Regina Orozco, PhD, MSN-Ed, RN, RNC-OB

Program Director, Benner Institute for Teaching and Learning

Regina Orozco joined HealthImpact in August 2023. As Program Director of the Benner Institute for Teaching & Learning, she has brought years of knowledge, passion, and advocating for justice as a nurse and nurse educator to the team and to the nursing workforce. Dr. Orozco entered the nursing pathway as an associate degree graduate from Napa Valley College in 2004 and immediately transferred to Sonoma State to obtain a BSN with a minor in Women's Health and then consecutively earned her MSN with a concentration in Nursing Education in 2007. She returned to the educational sector after supporting and encouraging the growth of her three children, to achieve her lifelong goal of obtaining her doctorate degree. In 2020, she graduated from the University of California, Davis with a Ph.D. in Leadership and Nursing Science with her dissertation focused on the lived experiences of the women of color who entered the nursing profession in California as a licensed vocational nurse. Her findings spotlighted the inequity, biases, and microaggressions currently impacting educational institutions and the confined vocational choices for women of color in the nursing pipeline. Dr. Orozco started and continues her 20-year bedside nursing career in Maternity, supporting patients giving birth the way they want to give birth. This aspiration for system wide advocacy and individualized patient care has also fostered her 17-years as an educator in pre-license programs. In addition to promoting patient advocacy in the classroom and clinical setting, her enthusiasm for student activism drives her approach and andragogical choices in nursing education and in the transfer of knowledge to those educators that she has the privilege of mentoring.