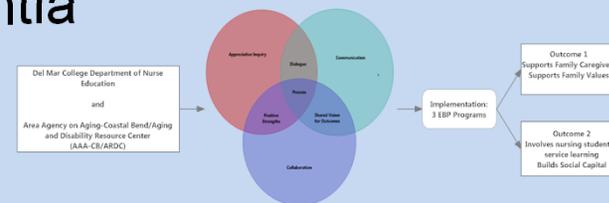




Collaboration for Hispanic-American Family Caregivers Caring for Persons with Dementia

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Dementia Collaborative

Abstract

In response to the paucity of programs for Hispanic-American family caregivers for persons with dementia, an innovative collaboration between a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) with associate degree nursing (ADN) students and the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) formed. Evidence-based programs: (1) Community Stress-Busting Program (n=27), (2) Schmieding Dementia Care/Skills for Family Caregivers (n=28), and (3) Virtual Dementia Tour (n=131) were provided to family caregivers. Overall satisfaction was high from both family caregivers and nursing students. Hispanic-American family caregivers reported less stress, increased awareness of dementia, and the specialized knowledge and skills needed to keep the relative in the home.

Background

Collaboration. Gardner (2005) conceptualized collaboration as both a process or a series of events and an outcome which is the synthesis of different perspectives. The process often occurs spontaneously, it is a complex partnership, and it occurs over time. Furthermore, Gardner posits appreciative inquiry and dialogue as key processes for collaboration. Appreciative inquiry focuses on positive strengths of each organization to work toward a shared vision, strategies for implementation, and assessment of gains. Whereas, dialogue is a communication process facilitating thinking and questioning together. Collaboration produces integrative solutions to meet needs of both self and others.

Hispanic-American Family and Dementia.

200,000 Now; 1.3 million by 2050.
Need Assessment: "Culturally tailor[ed] interventions for Hispanic/Latino caregivers," (Lanque & Enriquez, 2012).

Healthy People 2020 Objectives

Increase awareness of caregivers
Reduce preventable hospitalizations

Research Question:

What were the processes that led to a collaboration between a social service organization and an Associate Degree Nursing (AND) program and what were the outcomes that supports both Healthy People 2020 and Hispanic-American goals for family caregivers?

Method

Design and Procedure
Qualitative Evaluation with description and thematic analysis (Aronson)

Data Analysis

using Atlas-ti.
Data: Over two years: 210 meeting documents, contract, emails, and text messages.

Participants

DMC/DNE:
Nursing Faculty (1)
Chair, Department of Nursing Education
Simulation Lab Coordinator (for Skills)
Administrative Assistant
College Administrative Staff (4)
Nursing Student (n=44) in one or more programs

AAA-CB/ARDC

Director of AAA-CB
Director of ARDC
Family Caregiver Specialist
Trained Facilitators for specific EBP
Administrative Assistant (2)

Implementation

Three (3) Evidence-based Programs (EBP)



Stress-Busting for Family Caregivers

Results

Themes

•Spontaneous Collaboration

•Shared Vision:

- Increased skills for caregiver and nursing students
- Increased Awareness
- Implement Service Learning
- Decreased Stress for Caregivers

•Processes: Strategies for Implementation

- Training in EBP's, together
- Meetings both formal and informal
- Contract
- Action plan for each event with specific responsibilities
- Maintain relationship with EBP personnel

•Assessment of Gains

- Culturally tailored EBP
- Nursing care reflects population served
- Build Social Capital: Mobilize people to act

Discussion

Four Themes congruent with Gardner's Collaboration Model

- Spontaneity, requires proximity
- Shared Vision requires each organization to focus on positive strengths and dialogue—meetings, emails, and memos to maintain communication link.
- Training together enhances proximity, as well as additional avenues for thinking and questioning together; strengthens relationship.
- Time and resources for action plan development strengthens outcomes.
- Overall satisfaction high. Leads to snowball effect—more nursing students and caregivers involved.

Conclusions

Education. Promote self-sustaining EBP programs through nursing department or continuing education. The outcome of the collaboration supported both Healthy People 2020 objectives to and the culturally tailored interventions for Hispanic/Latino caregivers. The Hispanic-American family caregivers who attended the EBPs reported less stress, increased awareness of dementia, and the specialized knowledge and skills needed to keep the relative in the home.

Research. Is spontaneous collaboration the best way to start/foster interdisciplinary approaches? What is needed to maintain a collaboration?

Practice. Ongoing, what is the role of faculty? The role of nursing students? The role of the collaborating organization? Roles include many aspects i.e., planning, care, education, marketing, budgeting, evaluation, maintaining relationships with EBP personnel.

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