# More than a "One-Night Stand": Strengthening CCHN Standards and Political Action

CHNC Conference - May 15, 2012

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# **Objectives**

- o Be inspired by one example
- o Learn collective political action strategies
- o Learn team building in a community project
- o **Develop** more confidence to take risks



#### **RNAO's Mission Statement**

We represent the nursing profession in Ontario, speaking out for health and speaking out for nursing.

Our mission is to advance healthy public policy and to promote the full participation of registered nurses in improving health, and in shaping and delivering health services now and in the future.

We believe health is a resource for everyday living and health care a universal human right.



# **Background**

- o Social determinants of health
  - Local priority, partnerships, previous events
- o Anti-poverty coalition
- o "Creating Vibrant Communities"
- Political environment
  - Election





# **Our Project Initiative**

A Pre-Election Dialogue on Health and Social Issues

- Date: September 14, 2011
- Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm
- Location: Hamilton Spectator Auditorium



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#### **CCHN Standards of Practice**

#### Standard 1: Health Promotion

- Enabled people to increase knowledge, influence and control over the determinants of
- Raised awareness of health and social issues
- Placed issues of social justice and health equity on the political agenda



#### **CCHN Standards of Practice**

#### Standard 4: Professional Relationships

- Intersectoral collaboration
- Used various communication strategies to strengthen relationships
- Involved those with "lived experience" as an active partner

















#### **CCHN Standards of Practice**

#### Standard 5: Capacity Building

- Collaboratively identified needs, issues, goals, available resources and strategies for action
- Supported groups to advocate for themselves
- Built on strengths and developed new skills and
- Increased willingness to take action in the present and in the future



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	CCHN Standards of Practice
	Standard 6: Access and Equity  Facilitated universal and equitable access  Used various promotional strategies to reach community
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#### **CCHN Standards of Practice**

#### Standard 7: Professional Responsibility and Accountability

- Advocates for societal change
- Mentorship of peers on the integration of CCHN Standards of Practice
- Effective teamwork skills
  - o Identified needs, issues and solutions using collaborative decision making and conflict resolution skills
- Self-evaluation and reflection after event



# The Night!

- o All parties represented
- o Full attendance
- Participation of advocateslived experience
- Focus on health and social issues
- o Home Office participation
- Social media coverage



#### **Successes**

- Worthwhile (despite all the work)
- Well-coordinated event
   Engaging discussions with candidates
- United as a chapter
- Stronger partnership with coalition
- o Improved collaboration with community – agencies and citizens



# Successes (cont'd)

- o Acquired new skills and confidence
- o Increased knowledge and comfort with politics
- o Mutual learning between generations
- o More willingness for future projects/collaborations
- o Valuable support from Home Office



# **Challenges**

- o Communication patterns revisit methods
- o Timing vacations, working in pairs
- o Realistic about politics and expectations
- o Ensuring time for process and consensus
- Engaging media for promotion



#### **Future Recommendations**

- o Identify an issue/goal and take action
- o Build a team with a shared interest
  - Work with experts, intersectoral partners and citizens
- $\circ\quad \mbox{Develop}$  and maintain relationships with the media
- $\circ\hspace{0.1in}$  Be open to learning new skills and mentor students and peers
- Utilize available tools and resources
- o Incorporate CCHN Standards of Practice
- o Collect feedback from participants
- o Have fun!



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	Reference List		 
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	Thank you!		
	• Questions?	-	 —
	Feel free to contact us at:		
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