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## **"Service – Learning" in occupational therapy education: the inclusion of people with disabilities from an intercultural approach**

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**Introduction:** The “Community Occupational Therapy” course of the Occupational Therapy undergraduate program from a University located in Temuco, Chile, aimed at involving student’s learning with the reality of the region. This is characterized by high poverty and disability rates, and also concentrates the largest number of people belonging to the Mapuche ethnic group in the country.

**Objectives:** The main objective was to facilitate the acquisition of professional competencies by the students that allows them to perform effectively in the community.

**Approach:** The approach used is Service-learning. The experience was developed from August to December 2015 with Newen Trayen Makewe group. The process of initial linkage was carried out with representatives of the group, the assessment and occupational diagnosis were developed using the “problem tree” technique. After consulting with the representatives, three workshops were given. The implementation was carried out by the students, guided by the teachers and framed in Mapuche traditions. The final evaluation assessed the satisfaction of the community and the student’s performance.

**Results:** The direct beneficiaries of the experience were 22 community partners and indirectly were 6 Mapuche communities. The community partners reported 98% satisfaction with the project. Qualitatively, there was an increase in the motivation to learn and generate a quality work. The contact with the community stood out positively.

**Conclusions:** The relevant conclusions were: 1) How the students developed meaningful learning experiences and 2) Their contribution to promote the participation of communities in the management of their own solutions, which justifies the application of this methodology.