

School	Discipline	Title of Presentation	Abstract
Western New England University	Occupational Therapy	Changes in Healthcare Students Perceptions after an In-Person Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Case Experience	<p>Western New England University's B.E.A.R. P.A.W. Center is a student-led pro bono outpatient occupational therapy clinic. It began as a Doctoral Experiential capstone project offering adult and pediatric services, telehealth services for adults and children, driving services, and a pediatric playgroup, through the work and dedication of our students and faculty.</p> <p>Springfield, MA, is a low-income area, so our clinic has revolutionized access to community resources. Therefore, we will discuss the impact of our services and how we support our community while expanding the OT profession. B.E.A.R. P.A.W. stands for "Bringing Equity, Accessibility, and Rehabilitation to Persons Achieving Wellness, where members have acknowledged the importance and impact of our work.</p> <p>We hope to expand our community reach to support the clinic's mission of providing equitable, accessible rehabilitative care. We expect to effectively increase our client capacity, implement group-based services, and collaborate with local organizations to provide wellness groups. We anticipate presenting on the importance of OT services in community unification. Lastly, we hope to encourage interprofessional collaboration with other disciplines to consider the depth to which OT can benefit the community's needs.</p>
Widener University	Occupational Therapy	Growing & Enhancing OT Services	
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences	Occupational Therapy	Delivery of Telhealth Services for Parents with Disabilities	The use of a pro bono clinic through telehealth combined with a transdisciplinary approach has allowed for collaboration that bridges academia and the community to include parents living in the community with disability to be collaborators in their health and well-being in the complex occupation of parenting. Through collaboration with community partners and occupational therapy doctoral student capstone projects at the University of St Augustine for Health Sciences, a need for health promotion and wellness for parents with disabilities was identified. The use of a pro bono clinic through telehealth was recognized and implemented as a method of service delivery to meet the needs of parents with disabilities as well as increase their access to occupational therapy services that are otherwise not provided in the current healthcare environment. Through this collaboration, an emerging Level 1 fieldwork site for occupational therapy students has been established as well as a sustainable occupational therapy doctorate capstone site. This experience has been invaluable to student education and development of critical thinking skills through an innovative model for practice and education.
Sacred Heart University	Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Lanugage	Guatemala Interprofessional Service	Team members from multiple disciplines collaborated to create customizable image-based resources using portable printers that could be printed at point of care in the patient's preferred language with minimal reliance on text. The resources included individualized home exercise programs (HEPs), safety recommendations, family education, and communication boards to support comprehension and return demonstration. Clients included individuals across the lifespan with musculoskeletal, neurological, and medical conditions, including Deaf and non-verbal.
Widener University	Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Lanugage	Marketing, Community Relations, Fund Raising	

Medical University of South Carolina	Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Lanuguage	Clinician Recruitment Needs and Improvement Efforts	<p>The MUSC CARES Therapy Clinic provides occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), and speech-language pathology (SLP) services to underinsured clients with orthopedic and neurological conditions. Using community clinic space after hours, OT, PT, and SLP students deliver care under the supervision of licensed, volunteer clinicians. While this model expands access to care and student learning, sustaining an adequate pool of supervising clinicians remains a persistent challenge as the client waitlist grows.</p> <p>Current recruitment methods include post-graduation surveys, OT/PT/SLP faculty participation, and mass emails to a clinician volunteer database. Known ongoing barriers include limited confidence among new graduates and the logistical burden of evening clinic hours for working professionals with families. This quality improvement project aims to create a sustainable clinician recruitment protocol.</p> <p>Methods: We will conduct a clinician needs assessment to identify barriers and facilitators to sustainable volunteer participation. A voluntary survey will be sent to new MUSC graduates and clinicians in the current volunteer database. The needs assessment results will inform the creation of a new protocol, which will be iteratively refined to improve recruitment sustainability.</p> <p>Results: Project planning and data collection are underway, with preliminary findings to be presented at the conference. Anticipated recruitment strategies include 1) a refined clinician interest form to improve response efficiency, 2) the creation of a target outreach database of local clinics and managers, and 3) a digital flyer highlighting volunteerism benefits, including continuing-education credits and teaching/mentoring experiences.</p>
Widener University	Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Lanuguage	Enhancing Operations: Streamlining Intake	<p>Interdisciplinary student-run pro bono clinics provide essential services to underserved and underinsured populations while fostering collaborative training among its students. As these clinics grow, efficient communication systems and standardized intake processes are critical for coordinating care across disciplines. In clinics offering rehabilitation services such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology, clients often present with complex needs that require coordinated triage and referral. This presentation highlights the initiative taken by PT, OT, & SLP students to develop and implement a centralized department phone tree and interdisciplinary intake paperwork to improve access, streamline communication, and support coordinated rehabilitation service delivery within an interdisciplinary student-run pro bono clinic.</p>
Medical University of South Carolina	Physical Therapy	Overbooking to Reduce Missed Opportunities	
Arcadia University	Physical Therapy	Medical University of South Carolina	<p>Arcadia University's Hybrid Pro Bono Physical Therapy Clinic is a six month episodic program focused on increasing access to care for underserved individuals. Patients complete a student-led evaluation and treatment under licensed PT supervision, receive a home exercise program (HEP), participate in a telehealth follow-up, and return for re-evaluation. As part of intake, participants also complete a Social Needs Screening Form adapted from the AAFP and HITS tools, using a 5-point Likert scale to categorize risk from "none" to "very high."</p> <p>In 2025, the clinic served 23 patients in total. Nine patients returned for re-evaluation, with ten total MCIDs / MDCs met. While correlation cannot be established, a clear trend emerged: participants scoring minimal to no risk were more likely to return and achieve positive clinical outcomes, whereas those scoring moderate to high risk frequently did not return.</p> <p>These preliminary trends demonstrate the need for ongoing data collection, and enhancement of services for individuals with higher social needs. Planned program evolution includes an updated HEP platform with increased virtual touchpoints, and a streamlined pipeline to county-based resources. This additional infrastructure may reduce barriers for clients facing greater social challenges, which will continue to be assessed in 2026.</p>