

Achieving Success in Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education

>>**CHAPPELL:** So we started Joint Accreditation, the official program, in 2010 and credentialed our first two organizations. And I think what's really nice, we have 20 Jointly Accredited providers now, that there's been an exponential interest and growth in the programs. So two the first year, four the second year, and now in our fourth really official year, 20 programs.

>>**REGNIER:** And we have

>>**CHAPPELL:** 20 organizations credentialed, and significant interest that still continues.

>>**REGNIER:** 10 this year and 10...

>>**TRAVLOS:** The answers we have, 10 coming up and 10 coming up the following cycle.

>>**REGNIER:** Right, so to your point, exponential.

>>**CHAPPELL:** We do two cycles a year, and exponential growth. And I think one of the questions that comes to us a lot is, "Is there a certain type of organization that's more successful? Is there a certain structure within an organization that makes them more successful?" And that's not what we've seen, you know?

>>**REGNIER:** Right, of the 20 organizations there have been some organizations that have come forward that have not been successful.

>>**TRAVLOS:** Yeah.

>>**REGNIER:** But of the 20 organizations that have received Joint Accreditation, it's a range of organizational types. We have schools, we have hospitals and health systems, we have specialty societies, we have a branch of the government, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, right? So it's not geared to one particular kind of organization. Really, the idea is if the organization is meeting the needs of learners that are interprofessional, it's the right process. It could be the right process for them.

>>**TRAVLOS:** And if you recall initially, we even did site visits as part of our accreditation process, just to actually see what these organizations look like. And I don't know for you two, but for me one thing that I was amazed with, is that it's built in their culture. Interprofessional education was just part of their mission, everyone knew what it was about, everyone knew what to do, so it wasn't... When we mentioned the term interprofessional education, no one says "Well, what is that?"

>>**REGNIER:** Like, "What's that?" Right.

>>**TRAVLOS:** Or what makes it different from let's say, the ACPE process or ACCME, it was just that's how they conducted continuing education.

>>**CHAPPELL:** That's how they conducted, that's how they did business. And they didn't all have the same structure. So it wasn't necessarily one interprofessional CE office. It could be just collaborations between existing CE nursing, medicine, and pharmacy, it could just be two of the professions and then they collaborated with other organizations for the third profession. So, a variety of different types of structure but we did see strong leadership in each of those organizations, top down and bottom up, and clearly mission-driven and embraced by everybody within the organization. And I think that's been really fundamental success factors that when we hold focus groups with our stakeholders they tell us too.

>>**REGNIER:** And I think there's an opportunity for us to share as the accreditors but also for providers that

are jointly accredited to share sort of their take on the structure and what makes them successful because we do hear from organizations about how to try to move in that direction. And I think more and more organizations, if it isn't originally part of their mission, or if they're looking to restructure, they're looking for things that will help them be successful.

>>**CHAPPELL:** Yeah. And I think that's really nice on the intent to apply or the pre-calls that they have with you, is sometimes we say to the organization, "You're on the road, you're not quite ready yet. You haven't embraced it, we understand that you want to go in this direction, but you need a little bit more time." Because at the end of the day, we want them to be successful. We don't want them to apply and not be successful, and so sharing with them the strategies that we've come to know through these 20 jointly accredited providers, and also the workshops that we're holding, and where that community of those interested in interprofessional continuing education is coming together and sharing amongst themselves, again, really interprofessional collaborative practice, modeling it, sharing among themselves why they were more successful, or what their structure looks like, and that's been a really nice thing to see. It's one thing for us to set the standards, but it's another

>>**REGNIER:** Sort of an added benefit.

>>**CHAPPELL:** It's another thing for the community to talk together and really embrace and take over, "How do you do this?"

>>**REGNIER:** Exactly.

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