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**Introduction**

Belmont University has historically supported the gathering of youth to learn and grow together. Over the past several years, the FUGE program has been the focal point of this support. In an effort to expand our outreach, the University was given the challenge to initiate additional methods of engaging youth and enhancing the programming being offered.

**Background Information**

On many health science campuses, faculty, staff and students provide a variety of different summer camps in order to attract students to their campus, introduce them to potential health careers, and build their relationship with the University.

**Purpose**

The proposed program will provide school students who have completed the 5th-8th grade the rare opportunity to experience the “beat and pulse” of many different medical professions. Building upon Belmont University’s broad “footprint” in health care, this camp is designed as an inter-professional learning experience for students to become acquainted with pharmacy, nursing and physical therapy. Students attending camp will engage in high-interest, low pressure, non-credit enrichment experiences with a heavy emphasis on group interaction and collaborative problem solving in the medical arena. Students will be in the classroom, laboratory, learning about drug information, be involved in the simulation learning centers, and interact and learn from various health care practitioners.

**Objectives**

1. To provide a summer Pharmacy and Health Sciences program for Belmont University
2. To expose middle school students to both Belmont University and the different health professional programs available
3. To allow students to explore the different careers available in the health sciences fields
4. To increase awareness of Belmont University within middle schools in the Nashville area
5. To recruit area middle school students to Belmont University

**Resources**

Camp personnel will be a combination of faculty, staff, and health science/professional students.

**Proposed Schedule of Events**

Over the course of the week, the students will be involved in following a case of a patient who was involved in a motor vehicle accident while driving under the influence of both alcohol and pain medications. The student will be involved in examining how each of the different health sciences field (pharmacy, physical therapy, nursing, occupational therapy, social work) collaborate and work inter-professionally to take care of a patient such as this in the “real world”. The exact schedule has not been determined at this time, but examples of what the week may include:

* Keynote speaker and/or other presenters throughout the week, such as: Mayor’s Office, State Public Health Department, Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital, Cathy Taylor, Leslie Lynch, Live Beyond Mission, Shalom Foundation Mission
* Skills labs with hands on instruction: vital signs, basic medication administration including a subcutaneous injection, priming IV tubing, glucometer, some basics of physical exam, and using lift equipment, other lines and tubes
* Simulations in the patient simulation lab
  + Critical care scenario
  + Transition to rehab scenario
* Possible tour of Life Flight
* Analyzing blood for drug toxin levels
* Compounding medications
* Learning to walk with crutches or walkers
* Understanding wheelchair mobility and practicing on Belmont’s campus
* Gaining knowledge of balance and exercise skills
* Learning about bedside care and rehabilitation

Additionally, students will also be exposed to issues healthcare professionals deal with on a daily basis, such as healthcare disparities and the challenges many patients are faced with. Each profession will also discuss pertinent information regarding their respective areas, such as: academic preparation, licensure, a typical day and job responsibilities, variety of practice settings and job opportunities, salary and future trends.

**Follow-up**

A survey will be given to students during the last day of camp to identify camp strengths and areas of improvement. These surveys will be compiled and discussed by the Health Sciences Camp Faculty team for implementation of changes needed for the next year.

**Needs**

Training and understanding of liability issues for guests on campus, health issues/policy for students, policy regarding transporting guests from campus to Nashville area destinations.