

# **The Collaborative Partnership Approach to Learning and Health Promotion for a Linguistic Minority Population**

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# Outline

- Context: *The Montreal East Initiative*
- English-Speaking Population Profile (OLMG)
- Collaborative Partnership approach to learning
- The 'Preceptor-free' model
- Outcomes
- Key messages



# ***The Montreal East Initiative***

- McGill University School of Nursing
- Community Health Nursing (CHN) curriculum
- ‘Traditional model’ of teaching-learning in CHN
- Special request to act to improve health and human resource situation r/t OLMG in Montreal East

# English Speaking People in Quebec

- 994,720 English-speaking Quebecers (FOLS),
- Aging; but also recent demographic shift/influx; diversity
- 38% more apt to have incomes below the LICO
- 74% with incomes below LICO live in Montreal.
- Unemployment rate higher than their French-speaking neighbours in every health region
- ~1 in 5 feel ill at ease requesting services in English
- 73% report receiving NO information in English regarding access to available resources (ex. *Info Santé*) in past 2 years

Jennifer Johnson, 2009

# Utilization of Health Services

- **Compared with other official languages groups in Canada**

- Francophone Quebecers
- Francophone minorities outside of Quebec
- Anglophone Canadians

**English-speaking Quebecers have the lowest rates in terms of:**

- Having a regular doctor
- Satisfied health needs
- Satisfaction with regard to care received
- Utilisation of hospital services
- Utilisation of a doctor's services
- Ease in accessing specialists
- Quality of care by a doctor
- Satisfaction regarding care given by community services
- Ease in obtaining tests
- Ease in accessing health information
- Ease in getting immediate care

Jennifer Johnson, 2009

Canadian Community Health Survey 2005



# Collaborative Partnership Approach to Learning

- Community Health Nursing educational priorities
  - Quality learning
  - Quality care; and the moral imperative to act
  - Quality collaborative partnerships in CHN context
- Socio-ecological approach:
  - Determinants of health
  - Capacity building
  - Population health promotion





# The Key Stakeholders

- McGill University School of Nursing
  - McGill Training, Human Resources Development program
- English Montreal School Board
- 4 Montreal East Island Health and Social Service Centres (CSSS)

# Teaching-Learning in a Preceptor-Free Model

- *“getting involved with a project, not sure exactly what it will look like, how it will work, are you willing to get involved?...”*



# Teaching-Learning in a Preceptor-Free Model

- What it looked like...embracing the unknown!
- Keeping it together...from building spaces to building relationships.
- Multiple accomplishments...



# What It Looked Like...

- A new approach to teaching & learning for McGill School of Nursing
- 1 Clinical Instructor, 8 students, multiple partners
- 4 unique schools in Montreal East
- Key challenge: creating an environment conducive to students' learning



# Keeping It Together...

- Dynamics of teaching/learning
- Moving towards collaborative efforts with partners
- Keeping on track...



# Accomplishments

- 50 + Health Promotion actions & products
- Collaborative partnerships
- Shifting perspective
- Professional and life skills



# Priority Action Projects



- Montréal-Nord: Personal career goal setting and planning as mechanism to promote secondary school completion and higher education.
- Rosemont: Family focused approach to improve communication and decrease perceived stress in a high-performance secondary school.
- Saint-Michel: Promote understanding of cross-gender communication as (culturally acceptable) foundation for future safer sexual practices.
- Rivière-des-Prairies (elementary school): ‘*Catch Your Dreams Every Night*’, family focused approach to promote development of healthy *sleep traditions* and improve school performance.



# Why It Was Worth It



- Opportunity to augment total student placements
- Greater flexibility in health promotion actions
- Novice nurses prepared for scope of CHN practice
- Revealed more accurate cost of education
- Cultural brokering with majority population
- Increased understanding and advocacy for linguistic minority



# Partnership Outcomes

- Trust and genuine appreciation
- Significant positive reviews by all partners, particularly CSSS management and nurses
- Widespread dissemination of student projects across Quebec Community Groups Network
- Synergy and expanded partnerships



# Key Messages

- Value of collaborative partnership approach to address inequity and influence practice
- Alternative funding source for educational mandate
- Opportunity for development, recruitment and retention of culturally competent CHNs
- Minority Language status is a Determinant of Health



**Thank –you!**

Questions?



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