

Nov 29<sup>th</sup>

### Empowering Immigrant Women Through Their Health

Presenters: Meghan Mergaert, Tara Taggart & Christy Anderson

- program address equity effect immigrant women → I-Celebrate
- collaboration of BC cancer agency, Canadian Cancer Society, VIRCS
- Funding from BC cancer agency screening program
- interaction with participants with directors → tailor to their need
- 5 work shops in total, women only (women led)
- focus on reproductive health exam (pelvic exam)
- free workshops, provide transportation and food
- forum theater - scenarios (experience with health care professional), facilitator gets feed back from group regarding the scenario they just saw
- collaborative learning: > 2 people getting together to learn
- Experiential learning: a way of learning way educator purposely engage learner (more interaction between facilitators and participants)
- empower women : increase health care right and available resource
- public nurse (nurse practitioner) was involved in the workshop → allowed relationship to be form between the nurse and the participants outside of the workshop

Discussion Questions:

How can experiential learning be used to reach marginalized communities?

- youth led theater to tell stories- empowerment
- actions, body language → easier to understand for immigrants
- stories help dispute issues that may be taboo
- pregnancy outreach program uses experiential learning → group sharing of experiences, put a situation on the table for discussion

How can this approach be replicated in current and future projects and practices?

- incorporation of simple video of forum theater
- Manitoba program → “Its safe to ask”
- Forum theater at UBC (Collage of Health Discipline → “Team Challenge”
- David Diamond → Forum theater
- Y-Peer: Forum theater for youth regarding health topics
- Student health 101 → health services website