



Small State, Satellite Solutions: Expanding Group Respite to Multi-generational Service for Families Across RI

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Disclosure

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Objectives



Discuss how networking and collaboration facilitates the expansion of respite opportunities for family caregivers.

Maximize the student workforce to achieve sustainability of group respite programs.

Prioritize the care needs of the older adult care recipient through orientation training on age-friendly care.

Background




Partnerships: Academic - State Offices - Community - Public and Private

PhD Dissertation Study: Stress Reduction Through a Group Respite Intervention for Parents of Children with Special Needs

*****Their stories drive the goal for the expansion of services*****

Societal Perspective – Healthy People 2030



Focus on improving the health and well-being of parents and caregivers and those they care for within their community in the following categories:

Health conditions
Healthy behaviors
Populations
Settings
Social determinants of health

Healthy People 2030, (2020). www.health.gov/healthypeople

Nursing Education Perspective



American Association of Colleges of Nursing's The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Education (2021) takes a hard look at community living:

- The provision of individualized care and attention = the focus of respite care, aligns with the domain of person-centered care.
- Addressing the needs of a target population while considering the socioeconomic impact of available care aligns with the domain of population health.
- Working collaboratively with other disciplines aligns with the domain of interprofessional partnerships.
- Expanding experiential learning opportunities: The group respite intervention can offer students from many disciplines an opportunity to collaborate through a team approach in an interprofessional education experience.

American Association of Colleges of Nursing. (2021). The Essentials: Core competencies for professional nursing education.

Experiential Learning Opportunities

Beyond the traditional college semester - When final exams come, there is the loss of the robust student workforce.

2 Saturdays in June; 1 Saturday in August - on campus

Beach day in July

Summer Camp



Respite Beach Day 2024

Me - 3 additional faculty - 24 students - 9 children - everyone exhausted at end of the day!



Program gives parents of special-needs kids a break – and helps train RI's future nurses

Article by Katie Mulvaney, Providence Journal, July 15, 2024

<https://www.providencejournal.com/story/news/healthcare/2024/07/15/respice-care-program-for-special-needs-kids-a-lifeline-for-rhode-island-parents/74337055007/>

Supporting the Down Syndrome Society of RI (DSSRI)



DSSRI 3-day summer camp (9am-3pm) at Camp Watchaug, Charlestown, RI during the final week of their camp season.

Recruited 12 students from the incoming Fall24 Family Health Nursing course....received clinical compensation during fall semester.

We provided 1:1 assistance for the campers to participate in camp activities. Some parents and grandparents also provided 1:1.

Campers ages ranged from 3 to 37 years old; all ambulatory; mix of verbal/non-verbal.

Alternating locations



On campus site - southern RI

Borrowed space in the city of Pawtucket - northern RI

Handful of children attended every week, regardless of location.

Others only attended site closest to their homes....A funny thing about RI!!

Planned expansion to include adult and older adult care recipients.


Finding new alliances



Collaboration with folks in the geriatric world:

Training module created for CNAs hired to work at a privately funded nursing and rehabilitation center. All students and faculty participating in respite are completing the training, along with a retrospective pre and post survey.

The Age-Friendly Care content was developed by the RI Geriatric Education Center (RIGEC) at the University of Rhode Island. RIGEC is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)



St. Elizabeth's Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Senior nursing students in their Community/Population Health Course are rotating out of their traditional placement to spend a day with an expert nurse educator.

- Age Friendly Care Training
- Increased understanding of the needs of elders.
- Application of age friendly training.



St. Elizabeth's Adult Day Center

Sophomore nursing students rotating out of their traditional clinical placement to supplement the staff at the adult day center (Director of Nursing present at this location).

- Also completing the age friendly care training with pre and post survey.
- Data to be compiled at the end of the spring semester.



Shri Studio (support, honor, respect, inspire)

Owner: Alison Bologna is dedicated to serving those with special needs and offers classes for adults with special needs, who live independently.

She has donated her yoga studio space to our respite program as a trial.

Upcoming respite Saturdays at her Pawtucket location: April 26th and May 31st



Impossible Dream Playground



A fully accessible playground, picnic area, and indoor function room.

June dates planned for a 3-day respite camp (after the K-12 school year ends).

Grant funds to cover the cost of indoor space rental.

Playground is open to the public.

Connecting with those who are connected!



Time between semesters spent meeting with key informants.

Parent Advocate: Kerri Cassino – a force to be reckoned with!

Founder, president, and CEO of RAMP (Real Access Motivates Progress), Tina Guenette

Founder and co-owner of Dr. Day Care, along with her husband, Dr. Mary Ann Shallcross Smith

Challenges and opportunities



Space and facilities — trying out new spaces sometimes upsets those with special needs....out of the routine.

Outgrowing the borrowed space we use....which is a wonderful aspect of this work!

Families are helping us make connections to potential liaisons for finding a home base, instead of borrowed spaces.

Hoping to create a 3-credit experiential learning course to draw from other majors as more than volunteerism.

Questions ?



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