

The PIER Project

Objective

PURPOSE: to demonstrate a relationship-centered approach to collaborative practice and interprofessional learning at three sites (two primary care and one long term care setting) within McMaster University's health sciences network.

OBJECTIVE: to understand and enable sustained cultural change at each site by encouraging the emergence of interprofessional projects and supporting relationships and conversations amongst health professional colleagues and learners.

Project Approach

The project has three phases that reflect an exponential and emergent process of learning and growth within practice settings:

1. Phase One: Site coaches and champions are identified to support team members throughout the project. Health care professionals and learners at partner sites participate in a multifaceted process that heightens awareness of how a team functions by identifying and developing a meaningful clinical project.
2. Phase Two: Additional learners join the site teams and identify a second project that focuses on interprofessional education.
3. Phase Three: Key learnings and innovation are shared and reflected upon to enable sustainable change.

FOCUS: effective team development and collaborative practice.

Results

Change is occurring at all three health care sites as a result of the use of emergent methodology. Further changes are anticipated as health care teams at each site continue to collaborate with one another. The project methodology allows for changes to be determined by the health care professionals themselves, ensuring these changes are meaningful and significant for the project participants.

Conclusion

The partner sites have developed interesting, meaningful clinical projects. Participation in the clinical projects has promoted increased collaboration amongst colleagues and has inspired patients and their families to develop a cookbook to raise funds for patient groups, "green" the primary care environment and establish a memorial garden.

"Discussing day to day stuff is fundamental in making change."

Resources

www.pierproject.ca

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