



Evidence and Policy in Long Term Care: Building a Bridge with Knowledge Brokering

A CHSRF Knowledge Brokering Demonstration Site

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Objectives

- Provide an overview of the project
- Describe the activities
- Share the bumps in the journey
- What we have learned
- The take away message



Project Overview



- What is it?
- Who supported it?
- What was our purpose?



The Knowledge Brokering Group

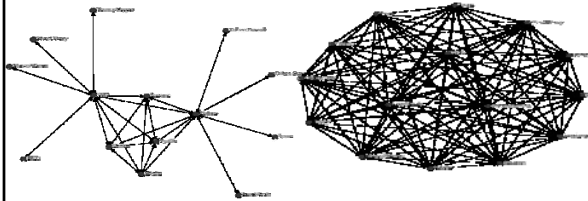
- Decision makers from three levels
 - Three long term care organizations-project was provider initiated
 - Regional Health Authority
 - Provincial Government
- Researchers
 - Expertise and interest in:
 - Gerontology
 - Knowledge Utilization
 - RAI



Network Growth

Prior to KBG

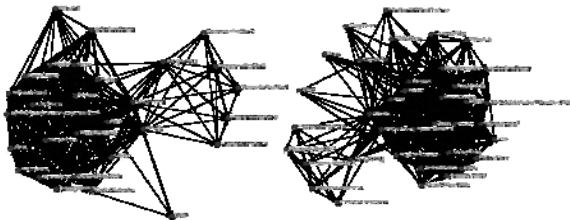
Formation of KBG



Network Analysis

2005

2006



Why RAI?



- Provincial implementation was imminent – window of opportunity
- We wanted to have an impact on how the data were used within LTC/Province
- Using RAI data has potential to improve care
 - Evidence from other jurisdictions was that without intentional planning, the data are not actually used
 - We wanted to have a group thinking about the end use of the information from the beginning of implementation
- Opportunities for research using RAI data



Project Activities



1. Knowledge brokering activities
 - Monthly newsletter
 - Workshops with high quality speakers
 - Breakfast education sessions
 - One day symposium
 - Bi-annual meetings with researchers and decision makers
 - Job descriptions changed to incorporate knowledge brokering.
2. Evidence based decision support
 - organizational assessment
 - literature reviews



Success Factors

- Good will and flexibility of participants
- Some prior history together
- Commitment
- Adaptation throughout the project
- Grant funds enabled hiring of a project support person



Successes

- Increased our network
- Seed funding for pilot research
- Had involvement in proposal development
- all of the original organizations and players have remained
- Research facilitation activities



Challenges



Scope of Job



Unique Cultures and Interests



Engaging Researchers



LIFE!



Scope of Job

- Amount of time required for the project is far greater than the initial estimate.



Unique Cultures & Interests



- Some groups are more engaged than others
- Language barriers between the groups
- Greater understanding of different cultures still needed



Engaging the Researchers

- Researchers are not formal partners (funds were distributed to the decision makers)



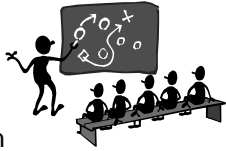
LIFE!!

- Delay in RAI implementation
- Scheduling



Strategies

- Flexibility
- Communication
- Learn from others



What did we learn?

- Plan behind the scenes
- Importance of strong networks
- Be persistent with researchers
- Collaboration requires ongoing work
- Building capacity requires organizational commitment



What next?

- Continuing the interactive breakfast series
- Some of the decision makers are involved in grant proposals with researchers
- Pilot project results



Thank you

Questions