



A RADIO SHOW ON THE UNTOLD STORIES IN HEALTH

ON AIR

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INTRODUCTION

Health on Earth (HonE) is a bilingual global health radio show broadcasted on CKUT 90.3 FM, a community radio station in Montreal. The show is run by a collective of McGill University students and young professionals in the healthcare sector. The first show was broadcasted on CKUT in 2006 and online at www.healthonearth.net in 2008.

METHODS

- Multidisciplinary team of radio journalists is composed of students, community members, and qualified healthcare professionals, with various backgrounds and a broad scope of knowledge base.
- Members are provided with mentorship and technical training.
- Journalists interview local and global leaders, non-governmental organizations, community members, and researchers. Hosts present their findings through broadcasts, once a week, on air.
- The web platform hosts blog posts for each show and archives of the broadcasted audio.
- All methods of production and sharing are free.



OBJECTIVES

- Empower students and community members by enabling them to be primary creators of media.
- Facilitate dialogue about local and global health issues
- Present perspectives overlooked by mainstream media, including those of Indigenous and ethnic minorities, migrants, people with disabilities, addictions, mental illness, and people with marginalized sexual or gender identities.
- Provide opportunities to build professional network, develop communication skills, and engage in health advocacy in the public realm.

OUTCOMES

- New members recruited every four months. Team grown to include over 23 primary contributors with backgrounds in economics, nursing, literature, medicine, religious studies, public health, geography, anthropology, and international development.
- Produced over 350 shows since 2006.
- Addressed issues such as the use of technology in optimizing the delivery of care, role of humour in treatments, psychological repercussions in women after the Rwandan genocide, and medically assisted death legislation.
- Produced a francophone series on the right of access to health services for marginalized communities in Québec, as well as the increasing privatization of the healthcare system.
- The extent of HonE's outreach and impact is quantitatively measured by 170,000 hits on website, social media commentary and sharing. Qualitatively, shows have stimulated networking and discussions regarding the themes broadcasted on air.

CONCLUSIONS

- Health on Earth gives a voice to the voiceless and allows anyone to share their perspective on global health
- Radio broadcasting is a powerful, candid, and lively means of communication that allows information to be disseminated to audiences in Montreal and across the world.
- We hope that access to our program not only informs, but also inspires action to improve access and affordability of healthcare worldwide.

