Tenets of Public Health Nursing

The Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations in 1997 developed the following eight tenets of public health nursing to advance the public health nursing goal of promoting and protecting the health of the population.

1. Population-based assessment, policy development, and assurance processes are systematic and comprehensive
2. All processes must include partnering with representatives of the people.
3. Primary prevention is given priority
4. Intervention strategies are selected to create healthy environmental, social, and economic conditions in which people can thrive
5. Public health nursing practice includes an obligation to actively reach out to all who might benefit from an intervention or service
6. The dominant concern and obligation is for the greater good of all of the people or the population as a whole
7. Stewardship and allocation of available resources support the maximum population health benefit gain
8. The health of the people is most effectively promoted and protected through collaboration with members of other professions and organizations

Recommended citation: