

Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs)

May 1st -June 5th, 2025 Summer term

On-Line, Sacramento & Stockton programs collaboration

Professions involved: Social Work and Speech-Language Pathology

Number of students: 77

Objectives

The objectives of the project and the activities during the event are derived from the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) competencies:

Competency 1: Work with **team** members to maintain a climate of shared values, ethical conduct, and mutual respect. (Values & Ethics)

Competency 2: Use the knowledge of one's own role and **team** members' expertise to address individual and population **health outcomes**. (Roles & Responsibilities)

Competency 3: Communicate in a responsive, responsible, respectful, and compassionate manner with **team** members. (Communication)

Competency 4: Apply values and principles of the science of teamwork to adapt one's own role in a variety of **team** settings. (Teams and Teamwork)

Event Description

This activity focused on fostering collaboration between social workers and speech pathologists within Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs). By bridging expertise and research, this activity sought to empower NICU professionals to advance holistic and impactful solutions for their patients and their families.

Examining current interventions from both disciplines, the aims were to explore and provide information that will support parents or staff in the NICU. Students reviewed professional resources from each discipline, met and collaborated to develop deliverables that target to address complex challenges to parents or to staff members in NICUs.

The activity also delved into research methodologies utilizing the example of neonatal care, emphasizing evidence-based practices and outcome-driven studies. Students examined how research can uncover actionable insights, improve developmental support for infants, and strengthen family-centered care.