|  |
| --- |
| **Title of Alternative showing: Art** - An exploration of digital health literacy among marginalized women  |
| **Health promoting objectives**1. The visual art exhibit will expose attendees to the concerns among women who are marginalized in regards to their access, use and application of information and communication technologies to promote health and support significant determinants of health.
2. Included illustrations will highlight issues of equity that address digital inclusion, health care accessibility, health literacy, and marginality.

**Description of the artwork**This visual art exhibit is an extension of the research project “Women’s Empowerment through Collaborative Learning in Community” (WeCLiC), funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.The artistic works displayed in this exhibit were generated through research with women marginalized, in part, by their occupation as sex workers, and who volunteered to share their experiences, needs, and challenges regarding accessibility to information and communication technologies (ICTs). Participants used a variety of mediums to share their knowledge, which is reflected in 30 pieces of mixed-media art. The questions that guided the arts-based data collection were: “How does technology make you feel”’; “If you were to imagine what a learning space would look like to you around technology, what would it look like, what would it feel like?” Questions aimed to explore not only how participants thought about technology, but how technologies made them feel relationally, beyond access issues. A thematic analysis of the artistic renderings generated the themes of: *1) (Un)safe digital spaces, 2) Trauma as a barrier to (online) learning, 3) Relationships and capacity building, 4) Health information abyss, 5) Identities and 6) Inclusion and belonging.* Without experience in the use of- and opportunities to access ICTs , marginalized women experience newer forms of social exclusion, alienation, and inequity, and older forms become exacerbated. Thus, through their art work, women highlighted how easy it is for people to be left behind in conversations that inform the design of both virtual and social spaces, and how digital inclusion/exclusion can have direct consequences on marginalized women’s well-being across the lifespan. **Intended audience**Health promotion practitioners, Health researchers, attendees interested in digital inclusion, health equity, marginalized women’s health care, inclusive environments**Duration and intended use**During the time allotted presenters will display the collection of art works, which are on canvas that range in size between 8 x 11in and 11 x 14in. Attendees will be invited to view the work while presenters guide them through the pieces, providing context to various images displayed.  |