 2025; Moldovan nurses who identified the need, were among the pilot group, are now leading the course



University Education for Nurses

- Until 2018 all nurses in Moldova were educated in vocational colleges
- Provided consultation to USMF to develop the first bachelor's degree program for nurses (curriculum, faculty development, clinical teaching methods, etc.)
- Three classes have graduated (June 2022, 2023, and 2024); enrollment is increasing
- Provided consultation to develop master's in nursing program, first class was admitted in September 2024
- **Impact**
 - 30 graduates to date from the bachelor's program, enrollment is increasing
 - 14 students enrolled in the first promotion of the master's program
 - University education for nurses is an EU requirement (EU Directive 36); the new programs will contribute to 1) improved nursing care for Moldovan citizens and 2) Moldova's accession into the EU



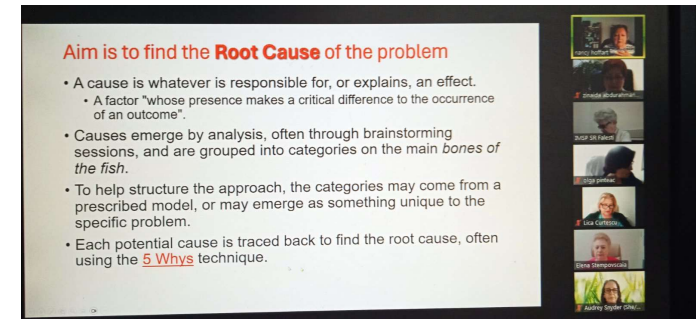


USMF Nursing Students

The Future of Nursing in Moldova

May 2023

A New Initiative: Regulatory Framework for Nursing



- Regulation of the nursing profession in Moldova is not aligned with international standards
- Regulatory Framework Planning Group meets virtually each month to assess and draft recommendations
- **Impact**
 - Completed gap analysis to prioritize regulatory elements to work on with Ministry of Health and other stakeholders
 - **Recruitment and Retention of Nurses** – worsening shortage of nurses
 - **National Nurse Registry** – lack of accurate, centralized database of nurses makes it impossible to do any workforce planning
 - **Nursing Law** - need to establish scope of practice in line with international standards and differentiate the roles of nurses with the vocational diploma, bachelor's degree, and master's degree
 - Regulatory Framework Planning Group is preparing a White Paper to explain the factors contributing to the shortage and offer recommendations to achieve needed changes

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