

Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program

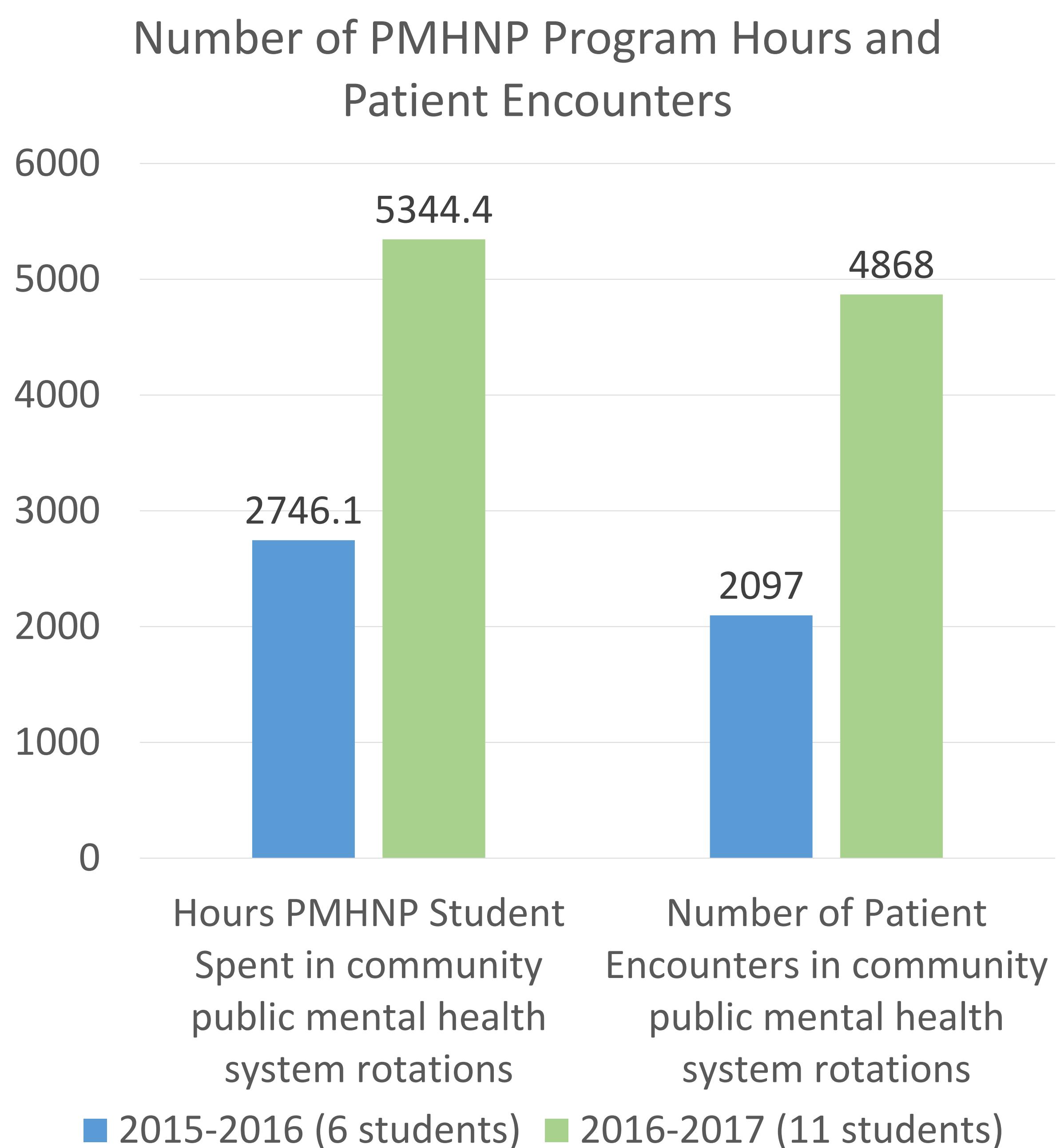
The School of Nursing : Central California Center for Excellence in Nursing

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The School of Nursing and the Central California Center for Excellence in Nursing in collaboration with Continuing and Global Education offers a Post Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program. This program is funded by a 3 year grant from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. Thirteen California counties have participated in the program, including Fresno, Madera, Los Angeles, Stanislaus, and Sacramento counties.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program on track to graduate 32 new PMHNP's

Cohort Year	Program Graduates
2015-2016	6
2016-2017	10
2017-2018	16 in Progress



The prevalence of mental illness is higher among San Joaquin Valley residents than others living in California. While 5.1 percent of Fresno adults have a serious mental illness, and 5.7 percent of Kern County residents, that number increases to 6.9 percent in Kings County and 7 percent in Madera County. Serious emotional disturbance were also the highest among children living in the San Joaquin Valley as documented in *Mental Health Care in California: Painting a Picture* (2013).

In addition to a high prevalent rate of mental illness, access to a competent mental health clinician is challenging. About half of adults and two-thirds of adolescents with mental health needs did not receive treatment. The San Joaquin Valley is well below the state average for all mental health professions. This is especially true for advanced nurses with psychiatric prescribing privileges.

Source: Adams, N. & Holt, W. (July 2013). *Mental Health Care in California: Painting a Picture*