

The Living Library 2018 - 2023

Key numbers & analytics

29
published

775
students

1139
plays

4793
minutes

What is the Living Library?

The Living Library is a growing collection of videos featuring the stories and experiences of real patients and caregivers. There are **29** videos covering **7 major topics** in healthcare: *Chronic Disease, Communication & Relationship Building with Healthcare Professionals, End-of-Life, Healthcare Advocacy, Healthcare Teams, Stigma & Assumptions* and *Substance Use*. The Living Library can be incorporated into curricula through required readings, case-based learning, student projects, etc. Videos are accessible with a UBC Campus Wide Login (CWL) at: <https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/25637>.

Why do we need the Living Library?

Patients are key advocates for their health, yet their involvement in medical education is often limited in scope and ineffectively integrated into institutions (Towle *et al.*, 2016). Through the Living Library, patients and caregivers can influence the education of health professionals using a digital medium. The use of trigger videos in medical education engages students by attracting their attention and evoking emotional responses, increasing learning retention (Hurtubise *et al.*, 2013).

Our approach enables people who have barriers to in-person participation to shape the narrative of medical education by giving patients a platform to speak candidly about the experiences that matter to them. The goal is to amplify these voices and authentically share their stories and experiences through videos that are accessible to students.

Participating Programs

Faculty	Course Code	Course Name	Number of students
Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences	PHRM 14 1	Pharmacists in practice 1	220
	PHRM 311 IA	Medication management IV	218
	PHRM 312 IA	Medication management V	218
Faculty of Medicine	AUDI 522	Communication development and disorders	12
	PRHC 501	Foundations in primary health care	7
Faculty of Arts	PSYC 314	Health psychology	159
Faculty of Education	KIN 341	Instructional strategies for including persons with disabilities in physical activity	56
BCIT Health Sciences	Various	67 programs	200+

2022-2023 Updates

We introduced **3 new videos** to the Living Library. Our catalogue is in **7+** different courses across **4** faculties, and now available to 67 Health Science programs at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)



Vikram: Being Honest
Stroke, Cancer, communication



Michael: Anything is Possible
Traumatic brain injury, patient-centered, resiliency



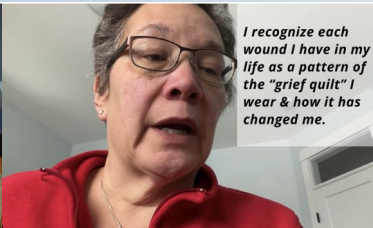
Alexandra: Life is like a Speeding train
Traumatic brain injury, patient-centered care, resiliency

In 2022-23 we partnered with the Occupational Therapy program to pilot an educational program for 13 students based on the Living Library. The students reviewed current Living Library videos in order to identify characteristics of an effective video. They then worked in four small groups with volunteer health mentors to learn about their healthcare experiences and identify a topic for their video. Students have created, edited and evaluated videos that may be included in the Living Library video series. One student remarked, "It pulled on my heart strings by showing the emotional weight that comes with being a caregiver for someone with a degenerative disease."

Occupational Therapy Program Pilot



Jory & Donna: The Heart Matters
Caregiving, empathy, disability



Gina: The Quilt
Chronic illness, resiliency, support networks



Alla: A Caregiver's Experience
Caregiving, stigma, immigrant experience



Mandy & Hudson:
Advocacy, caregiving, school challenges

What do students say?

"I really liked the fact that the videos shared were personal, and that there weren't other people speaking for the patients..."

"I think having authentic people share their personal experiences is an effective way to depict real life situations and interactions with healthcare professionals...The videos are very insightful because they allow the watcher to... understand the patient's experiences...from their own perspective."

"I think there's practical implications to getting down to the level of the individual, to hear them describe their feelings (in their own words) about health issues they are dealing with, what their challenges were, and what kind of supports were helpful for them."

"I think the story is told very well and it is impactful having the people suffering from the disease tell their personal story rather than a doctor..."

Future Directions

With funding from the Cedar Lodge Endowment we plan to expand our video library with the development of disability-specific resources. Through collaboration with community organizations, new videos will be created to address ableism in health care through inclusion of diverse voices of people with disabilities in health professional education.

The Living Library Program is produced by Patient & Community Partnership for Education in the Office of UBC Health, with funding from the UBC Teaching Learning Enhancement Fund (TLEF), Equity and Enhancement Fund (EEF), and Advancing Community Engaged Learning Fund (ACEL).

References: Hurtubise, L., Martin, B., Gilliland, A., & Mahan, J. (2013). To play or not to play: leveraging video in medical education. *Journal of graduate medical education*, 5(1): 13-18

Towle A, Farrell C, Gaines M, Godolphin W, et al (2016). The patient's voice in health and social care professional education: The Vancouver Statement. *International Journal of Health Governance* 21(1): 18-25