



Background

- ❑ One of the strengths of burn camps is the multidisciplinary staff who passionately combine their areas of expertise to create the camp experience, including fire service, burn survivors, burn center staff, camping professionals, donors, and community members
- ❑ This gift also presents a challenge in developing a staff training program and experience that meets the needs of a diverse staff
- ❑ This project utilizes post camp staff surveys to assess the efficacy of our staff training and to enhance our training and overall camp experience

Methods

- ❑ Staff at a residential medical specialty burn camp participated in a two-day training and then week-long camp for pediatric burn survivors, ages 8– 18
- ❑ Staff training included:
 - lectures on burn treatment and rehabilitation with nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and psychology
 - focused review of all campers
 - intentionality with level 1 & 2 skills (adapted from M. Brandwein)
- ❑ 36 staff responded to an anonymous online survey about their experience of staff training and success implementing skills and approaches during the week with campers

Results

- 85% reported staff training met goals of getting to know each other, learning the flow / layout of camp, identifying leadership styles, learning about the campers
- 90% indicated the training met the goal of understanding general burn care and healing process
- 88% reported achieving the goal of learning the impact of trauma, general counseling tips, and the significance of telling our stories



This year's training emphasized greater *intentionality* to each aspect of camp to ensure that campers were learning "camp skills" AND "life skills" in each activity (e.g., learning how to safely belay climb AND to trust others to support you)

No Disclosures

Conclusions

- ❑ Counselor feedback supports the multidisciplinary training model for transmission of knowledge specific to burn camp, including healing from trauma and telling our stories
- ❑ An increased focus on intentionality in each of our camp activities brought primarily positive responses
 - older campers learning camp and life skills on activities (e.g., 3 day outcamps)
 - younger campers learning camp skills initially in preparation for life skills down the road

Implications

- ❑ The development and implementation of staff training for burn camp brings a variety of challenges. Staff come with varied experience, knowledge, and training. There are also multiple goals around knowledge and teamwork.
- ❑ These results help to support and create developmentally informed training and programming for rehabilitative burn camps.

Acknowledgements

- ❑ Thanks to our dedicated camp staff!