

The nature, purpose, and value of a summer camp for visually impaired young people

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Type of Contribution:

Age Range Adult

Population Visual Impairment

Physical Activity Visual Impairment

Session Activity Research Presentation (20 minutes)

While there is empirical research that focuses on summer camps for visually impaired young people (e.g., Goodwin et al., 2011), it is extremely limited. Specifically, none of the extant research explores the planning for and delivery of summer camps for visually impaired young people from the perspectives of volunteers, parent, and visually impaired young people themselves. Therefore, our presentation draws on data gathered using individual and group discussions with these stakeholders to explore the nature, purpose, and value of a summer camp for visually impaired young people. Qualitative data, which were analysed thematically, will be discussed in relation to the following key themes: (1) planning for and promoting the summer camp; (2) reasons for attending the summer camp; (3) activities that should be offered and how they should be delivered at the summer camp; and (4) the purpose and value of the summer camp. The presentation will end with a brief discussion of lessons learned from the research and how the findings may be used to support practitioners to make more research-informed decisions about planning for and delivering summer camps for visually impaired young people.