Transitions Theatre: An Arts-informed Interprofessional Education on Transition Support

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It felt like we could really hear the patient and their family's voice in the room.

- Workshop participant





Youth Script

Parent Script

Click & listen to the Transitions Theatre scripts read by volunteers

TRANSITIONS THEATRE IPE

OFFERS LEARNERS AN IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE INTO PERSPECTIVES OF YOUTH AND FAMILIES TRANSITIONING TO ADULTHOOD.

BACKGROUND

Transition to adulthood is a time of great change and opportunity for young people with disabilities and their families. Based on narrative interviews with 15 youth and families who have experienced transition to adulthood, we developed an arts-based Interprofessional Education (IPE) activity titled *Transitions Theatre*, using the method of Reader's Theatre.

METHODS

Three lived experience educators (one youth facilitator and two family as faculty) and three academic educators teamed up to co-facilitate the IPE activity to help learners prepare for collaboration with clients, families, and service providers from different disciplines. We conducted four workshops over Zoom from August 2020 to April 2021 with a total of 67 students and post-licensure clinicians (maximum 14–20 participants at each workshop). The format was iteratively developed based on feedback from learners and the workshop co-facilitators.

RESULTS

Post-session survey data (n=30) revealed that 87% of participants agreed or strongly agreed what they had learned will be applicable to their current/future practice.

26 Participants who completed both pre- and post-session surveys reported a positive shift after the workshop in their understanding of client/family perspectives, their roles, and other providers' roles in transition support. Learners also felt more confident in transition support and interprofessional collaboration.

Participants appreciated learning from and with the lived experience educators and expressed that hearing personal stories of transition reinforced the importance of taking a more empathetic and holistic approach to transition support.

DISCUSSION

The research-based Reader's Theatre and our co-teaching model offer learners a unique opportunity to vicariously learn the complexity of life transitions and consider their role in transformative transition support.

