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**McMaster Institute for
Innovation & Excellence
in Teaching & Learning**

Implementing Partnerships that have IMPACT

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The IMPACT (Interdisciplinary, Mentorship, Practice, Applied, Community, Transformative) Team implements unique partnerships involving over 1000 participants: faculty, students, and community healthcare networks. These partnerships encompass undergraduate and graduate Engineering, Science, Occupational Therapy, Medicine, working together to solve the real-life challenges of clients, who live with special needs in the local community. Over the past 6 years, our team has provided collaborative teaching and learning opportunities that encourage faculty, students, healthcare partners to apply their knowledge to invent customized accessibility devices. The goal of our poster presentation is to share the process for successful implementation of partnerships on a large scale. We will reveal our team's scaffold of educators, students (undergraduate, graduate, professional alumni), healthcare partners, and clients. We will emphasize how our partnerships serve to build the professional skills of our students as they learn to focus on the needs of others. Our objective is to provide conference attendees with a practical model to implement for their future projects. We will describe our partnership maps illustrating the structure, logistics, timelines, and resources that facilitate the use of our IMPACT model for addressing the needs of community partners while engaging educators and students in the learning process for innovation.