

Legislative Report: 4GRAUC500 Direct Appropriation Grant Status

Submitted to the Minnesota State Legislature

I. Financial Summary The organization does not meet the federal audit threshold as outlined in federal statute, which Minnesota follows; therefore, a formal financial audit is not required. The federal audit requirement threshold is \$750,000, and Minnesota follows this guideline under Minn. Stat. § 11.309.53(3). In accordance with this statute, a detailed breakdown of expenditures is provided to ensure transparency in the use of appropriated funds.

II. Expenditures Breakdown A comprehensive list of expenses incurred through the direct appropriation grant is available upon request. Key expenditures include:

- Administrative Costs (883) – Automated Systems: \$772.00
- Administrative Costs (883) – Program direction: \$2,751.00
- Administrative Costs (883) – Facilities: \$19,500.00
- Capacity Building (884) – Professional/Technical Services: \$101,550
- Capacity Building (884) – Other Approved through Workplan (space): \$93,582
- Capacity Building (884) – Other Approved through Workplace (Curriculum, AR/VR Technology/Simulation Supplies): \$65,568.00

III. Training Provided at the Simulation Center Due to delays in receiving funding, educational activities could not commence until early 2025. The year 2024 was dedicated to planning, securing a location, preparing the space for instructional use, and identifying a curriculum that best serves our partner organizations.

The simulation center is focused on the integration of advanced virtual simulations through AR/VR technology. A total of 16 simulations have been identified for use by partner organizations. Additionally, the center will implement simulation training utilizing Standardized Participants (actors), an innovative approach not traditionally offered in nursing education.

IV. Participating Organizations and Training Details The following organizations have committed to utilizing the simulation center:

- **Winona State University - Rochester** (Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education)
- **Olmsted Medical Center** (Nurse Education and Continuing Education)

- **Rochester Community and Technical College** (Nursing and Allied Health Training)

V. Faculty Training and Implementation Faculty and staff from our partner organizations have been trained to facilitate AR/VR simulations. Specific participants include:

- Eight faculty members from **Winona State University - Rochester Nursing**
- One nurse educator from **Olmsted Medical Center**

Training efforts are designed to support nursing students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as current nursing professionals seeking continuing education opportunities.

VI. Future Outlook The integration of AR/VR simulation and Standardized Participants represents a state-of-the-art advancement in nursing education. These technologies provide immersive, interactive learning experiences that better prepare students and practicing nurses for real-world clinical scenarios. The simulation center will continue to expand its offerings, assess the effectiveness of training methodologies, and collaborate with additional healthcare education partners to enhance workforce development in Minnesota.

VII. Conclusion Despite initial delays due to funding allocation, significant progress has been made in establishing the simulation center. With infrastructure, technology, and curriculum now in place, full-scale educational activities will launch in early 2025. We remain committed to ensuring that this investment serves the evolving needs of Minnesota's healthcare workforce.