



Stony Brook Medicine

Center for Interprofessional Innovation

Background

- The Stony Brook Medicine Healthy Libraries Program (HeLP) is an innovative interprofessional (IP) experiential service-learning experience for health professional students.
- Launched in 2020 and has continued for last 3+ years.
- HeLP places student teams in public libraries.
- Libraries are a community setting that is highly frequented by communities (1.2 billion times in 2019) (Pelczar et al., 2021).
- Library visits are highest among those who are low income (Becker et al., 2010; Horrigan, 2016).
- There is a dearth of literature that describes how public libraries address the SDOH by providing information and services (Morgan et al., 2016; Whiteman et al., 2018; Philbin et al., 2019; Wahler et al., 2020).

Goals of HeLP

The goals of HeLP are:

- for students to experience an IP team and demonstrate the IPEC core competencies (IPEC, 2016, 2023) while providing evidence-based health resources at no cost to public library patrons;
- for students to assist patrons with access to health and social service programs that address the SDOH;
- to train public librarians on evidence-based health resources;
- to sustain HeLP and provide ongoing assessment of the program's impact on student competencies and careers;
- and, to improve access to health and social services, and ultimately improve community health outcomes.

IPE Model Implementation

Model 1: Teams of Nursing, Public Health, and/or Social Welfare students rotate between 8 HeLP partner libraries over 8 weeks per semester.

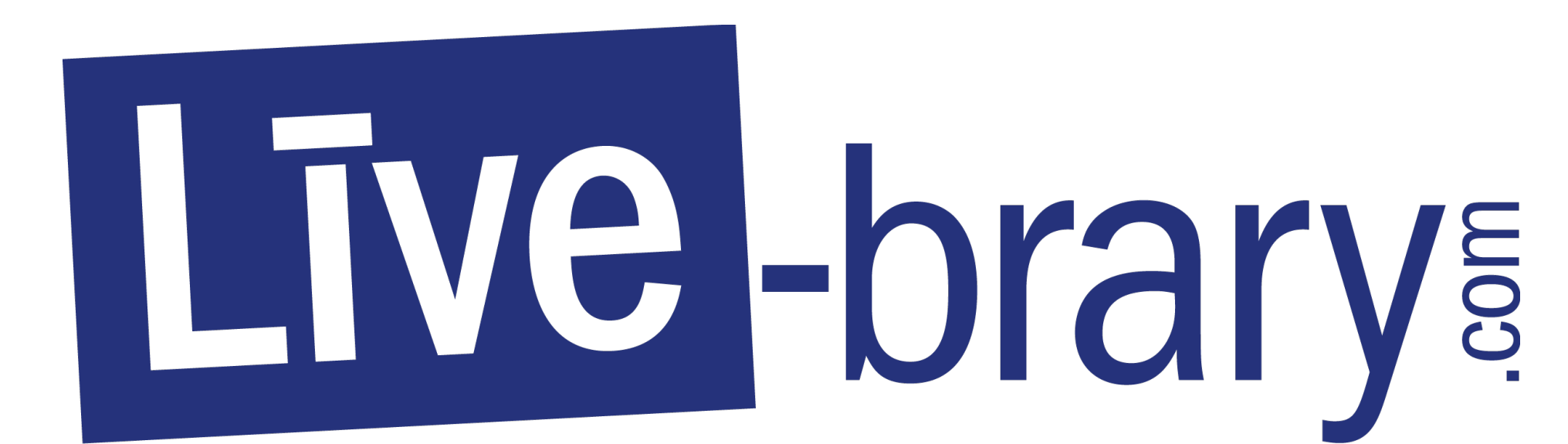
- Each library is visited four times per semester for 2 ½ hours for each visit (~ 80 hours per year).

Model 2: Teams of PA students, Public Health and/or Social Welfare students visit ~ 8 public libraries for one-time visits per year (~32 hours).

Model 3: Social Welfare students offered additional hours outside of the HeLP team at public libraries.

- Faculty supervisors on site with clinical students.

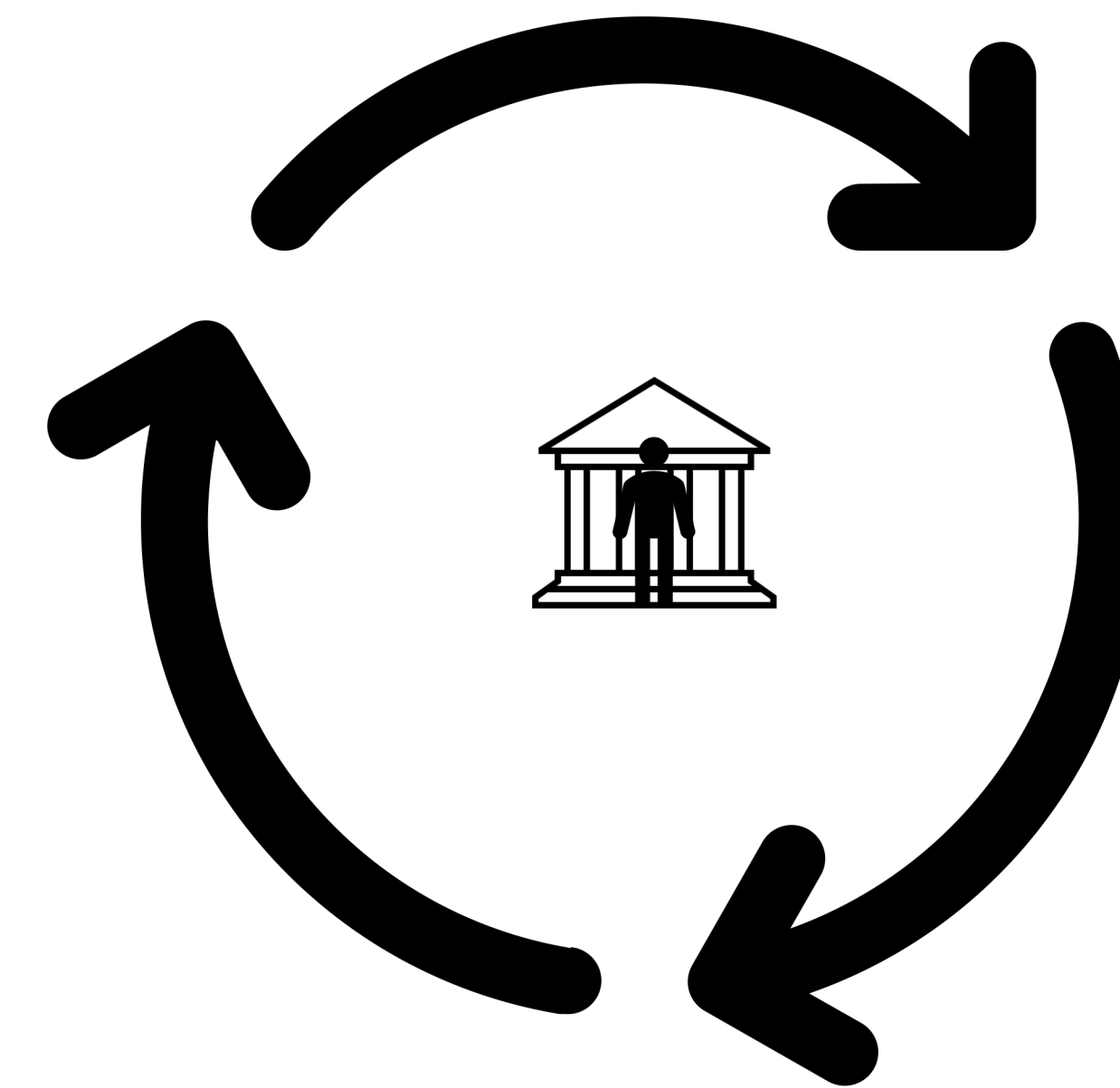
Promoting Community-Academic Partnerships Through an Innovative Interprofessional Team-based Model: The Stony Brook Medicine Healthy Libraries Program*



PUBLIC LIBRARIES of Suffolk County, NY

The HeLP Team Model

Nursing/ Physician Assistant students provide BP screenings and health education including education on self-measured blood pressure monitoring (SMBP).



Public Health students provide reliable health information and education on SMBP.



Social Welfare students connect patrons to healthcare providers and social service organizations.

Methods

Implementation

- Health professional students are placed on IP teams during the academic year to fill course requirements:
 - Clinical rotations for Nursing
 - Community health service-learning course for PA
 - Practicum/internship for Public Health
 - Field education for Social Welfare

- Students are trained on the team model and public library culture.

- HeLP students documented patron encounters in Qualtrics.

Evaluation

- HeLP is rigorously evaluated using a mixed-methods approach.
- Students are assessed for IPE learning outcomes pre and post participation (IPEC Competency Self-Assessment tool and SPICE-R2).
- Clinical students complete a SMBP knowledge quiz in addition to IPE assessments.
- Students provide written responses to open-ended questions reflecting on the IPEC core competencies, community impact by describing an impressionable patron interaction, the SDOH, and the roles of each discipline on the team post HeLP participation.
- Community impact and teamwork (student to student referrals) are assessed using the patron interaction documentation tool.
- Community stakeholders (library patrons and staff) were interviewed to understand their perceptions of the HeLP team.

Results

- More than 200 students from nursing, physician assistant, public health, social work, library science and medicine have participated in HeLP.
- Students have logged more than 2000 patron encounters.
- Evaluations demonstrated improved learning outcomes in students (Pandolfelli et al., 2021).

Blood Pressure Outcomes

In the 2021-2022 academic year, 522 BP screenings were performed.

- 66% (n=345) were considered to be high according to national guidelines.
- Thirty-one patrons were referred to a social work student to assist with accessing a healthcare provider.

Discussion

- Our team is dedicated to sustaining and expanding HeLP while promoting dissemination and replication by others elsewhere.
- Our assessments demonstrate that IP teams collaborating in public libraries can attain IPE competencies while promoting access to health education, BP screening, care, and social work case management.
- HeLP faculty, collaborators, and library partners continue to submit new manuscripts for peer review by journals to publish our findings and promote greater community impact.

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