

Strengthening the Future Health Work Force: Applying the Transtheoretical Model to Improve Retention in Spanish Language Circles.

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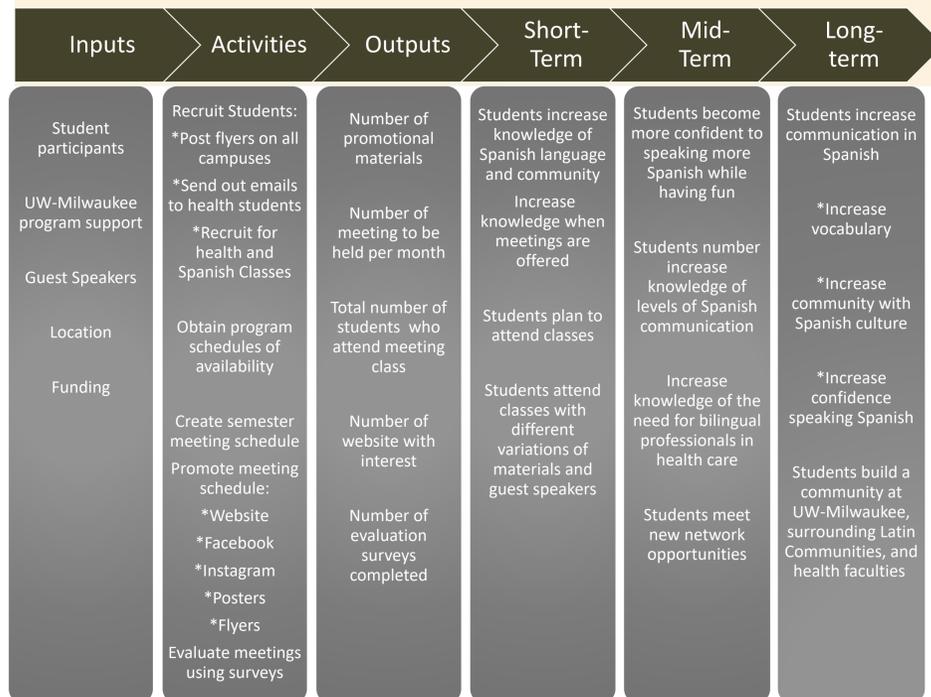
Strategies for Action in Public Health | Instructor: Rose Hennessy



Logic Model: Spanish Tables for Health Students

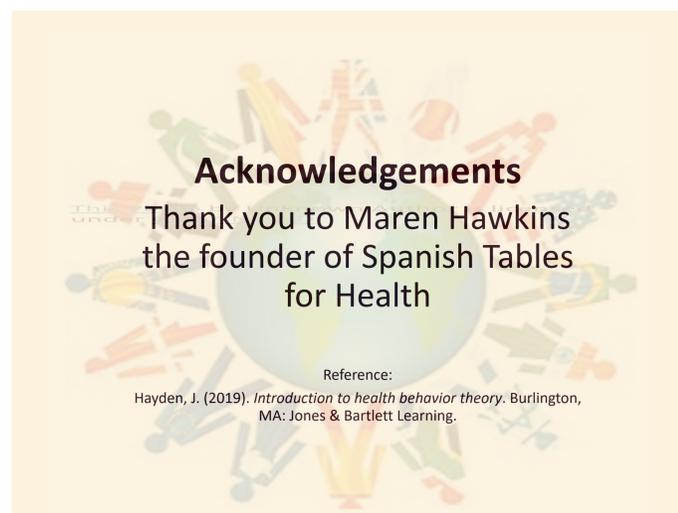
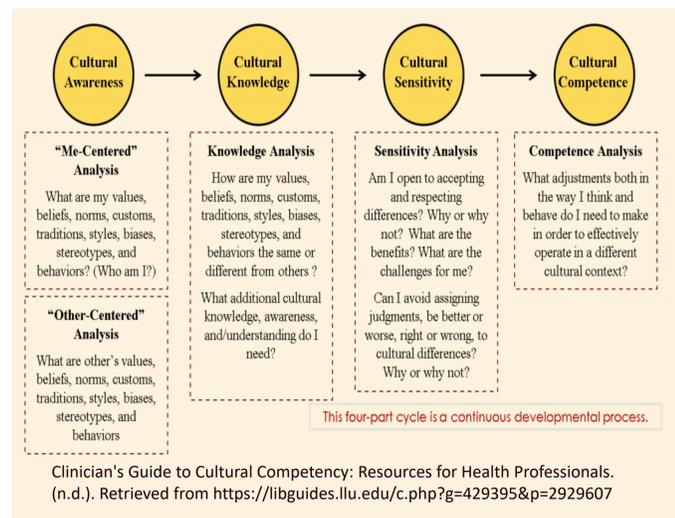
Assumptions: Attending Spanish Tables for Health Students will improve the overall communication with Spanish-speaking community. Frequent participants in meetings will interact with other participants or the instructors. Participants who come with a friend will attend more frequently.

External Factors: Location may make it less likely that participants come to meetings. Students and Volunteers schedules may conflict's with class times, making it difficult to attend. Overall health during the school year can decrease meeting size.



Impact

UW-Milwaukee Spanish Table for Health Students have more knowledge and thrive in Latin communication and communities or location



Introduction

- Learning how to communicate effectively in Spanish, shows respect and helps health professionals implement culturally specific services and treat patients.
- As the Spanish-speaking community grows, there is a need to address language barriers in health care.
- The Spanish Tables for Health Students program at UW-Milwaukee allows English-speaking undergraduates and graduates from all disciplines to improve health communication ability in Spanish.
- This is completed through bi-monthly sessions where students sit around a table together to practice Spanish and learn about health issues in Latino communities.

Methods

A semi-structured interview was conducted with the program developer of Spanish Tables for health Students from the UW-Milwaukee. Observation of Spanish Tables for Health to support the research to identify the behavioral theories for public health change and program recommendations.

Results

One to thirteen participants attend each Spanish session, but the individual participants vary week to week. Therefore, there is a need for improvement in the retention of participants. The use of a Logic Model to help identify the key activities that lead to participating and retention while analyzing the outputs, and outcomes to better Spanish Tables for Health Students. The Transtheoretical Model is an integrative theory that assesses a readiness to act on a process of change and will be applied to help achieve a greater retention rate (Hayden, 2019).

Conclusion

Logic Models are effective tools to assist in program planning, implementation, and evaluation. Theory-based recommendations may assist to improve recruitment and proactive recruitment procedures (Hayden, 2019). The personnel of Spanish Tables for Health Students may consider adapting the recommendations provided. Improving retention of Spanish Tables for Health could help decrease public health disparities in minority health.