

## UIC Library of the Health Sciences Outreach Update

By Carmen Howard and Cynthia Reynolds

The Library of the Health Sciences has a long history mission of outreach to the community and unaffiliated health professionals. Although many members of our faculty and staff do this work, the LHS Outreach Committee has a primary responsibility to coordinate the library's outreach efforts. Here is a small sample of our recent work:

Nursing Experts: Translating the Evidence (NExT): The NExT Project was originally funded by a Greater Midwest Region/National Network of Libraries of Medicine/National Library of Medicine Outreach Award (2014-2016). The project developed and delivered an Evidence Based Public Health Nursing educational workshop to practicing public health nurses through in-person sessions, a one-time webcast, and through an online course. An information portal, a mobile website, and social media streams supported the workshop. NExT has continued beyond the original project dates through the information portal, the mobile website, and the online course, which is still offering continuing education credits to nurses. As of February 28, 2017, NExT has reached participants in 36 different Illinois counties and in 4 states beyond Illinois (see figure 1). Since being released in March of 2016, the NExT mobile website has had users from seven (7) countries besides the United States. This project has been a collaboration between the LHS Outreach Committee, the UIC College of Nursing, and the UIC Library Systems Department. Visit us at [phnext.uic.edu](http://phnext.uic.edu) or [gonext.uic.edu](http://gonext.uic.edu).

Surviving and Thriving: AIDS, Politics, and Culture: In conjunction with World AIDS Day on December 1<sup>st</sup>, Surviving and Thriving was hosted at the Library of the Health Sciences – Peoria. Dr. Jennifer Brier, Director of Gender and Women's Studies & Associate Professor of History and Gender and Women's Studies at UIC curated this National Library of Medicine traveling exhibit. Dr. Brier was the keynote speaker at the World AIDS Day event hosted at the College of Medicine at Peoria. The Library also hosted an AIDS/HIV student discussion group featuring an infectious disease specialist and a community activist currently living with HIV. This project was a collaboration between LHS-Peoria, the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria Advancement Office, and Positive Health Solutions. Visit the NLM online exhibit at <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/survivingandthriving/>.

Community Wellness Seminars: The Crawford Library of the Health Sciences – Rockford has continued its work to support a free monthly lecture series targeting members of the local community. Over the past year, the Community Wellness Seminars topics have included lupus, holiday blues, flu, breast cancer, lung cancer,

dentistry, and evaluating health studies. The Library exhibits before and after the well-attended lectures and distributes library brochures created specifically for the public. This project is a collaboration with the University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford. To find out about upcoming seminars, visit the College of Medicine home page at <http://rockford.medicine.uic.edu/>.

The LHS Outreach Committee is eager to support your outreach efforts. Please contact us at [LHS\\_OUTREACH@UIC.EDU](mailto:LHS_OUTREACH@UIC.EDU) with your ideas so that we can help you make them happen. We may even be able to help you secure funding.

**LHS Current Committee Members:**

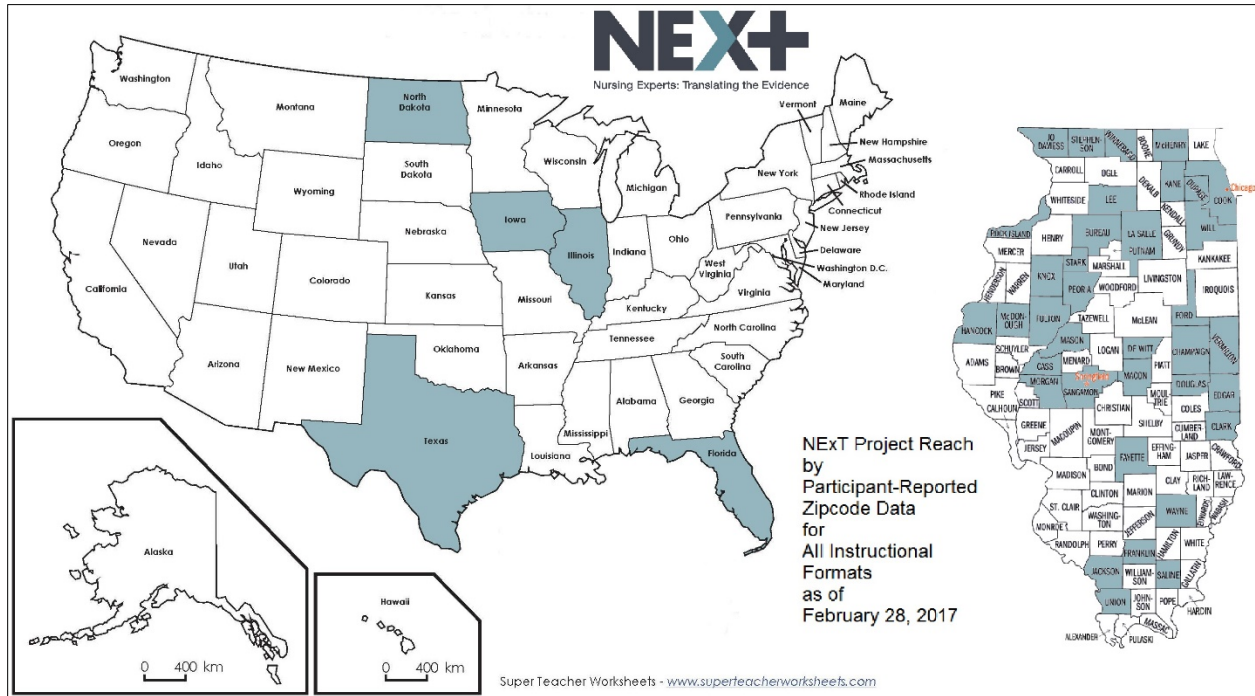
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Figure 1: NExT Instructional Outreach



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