**DESCRIPTION**

HRH is one of Canada's largest regional acute care hospitals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Previously, Clinical Practice Leaders (CPLs) were responsible for accessing a central provincial network to accept student placements for their individual units. Competing CPL priorities would delay acceptances and impede student orientation planning. As patient acuity increased during the pandemic, HRH increased student placement opportunities to better support health human resource planning. Through strategic planning, the student affairs department developed a streamlined process for placement requests for the organization (Figure 1). This strategy improved the efficiency of planning orientation and assigning preceptors to students. Using this innovative method supported student affairs in planning dates for computer training sessions and virtual orientation well in advance.

**OBJECTIVE**

Streamlining the placement request process to support increased student placements efficiently.

**ACTIONS TAKEN**

Student Affairs engaged with CPLs and Managers to ensure continuous support for learning and education each school semester. Meetings were held with unit leadership to obtain consistent and standardized student placement processes. Standardized placement capacities for each unit were established considering unit census, patient acuity, and availability of health human resources. This information is captured in a tool managed by Student Affairs to accept placements on behalf of HRH through HSPnet (Ontario's central placement network (Figure 2)).

**SUMMARY OF RESULTS**

By streamlining and standardizing the process for accepting placements, HRH was able to maintain and increase the number of student placements by 748 students per year on average (Figure 3). CPLs and Student Affairs are now seamlessly manage and proactively prepare for upcoming student cohorts.