

Teaching and Facilitation Course for Family as Faculty

Holland Bloorview's Family Leadership Program and Teaching & Learning Institute are pleased to offer the **Teaching and Facilitation Course for Family as Faculty**, a professional development program for people who use lived experience of being patients or caregivers in their roles as patient/family advisors, partners, or advocates.

This innovative series of workshops prepares patient/ family partners to co-teach and co-facilitate learning, drawing on their lived experience of disability. Family as Faculty help healthcare and social service professionals and students to build knowledge of the lived experiences of disability communities and to enhance family-centred care competencies. Family as Faculty foster authentic connection in peer-to-peer learning with patients and families who have similar lived experiences in the healthcare system. To read more, click [here](#) and [here](#).



Class of 2020 Family as Faculty training program graduates and instructors

Impact of Family as Faculty

- 70+ patient and family partners have graduated from the program since it began in 2019.
- Family as Faculty have collaborated on 100+ initiatives, workshops, and programs.
- In 2021, the Health Standards Organization of Canada recognized this course as a Leading Practice for being an innovative and client-centred program.
- In 2023, the training program was published as an [original paper](#) in the peer-reviewed Clinical Social Work Journal.
- To hear about the impact of family educators on student, staff and family learning, watch this [special webinar](#) featuring Family as Faculty from Holland Bloorview.

Course Learning Outcomes

Teaching Skills	Facilitation Skills	Experiential Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setting the educational climate• Delivering effective feedback• Maintaining boundaries and wellness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fundamental facilitation skills and tools• The lived experience partner as educator and facilitator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Simulations• Group discussions and reflection

What will participants learn?

- Co-create and co-teach curriculum in collaboration with clinical and academic instructors
- Employ teaching strategies to identify and respond to the diverse needs of learners
- Use facilitation strategies to manage and guide small group learning activities in virtual and in-person settings
- Offer learner assessment and constructive feedback
- Engage in solution-focused and strengths-based conversations with learners

What can participants expect?

- To allow for discussion and reflection, all course sessions are virtual and conducted in real time
- There are six mandatory 2-hour workshops co-led by staff and a Family Faculty. Attendance at all mandatory sessions is required to receive a certificate of completion
- There are two recommended simulations that provide a unique opportunity to practice key skills.
- Staff are available to support participation in program

Why participate in this program?

- Learn to effectively apply your lived experience to education and teaching in healthcare settings
- Further professional development goals and increase your confidence in teaching and facilitation
- Meet other family/patient partners who want to make a difference in the healthcare system
- Gain the opportunity to co-create and co-teach family workshops and staff/student learning at health care organizations

What is the program fee?

- **For external organizations / patient partners:** The program fee is \$900 per participant and is typically covered by the healthcare organization in which the patient/family partners. An invoice will be provided to the organization upon acceptance of a patient/family partner application. Payment is due 30 days from receipt of the invoice.
- The training program operates on a cost recovery model where all fees are re-invested into the program to support recruitment, operations, and evaluation

Course Registration

- Course sessions are held in March and April 2026 (schedule below) - no class on March 18
- Applications open – **submit through [this form](#). Deadline to apply: Wedenday February 25**
- This course is capped at a class size of 20 patient/family partners. Enrollment will be confirmed on a rolling basis
- Holland Bloorview reserves the right to cancel the course if fewer than eight (8) participants are registered by the course start date. In this instance, participants will be informed and offered the opportunity to attend a future course.

Contact us for further information

Family Leadership Program team: familypartner@hollandbloorview.ca

2026 Schedule: Teaching & Facilitation Course for Family as Faculty

Workshop Details	Dates/Times	Attendance
#1: Introduction to Family as Faculty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the training program's curriculum and family faculty development approach Learn how family faculty can apply their skills in learning environments Meet faculty and peers and contribute to a community of practice in family as faculty 	Wed. March 4 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Mandatory
#2: Setting the educational climate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appreciate the significance of the education environment in facilitating learning Generate behaviors that promote a supportive and intellectually challenging educational climate Reflect from personal experiences on how setting the educational climate can enhance or limit learning 	Wed. March 11 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Mandatory
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18 – NO CLASS (MARCH BREAK)		
#3: Fundamentals of Facilitation Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the fundamentals of group facilitation, essential facilitation skills, and how to employ various facilitation tools in educational settings Identify how to adapt facilitation to a virtual learning context Learn how flexible facilitation and leadership styles can enhance the management of a group session 	Wed. March 25 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Mandatory
Simulation: Working with families Participants have an opportunity to provide a newcomer family a safe and supportive environment in a simulated workshop context.	Thurs. March 26 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Strongly encouraged
#4: The lived experience partner as educator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the unique context and role of lived experience partner in health care education Appreciate the purposeful use of storytelling to advance learning Learn strategies to identify, maintain, and navigate healthy boundaries while teaching 	Wed. April 1 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Mandatory
#5: Delivering effective feedback <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define feedback and explain why it is necessary Identify the elements of effective feedback and how to employ behaviors used to give feedback to learners 	Wed. April 8 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Mandatory
Simulation: Working with clinical learners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants have an opportunity to provide feedback to a clinical learner after observing them interact with a family in a simulated clinical teaching environment. 	Fri. April 10 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Strongly encouraged
#6: Graduation & Family as Faculty Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in a critically reflective and generative discussion on learning to date Hear from past Family as Faculty graduates on their experiences with applying their knowledge and skills in co-teaching and co-facilitation roles in health care education 	Wed. April 15 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Mandatory