

Interdisciplinary Collaboration with

Barbara Bush Children's Hospital

Establishing an interprofessional collaboration between the students of Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Nursing Students, and Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine

Student Society of Health-System Pharmacy

University of New England

College of Pharmacy

Objective:

The objective of our professional service project was to establish and maintain an ongoing interprofessional collaboration between graduate students of various disciplines. Our goal was to facilitate a partnership among pharmacy, physical therapy, and nursing students, while engaging in a health care associated service opportunity at Barbara Bush Children's Hospital of the Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine.

Plan:

Pharmacy Students at University of New England's Student Society of Health-System Pharmacy collaborated with students from Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society as well as Physical Therapy and Nursing students to promote an interdisciplinary relationship between the programs. Together, we hosted an orientation session to educate and create awareness for the sensitive population we would be working with. The University of New England Graduate Affairs provided a \$1500 grant that we utilized to purchase arts and crafts supplies for the children at the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital. Based on a lottery selection, 4-5 students volunteered for a weekly, hour-long visit to Maine Medical Center. We catered our crafts to all ages and designed various seasonal projects that we implemented, including painting birdhouses, constructing dream catchers, decorating and personalizing canvas tote bags, and home-made flower bouquets.

Outcome:

UNE SSHP members were able to encourage over 60 students from various disciplines including physical therapy, nursing, and occupational therapy to get involved and participate in this ongoing service event. Together were able to reach out to countless patients ranging from 2-18 years old and provide innovative projects for the children to engage in. Participating in these ongoing community events provide volunteer opportunities to establish an intercollaborative practice between graduate students while maintaining and advancing our relationship with the Children's Hospital at Maine Medical Center.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Establish interprofessional collaboration with other health care disciplines
- Establish a relationship and location for your target population
- Advertise to students to gain participation
- Develop projects and an orientation session to select interested professional volunteers
- Arrive 20-30 minutes prior to the event to set up/prepare for patients
- Maintain a strong relationship with your site to build an ongoing event

RESOURCES:

Barbara Bush Children's Hospital website: <http://www.bbch.org/>

Children's Crafting Projects/Ideas: http://www.pinterest.com/all/diy_crafts/

Questions? Contact University of New England SSHP at UNESSHP@gmail.com or UneBBCH@gmail.com