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*The collaborative development of a community sport program for newcomer youth*

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Our project team comprised of 33 asylum-seeking and resettled refugee (i.e., forced immigrant) youth, their families, YMCA Immigrant Services staff members, and Laurentian University academic researchers have spent the last four years (2017-2021) collaboratively working to develop culturally inclusive community sport programs that aid forced immigrant youth during their resettlement in a host Canadian community. Grounded in a community-based participatory action research (CBPAR) approach, we aligned the project with creating program deliverables sustainable beyond the involvement of the academic research team (Schinke et al., 2013). This presentation outlines the first phase of our program deliverables, a newcomer sport program to be delivered by YMCA staff members for all newcomer youth who have resettled in Sudbury, Ontario. The four-week program is underpinned by four core themes which were developed through knowledge garnered from formal arts-based conversational interviews and informal meetings and conversations between the research team. The themes are: (1) Physical, Psychological, and Cultural safety; (2) Belonging; (3) Confidence; and (4) Identity. The themes are interrelated with the aim being to provide youth with a safe space in which to develop a sense of belonging to a group of youth from different cultural backgrounds, feel confident in trying new sports and activities, and feel comfortable expressing and developing the stories that help define their multiple identities. The presentation provides a brief overview of each theme, and related weekly activities, Following the description of each week, we will also share program points YMCA program leaders will emphasize when running the program. We conclude the presentation with our goals for phase two of this program deliverable, which involves how we plan to step back from the program so that YMCA staff can continue to develop it in a self-sustaining manner.