

POSTER ABSTRACT

Eclipse Project - Medical Awareness Program: Bridging the Gap in Medical Care for Refugee and Newcomer Youth and Adults

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This population faces unique challenges, including cultural displacement, systemic barriers, missed appointments, high use of emergency care, medication lapses, and limited healthcare knowledge and resources.

To bridge this gap, the Eclipse Project develops a comprehensive, culturally responsive curriculum designed to equip refugee and newcomer youth and adults with the psychoeducation, self-efficacy, and skills necessary to navigate adult healthcare systems successfully. The curriculum is structured into three phases, each comprising two modules, each gathering preliminary and post assessments of topic knowledge. Patient's also participate in the World Health Organizations Quality of Life – BREF assessment concurrently.

Phase One focuses on patient enrollment; psychoeducation on consent, medical rights, integrated care, emergency care, and patient satisfaction.

Phase Two focuses on patient interventions; effective communication, stakeholder collaboration, treatment planning, and prescription management.

Phase Three focus on patient independence; community resources for education, training, or employment as well as the understanding and importance of financial planning and stability for life long medical access and care. The Eclipse Project integrates cultural and linguistic adaptations to engage caregivers, healthcare professionals, and community stakeholders, fostering trust and collaboration.

Preliminary assessments identify risk levels based on mental and physical health comorbidities, ensuring that interventions are tailored to individual needs.

Pilot data reveal the project's potential to improve healthcare access, appointment adherence, and self-management of health conditions, increase trust of health care providers, while reducing emergency room reliance. There was also data to support lower levels of stress in provides and staff within community healthcare setting.

By addressing the social determinants of health that disproportionately affect refugees and newcomers, the Eclipse Project creates a replicable framework for reducing health disparities. Future iterations will expand to include multilingual resources, broader stakeholder involvement, and additional adaptations for diverse refugee communities.

The Eclipse Project represents a transformative approach to healthcare transition, empowering refugee and newcomer youth and adults to achieve health equity, resilience, and the opportunity for a thriving, independent future.