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Ohio Northern University Students Trailblaze Innovative Methods of Serving Long Term Care Residents Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic

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OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TRAILBLAZE
INNOVATIVE METHODS OF SERVING LONG TERM CARE
RESIDENTS THROUGHOUT THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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OBJECTIVES:

- X Define non-pharmacologic therapy and explain its benefit in older adult patients
- X Explain the role of non-pharm in therapy at Vancrest of Ada
- X Describe the different therapy options ONU students developed before, during, and after facility restrictions due to COVID-19
- X Outline the ways we are spreading the word



SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- X Pharmacy students have an “outreach” requirement of 50 hours
- X Local long-term care facility: Vancrest of Ada
- X Students have partnered with the facility to help students gain outreach hours by interacting with their residents (patients)
- X Student pharmacists participate in various activities at Vancrest, including making jewelry, gardening, art, music, etc. to obtain outreach hours
 - X This type of outreach focuses on non-pharmacologic therapy!






1

WHAT IS NON-PHARM THERAPY?

NON- PHARMACOLOGICAL THERAPY:



Any intervention
used to treat a
disease state that
does **not** involve the
use of medications

BENEFITS OF NON-PHARM THERAPY:

- X Can have compounding benefit to medication therapy for many different disease states
- X Provides a patient additional options for treatment
- X Re-establishes a sense of control for the patient
- X This type of non-pharm provides numerous benefits
 - X Combating isolation, especially in the COVID-19 pandemic!






2

A hand-drawn diagram consisting of a large, rounded rectangular frame. In the top-left corner of the frame is a green, irregularly shaped box containing the number '2'. In the center of the frame is a text box containing the question 'HOW CAN WE DO THIS AT VANCREST?'. The frame is decorated with various hand-drawn elements: a wavy line at the top, a small circle on the left side, and several parallel lines at the bottom and right side, suggesting a path or a boundary.

HOW CAN WE DO THIS
AT VANCREST?

OUTREACH EVENTS!

- 
- X Music Outreach
 - X Jewelry Outreach
 - X Movie Outreach
 - X Birthday Club
 - X Garden Outreach
- and more!

MARDI GRAS MUSIC PARTY!



SPRING GARDENING!





3

HOW DID THIS WORK DURING
COVID RESTRICTIONS?

WINDOW VISITS DURING COVID





4

IS THIS WORKING?

HOW TO GAUGE SUCCESS:





5

HOW CAN WE EXPAND THIS?

MY HONORS PROJECT!

- X Working as an Outreach Chair for ASCP
- X Gathering research to learn more about non-pharm options and how they can work into care at Vancrest
- X Gathering feedback from patients, caregivers, and students to gauge patient outcomes

- X Bringing awareness to non-medication therapies pharmacists/medical professionals can provide
- X Writing an article for OPA to share programs in hopes they can be implemented elsewhere



A QUICK SUMMARY:

ONU students learned about non-pharm therapy and isolation in older adults

1

COVID-19 pandemic brings indoor activities to a halt

3

Facility restrictions lifted and asked ONU students return inside to provide activities in a new way

5

Developed new ways to help the residents by bringing activities they loved inside the facility

2

Outreach events are eventually resumed and shifted outside in new ways

4

MY PROJECT!!

The work to spread the word to others begins :)

6



TAKE AWAY POINTS:

- X There are so many additional ways healthcare professionals can help patients other than medications
- X Simply spending the time to get to know your patients can be very useful in disease state management
- X Some of the most rewarding opportunities for students to learn can not be found in a textbook



THANKS!

Any questions?

