

## **Rush University Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) Project: An Overview for Project Facilitators**

**Thank you for considering serving as a project facilitator for a Rush DNP Student. At Rush University College of Nursing, every DNP student completes a significant scholarly project as part of the graduation requirements**

### **What is a DNP Project?**

The goal of the DNP Project is to translate current best evidence to improve the quality of health care, health outcomes, and health care systems. The process includes the design, implementation, and evaluation of a program/project that addresses a real world clinical problem in the context of the service delivery system. The problem aligns with the strategic goals and pertinent quality metrics of the organization.

### **Role of DNP Project Facilitator**

- Help the student to navigate your organizational system
- Support the student to identify data to define a problem
- Assist the student in selecting realistic goals and objectives
- Provide oversight and support during the project planning and implementation phases of the project
- Ensure that the personnel in your organization are aware of the student's project
- Provide input and feedback to the student and Rush faculty as needed

### **Timeline for the DNP Project Planning Process**

*In Year 1, the student:*

- Define the problem with data
- Develops project objectives; conducts a literature review
- Develops a plan for implementation and evaluation
- Develops a project proposal and obtains IRB Approval (or letter that the project does not require IRB approval)

*In Year 2, the student:*

- Implements and evaluates the project
- Presents both an oral and written final report

### **Next steps:**

- Identify a communication strategy with the DNP student that is reasonable and allows for oversight and support
- Identify the key stakeholders that the student should meet with in the system as an initial step in defining and understanding the problem

### **Optional:**

- Contact information
- Hours
- Specific Examples