

Medicine: Allopathic (MD)

Michael Denning

East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine
Medicine (MD)



PROJECT TITLE: C-Connect

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

C-Connect is a novel developmental program focused on connecting children, community members, and community organizations to information and resources associated with injury prevention, childhood trauma, and youth development. The primary goal of this initiative is to provide critical information to prevent injuries, promote health and wellness in rural North Carolina. Unintentional injury is the leading cause of death for ages 1-44. In rural communities, the implication of preventable injuries is exacerbated, due to lack of primary care physicians, accessibility to healthcare providers, and a lack of infrastructure to actively promote favorable outcomes during and after medical emergencies. C-Connect will leverage public partnerships through community organizations and thought-leadership in the fields of childhood development and injury prevention programs.

These sessions will include interactive and engaging activities and lessons geared towards youth understanding the fundamentals of the potential injury, methods to avoid or combat the injury, and ways to teach their newly garnered information to their peers. Each topic will host its own session for an afternoon, during the summer. With there being three different age groups (K-3, 4-5, and Teens), each group will participate in activities centered on the same topic for that afternoon; however, the activity will be altered to be age-appropriate. These lessons occurred 2-4 times a month during the school year. Depending on the length of the summer camp, the distribution of these topics will be adjusted.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

The joy of children was the greatest success. Even though we were talking about serious topics, such as fire safety, motor vehicle safety, and sports safety, the kids and staff were excited to learn and apply their new lessons. We had several children volunteer to be "water monitors" for their camps; meaning, they would serve as the individual responsible for ensuring their peers remained hydrated and safe when playing outside. This shows the impact of the sports safety lesson and activities!

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: Over 100

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 300

Francesca Mancuso

Thomas Jefferson University, Sidney Kimmel Medical College
Medicine (MD)



PROJECT TITLE: Mom's Mood Matter: an educational support group to increase knowledge of and comfort discussing postpartum depression

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Perinatal mental health disorders are a common complication of pregnancy with potentially devastating consequences if they go unrecognized and untreated. The COVID-19 pandemic has amplified the crisis, with

rising levels of depression and anxiety observed amongst pregnant and postpartum women in comparison to their pre-pandemic counterparts. There are effective treatments available for postpartum depression and anxiety. However, stigma reduces help seeking behavior for women suffering from perinatal mental health issues. Around one third of women who screen positive for postpartum depression symptoms never discuss them with their providers. Discussing perinatal depression and anxiety with pregnant women and their partners may help them recognize symptoms, understand the importance of reporting these to their provider, and increase help-seeking behavior. The objective of this project was to increase knowledge of perinatal mental health disorders in new and expectant mothers and increase awareness of local perinatal mental health resources. An educational drop-in support group, "Mom's Mood Matters," was held at a women's outpatient methadone treatment center and a FQHC focused on medically underserved populations in North Philadelphia, particularly homelessness and low income persons. Participants (n = 5) polled after attending the group all felt that (1) the topics discussed were valuable, (2) the group increased their knowledge of signs and symptoms of postpartum depression, and (3) made them feel more comfortable talking about postpartum depression with a loved one or healthcare provider. The project also involved creation of list of racially concordant postpartum mental health services for the greater Philadelphia area that was distributed to the participating facilities to share amongst their patient populations.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Finding clinics to work with during a pandemic was initially challenging. I am interested in surveying future participants with the depression stigma scale to assess perceived stigma and how our support group affected those scores.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

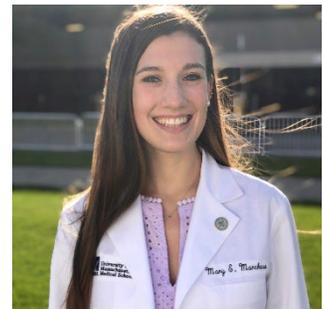
NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 1-25

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 20

Mary Marchese

University of Massachusetts Medical School
Medicine (MD)

PROJECT TITLE: Investigating Mobile Health Models to Improve Adolescent Sexual Health Education and Outcomes in Western Massachusetts: A Preliminary Analysis and Future Directions



SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Even prior to the impacts of COVID-19, the Baystate Medical Center Community Health Needs Assessment identified sexual health and perinatal health as two of the five health conditions and behaviors that have the greatest impact on residents of Hampden County in western Massachusetts. To address the disproportionate reproductive and sexual health outcomes of adolescents in Hampden County, I investigated the use of mobile health models to improve adolescent-focused sexual health screening and education. Through analysis of the findings of the CHNA and the most recent Springfield Youth Health Surveys, as well as investigation into the current youth-serving providers of sexual and reproductive health services, I sought to elucidate the various sexual health needs of this population. Additionally, I found evidence of successful mobile health interventions for specific to adolescents for sexual and reproductive health services. Through this process, I became more prepared to share recommendations for short- and long-term interventions for integrating adolescent-centered sexual and reproductive health services with the Baystate WOW Bus mobile unit, including a youth-focused referral guide for services, advocacy to community partners for more intentional youth-friendly best practices,

and eventually, the opportunity for provision of sexual health screening services and contraception on our mobile unit.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

I will utilize a Capstone Month to create a referral guide to be used on the mobile unit, geared toward adolescents, so that they can be connected with sexual health services while our mobile unit grows to support the staff and resources needed to provide those services in person on our own mobile unit.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 1-25

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 15-20

Arianna Strome

University of Michigan, Medical School
Medicine (MD)



PROJECT TITLE: Skin Cancer Prevention: A MyVoice Project

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

First we did research to better understand the problem of why do youth have such high numbers of skin cancer. This was published in JAMA open with the relevant conclusions here: "Our findings suggest that youth understand the short and long-term risks of sun damage yet have difficulty successfully implementing sun protection. Despite nearly all youth (90.1%) stating they use sunscreen, the high number of self-reported burns suggests public health personnel and clinicians must change their approach...This study adds to current literature by revealing what may be preventing US youth from using consistent sun protection. Based on youths' desire for increased product accessibility, cost and inconvenience are likely barriers preventing consistent sunscreen use." JAMA Open, Strome et al.

We created a project to encourage dialogue about the importance of applying sunscreen and create a culture of empowerment around sun protection for all community members. Sunscreen should be widely and easily accessible on University of Michigan's campus. We partnered with several organizations including IMPACT melanoma, Michigan Athletics, Rogel Cancer Center, and the medical school. We will be placing 8 eye-catching pedestal sunscreen dispensers at varsity athletic facilities. Two have been set up so far and the rest will be complete by the time students are back on campus. Dispensers will be managed and maintained by University of Michigan Athletics Facility Operations. These dispensers will provide both sun protection and spark conversation about the importance of applying sunscreen. We will monitor sunscreen usage with the goal of expanding across the entire University of Michigan campus including dorms and public green spaces. With community support and partnership plan to expand throughout the city of Ann Arbor with emphasis on Ann Arbor's parks and recreation areas. We hope to serve as an example campus so that other campuses throughout America will do similar work.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

We will continue to put dispensers on campus. I also just started residency and based on this data and work I am hoping to partner with NYC public hospitals to make sunscreen accessible to the populations that we are treating.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 5-10

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 500+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 1000+

Prasanna Vankina

University of Minnesota Medical School
Medicine (MD)



PROJECT TITLE: South Asian Hindu Centered Heart Health Education

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

While heart disease is the leading cause of death worldwide, South Asians (SAs) represent 60% of heart disease patients, with a disproportionate occurrence of cardiovascular risk factors presenting at younger ages.

While the sociodemographic and population-based genetic factors contributing to these health inequities are currently being examined, several studies have highlighted the need for more robust healthy-eating educational materials tailored towards SAs in the U.S. In the Twin Cities alone, there are currently over 50,000 SAs, with Asian Indians representing the second

fastest growing minority population in the state. While the term “South Asian” encompasses a multitude of identities, traditions, and foods, we aim to work with the local Hindu Society of Minnesota and SEWA Asian-

Indian Family Wellness as one way to address these current health disparities. Using a preliminary survey, pre- and post-implementation focus groups, and reiterative community feedback, this study will examine 1) the awareness of cardiovascular disparities amongst a cohort of SA participants and 2) their willingness for behavior change following a series of community-delivered and culturally-focused heart-healthy education workshops as well as a co-created cookbook. Potential findings may ultimately be used to assist clinicians with providing more culturally-responsive heart-healthy recommendations for members of local SA communities.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

We are excited about presenting our findings with local primary care physicians (once thematic analysis has been completed) at the MAFP conference next spring and at the family medicine grand rounds.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 10-20

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 50-75

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 100+

Dina Zamil

Baylor College of Medicine
Medicine (MD)



PROJECT TITLE: Implementation of a Virtual Skin Cancer and Melanoma Education Program in Middle and High Schools in Texas

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

The Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) John Wayne Cancer Foundation's Block the Blaze program delivers virtual sun safety presentations to middle and high school students in Texas. Presentations address the dangers of UV light exposure, the different kinds of skin cancer, periodic skin checks, and sun safety tips. Medical and physician assistant volunteers are trained to present. Sun safety presentations were delivered to over 1500 middle and high school students in Houston, Dallas, and Rio Grande Valley, received Institutional Review Board approval,

created and directed BCM program student organization, established Block the Blaze as a BCM service-learning program site, recruited over 40 medical and physician assistant volunteers and 5 organization officers, coordinated 46 student presentations, spoke about project at Texas Medical Association Alliance board meeting, collaborated with The Bridge over Troubled Waters and HOMES clinic to donate 700 sunscreens to domestic abuse victims and homeless populations. We also distributed a pre- and post-presentation survey to the audience of every Block the Blaze presentation. Students are asked to evaluate on a Likert scale how likely they are to change their behavior regarding sun avoidance and skin protection following Block the Blaze presentations. We are currently analyzing this data to evaluate the success of the project and are pending publication of the first manuscript in Dermatology Practical and Conceptual. We plan to continue this project indefinitely for subsequent academic years and are coordinating a partnership with a local school district, as well as translating our presentation to Spanish to reach a wider audience.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

We ended up reaching a much wider audience than initially anticipated (over 1500 students). This was aided by the virtual nature of the program. We also were able to collaborate with many local organizations to donate sunscreens to homeless and domestic abuse populations, as well as start a version of the program in which presentations are offered in Spanish.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 20+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 500+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 5,000

Medicine: Osteopathic (DO)

Katie Dang

Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
Medicine (DO)



PROJECT TITLE: Increasing Awareness on Food Allergies in Elementary Schools of Rural Communities

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Childhood food allergies are life threatening conditions that can not only severely impact a child's quality of life, but also that of their families, classmates and teachers. Because of the severe consequences of an allergic reaction, it is crucial that classmates and teachers take precautions to avoid cross contamination that could put lives at risk. However, this can be difficult in communities without the resources needed to accommodate individual health related needs. We hope to take the first steps in a campaign to increase food allergy education by administering a pre-interventional survey on the prevalence of severe food allergies, current policies in place, and personal experiences of parents, teachers, and students at Chautauqua Lake Central School in Mayville, NY. Examples of interventions include educational workshops using the CDC's food allergy toolkit, improving availability of emergency (stock) epinephrine, and training school bus staff. By the completion of the program, our aim is to implement a total of five major educational or policy related interventions after administration of the survey.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Based off of what some of the teachers said afterwards, I think they were surprised at how much there was to learn about just living with food allergies. I think what went well was spreading general awareness about what it

is like for a student to live with food allergies and the difficulties they face day to day. I believe that a lot of the procedures put in place to protect students with allergies are great, but can overlook how difficult it is to participate in normal student activities.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

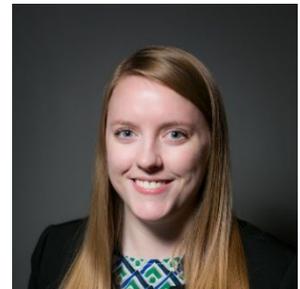
NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 1-25

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 100

Public Health

Grace Bellinger

Northwestern University
Public Health



PROJECT TITLE: We're Here! Identifying Bi+ Individuals Primary Care Needs through Collaborative Community Engaged Research

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Bi+ individuals comprise over half of the LGBT community and have specific needs that are not currently fulfilled by the healthcare system. We define "bi+" to include people who identify as bisexual, pansexual, queer, fluid, or with other sexual and/or romantic identities that indicate attraction to people of more than one gender. The community-engaged research project was led in partnership by investigators at Northwestern University, Howard Brown Health (HBH), and Bisexual Queer Alliance Chicago (BQAC). Funding was provided through the Northwestern Primary Care Practice-Based Research Program Seed Grant Program. The project began with Stakeholder-Academic Resource Panels (ShARPs), which are community conversations similar to but less formal than focus groups. Following completion of the ShARPs, the study team both selected existing validated survey scales and drafted novel survey items focused on respondents' engagement in, satisfaction with, and quality of healthcare. The survey scales and items were selected to allow the study team to explore how patient "outness" in terms of sexual identity or sexual behavior may influence bi+ individuals' satisfaction with their healthcare interactions and vice versa. BQAC board members as well as HBH providers and other staff reviewed and approved a final draft of the survey. Eligibility criteria for the survey study included being 18 years or older, currently living in Chicago, and being bi+. Participants were recruited for the survey through two different methods: approximately 100 participants were recruited from the Chicago community via social media ads and another 100 were recruited as patients engaged in primary care services at HBH. By obtaining feedback from bi+ patients both in a healthcare system and bi+ people in the community, the "We're Here! Identifying Bi+ Individuals' Primary Care Needs through Collaborative Community Engaged Research" project sought to determine the barriers facing bi+ individuals in healthcare settings so they can be mitigated.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Dissemination of the final results is ongoing, with a variety of scholarly and community-facing products forthcoming. The project team members from Bisexual Queer Alliance Chicago, Howard Brown Health, and Northwestern University plan to write additional grants to continue the work done through this survey study. Such collaborations are essential to conduct research that promotes the health and well-being of bi+ people.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 5-10

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 100+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 10,000

Tracy Hansen

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Public Health

PROJECT TITLE: Addressing oral health awareness, motivation, and Intention in adult pre/post bariatric patients after a 9 minute online powerpoint educational intervention



SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Obesity has become a pandemic worldwide affecting more than 1.9 billion adults, of those, over 650 million were classified as obese. Obesity is defined as abnormal or excessive fat accumulation that presents a risk to health. Obesity causes or worsens many comorbid conditions such as T2DM, hypertension, and periodontal disease. Bariatric Surgery (BS) has been found to be the only effective long-term treatment for morbid obesity and can improve systemic conditions, but can detrimentally impact and worsen oral conditions. Obesity and BS are a risk factor for tooth loss, tooth erosion, hypersensitivity, increased caries, xerostomia, and periodontitis. The prevalence of oral conditions pre-and post BS emphasize the importance of the dental evaluation for individuals prior to undergoing BS.

There are currently no evidence-based protocols for oral health considerations pre or post BS and no research on the patient's understanding of their oral needs pre and post BS. Patient motivation, behavioral intention, and awareness of the oral effects of BS and the need for a pre- and post-operative dental checkup has not been explored. It is essential to educate pre bariatric surgery patients on the importance of good oral care and the need for a dental checkup before and after BS. Understanding the link between oral and systemic health will benefit BS patients' overall health. Dental professionals should be prepared to address these oral side effects and physicians should collaborate with oral health care professionals to monitor their oral environment. The purpose of this study was to measure the impact of a brief oral health educational intervention on intention, motivation, and behavior change of pre/post operative bariatric patients.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

I was originally focused on educating children who are pre bariatric patients and switched to adults who are pre bariatric for convenience of inclusion.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 100+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 150

Amisha Kumar

Case Western Reserve University
Public Health

PROJECT TITLE: The Impact of Language and Education in Clinical Research

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Patient participation in clinical research is critical to advance the field of medicine. Prior studies demonstrate that clinical research sites fail to effectively recruit participants and convey the relevance of clinical research to the participant. Through conducting a review of current recruitment materials used at the Mass General Brigham and Mass General Hospital, we found that many recruitment materials focus on study logistics and the institution's goals, which may not fully engage participants in the purpose of the research, diminishing their



likelihood of participation. Our findings show that incorporating health education and using a patient-centric approach can optimize clinical research recruitment through engaging more participants and bettering their attitudes towards medical research.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

In collecting data, we have seen a patient-centric approach relate to a higher number of participants and better attitudes towards medical research. I learned that the details in clinical recruitment can make a large impact in the overall results of a clinical trial or study.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 20+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 50-75

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 100+

Gabri’el Shabazz

Case Western Reserve University
Public Health



PROJECT TITLE: A Formative Evaluation of Project H.E.A.T (HIV Education, Awareness, & Testing)

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Adolescents are less likely to be aware of their HIV infection. HIV testing is an essential preventive strategy that: if negative, allows an opportunity to reinforce risk reduction strategies; and, if positive, supports linkage to care. The diversion of resources and overwhelmed health systems, during the COVID-19 pandemic have limited access to healthcare. Restricted access to clinical care and HIV testing during the pandemic has resulted in lower motivation and completion of HIV testing among adolescents. Innovative communication strategies to promote HIV testing among adolescents are essential to increasing awareness of HIV and reducing new infections. To address HIV testing among adolescents during the pandemic, Project H.E.A.T (HIV Education, Awareness, and Testing) was implemented. The objectives of this pilot study are to: 1) develop and implement a social media health communication campaign dedicated to HIV prevention and testing ; 2) evaluate campaign impact through the use of social media analytics; and 3) conduct a formative evaluation utilizing qualitative interviews to improve engagement with the campaign. Findings suggest a need to: conduct focus groups to leverage youth-voice in the development of future campaigns; expansion to additional social media platforms; and, development of a comprehensive HIV prevention resource guide to support the use of local services. Ending the adolescent HIV epidemic is a collaborative effort that requires multifaceted interventions and active engagement from community collaborators. There is a need to listen and respond to the needs of adolescents, bringing youth-voice to the forefront of an HIV testing and prevention initiative.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

My future and follow up plans for Project H.E.A.T include: Completing youth-based focus groups in collaboration with local organizations to improve and expand the Project H.E.A.T social media campaign, developing a social media tool kit and website, creating a resource guide and calendar of local events, attending upcoming community outreach events, meeting with health care groups and providers to ensure HIV testing is a part of routine testing, hosting virtual and in-person events for young adults.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 10-20

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 100+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 5,868

Dentistry

Erin Bergo

Creighton University
Dentistry



PROJECT TITLE: Community Connection

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Being healthy in the United States of America is simple: just don't be poor. Easier said than done for the 10.5% of Americans living below the poverty line, according to the 2019 U.S. Census. This number has only grown due to the pandemic that is currently happening. In fact, 44% of low-income Americans are food insecure (Wolfson, Julia A., and Cindy W. Leung.). If our communities cannot afford to meet their most basic needs, simply treating medical or dental issues is not enough. Determine what barriers our patient population faces (quantitative data) and track what resource coordination we can provide (qualitative).

Creighton School of Dentistry is fortunate enough to have a social worker, Stefanie, as part of our Collaborative Care team. In the Adult Clinic student providers identified if their patient had any of these barriers and would fill out a social work consult form in Axiom, shown below. Stefanie would then meet with the patients to discuss the concerns indicated on the consult form and found the appropriate resources they needed. The number of consults and the services/resources provided were tracked in an excel sheet. The Pediatric Clinic data was reported from our Healthy Smiles program. Pediatric case management was followed by our public health dental hygienist.

We had 521 contacts from both the pediatric (445) and adult clinic (76). Top barriers in the pediatric clinic are language, financial assistance, and access to care. Top barriers in the adult clinic are financial assistance, mental health, and housing/homelessness and language. This collaborative care approach to dental care at Creighton University School of Dentistry has shown that we must look beyond a patient's mouth and consider the social determinants of health when treating a patient.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Stefanie, our social worker will continue to work at Creighton to serve this patient population.

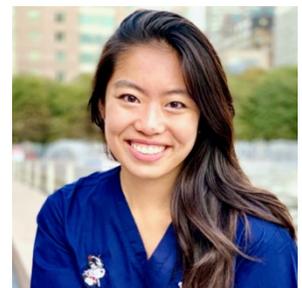
NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 500+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 517

Victoria Chang

Boston University
Dentistry



PROJECT TITLE: Oral Health Education Curriculum Creation

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

The initial project proposal was to create a novel nutrition and prevention focused oral health curriculum that anyone may adapt and utilize for their personal purposes in providing virtual or in-person elementary classroom education. The final product was intended to be free, publicly accessible, pilot tested, and effective. However, as

the year-long project began to progress stage by stage, from the literature review, to the creation of an evaluation tool, and then to the assessment of existing resources using it, a realization occurred that the evaluation tool and the data collection could serve as an extremely beneficial product itself - even more useful than the originally conceived project. A thorough assessment of the top oral health education resources on Google resulted in a valuable presentation of their features in an organized fashion. This collection of information can aid individuals interested in teaching oral health in different settings with selecting the most appropriate and applicable resource of those existing by providing them with information to efficiently choose the most appropriate and relevant resource for the target audience. On the other hand, going about this process also led to the realization that a great breadth and depth of oral health education resources exist, ranging in quality. Listing out such a number of resources helps promote the use of those that are already available. Lastly, if anyone is interested in creating an oral health education resource, the information collected can help them see the features that were considered, more or less common features, etc. Though the project changed from the proposed outcome, with these benefits in mind, the follow up plan is to publish and share our findings. By doing so, many individuals can take advantage and make the most of our findings and the effectiveness of oral health education will be promoted.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Yes, my mentor on the project and I realized that our findings throughout the course of the year were worth sharing through a paper for publication. We believe our findings would be valuable shared, as our evaluation of existing oral health education resources publicly available on the first three pages of Google resulted in an organized chart of data that could be useful itself in aiding others looking for resource(s) that suit their needs and intended audience best. Our findings would also help those who are creating their own oral health education resource or curriculum. Looking forward, we intend to explore the potential of publication, most likely through the Journal of Dental Hygiene (JDH), as dental hygienists are often utilizing oral health education resources in their professional practice and outreach to diverse patient populations.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 1-25

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 25

Emily Starman

University of Iowa
Dentistry



PROJECT TITLE: Open Heartland: A Pilot Project to Increase Access to Oral Health Care

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

My project was to establish a working partnership between the University of Iowa College of Dentistry (COD) and Open Heartland. Open Heartland is a grass roots organization in Iowa City, IA that works with Hispanic, Spanish-speaking immigrant families to provide community resources, including healthcare. I worked with COD administration and faculty to develop a pilot program to refer patients from the UI Mobile Clinic to the COD. Patients were ideally going to see fourth year students in the Family Dentistry clinic for comprehensive exams and radiographs free of cost. A treatment plan could then be developed and completed with a payment plan based on the Iowa Medicaid fee schedule. This was significant since most all adults are not eligible for Medicaid or dental insurance due to their immigration and/or citizenship status. A dental event was held separately from the UI Mobile Clinic at Open Heartland in January 2022 to establish a patient pool for the pilot program. An educational activity for children and educational flip books in Spanish were also used/made. Patients were selected based on evidence of urgent dental needs and desire to be treated at the COD. Seven adult patients were ultimately selected and contacted to make appointments in Family Dentistry with me (Emily Starman, D4)

as their clinician. Comprehensive exams, radiographs, and treatment plan formulation was completed for each pilot patient, including extensive oral health education. All appointments were completed using an interpreter over the phone. Patients will then be scheduled with new fourth year students after my graduation to complete treatment in Fall 2022 as necessary.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

I have served as the Dental Public Health Club president the last two years. I am graduating and attending Pediatric Dental residency at Children's Hospital & Clinics in Omaha, NE through University of Nebraska Medical Center. I plan on staying contact with Open Heartland, Dr. Levy, and the future DPH club executive board to help facilitate this partnership between UI Mobile Clinic and Open Heartland.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 10-20

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 25-50

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 50

Nursing

Sarah Brunson

University of South Carolina
Nursing



PROJECT TITLE: Lactating parents, Providers of Lactation Care, other health care providers, Women, Infant and Children staff

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

This project sought to assess the needs and develop resources to support families in South Carolina (SC) in providing human milk to their children in disasters and emergencies and disseminate this information through the South Carolina Breastfeeding Coalition (SCBC). An additional goal was to analyze data from the Women, Infant, and Children's (WIC) program to explore relationships with Hurricane Florence (HF). Assessment of needs included data from the Center for Disease Control, SC birth records, and the SC Emergency Management Division. Resources were primarily developed using materials from the Infant/Young Child Feeding in Emergencies initiative and the Carolina Global Breastfeeding Institute. Aggregated WIC program data were used to determine the percent of infants receiving human milk before, during, and after HF.

Developed information was added to the SCBC Website, SCBC's Facebook and Instagram pages, and presented at the April meeting of the SCBC that about 20 people attended. A YouTube video was created and uploaded for public viewing. Newsletters were emailed twice to 250 SCBC subscribers. Information was included in a WIC internal newsletter and sent to approximately 100 people. A poster showing little to no relationship between HF and WIC breastfeeding rates and emphasizing the need for better data was presented to an estimated 50 people at USC College of Nursing and selected for presentation at the United States Lactation Consultant Association conference in September 2022. Finally, a committee of six SCBC members has been formed to continue this work.

Needs assessment for this project was challenging as little data exists on the relationship between breastfeeding and disasters in SC. Material support from SCBC, WIC leadership, and USC faculty was essential for the project's success. Effective strategies need to be developed to increase the number of people that are interested and aware of the resources developed.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

South Carolina Breastfeeding Coalition has formed a committee to work on the next steps, including advertising the website and implementing the resources created, setting up a lactation consultant 800 call line during disasters, and getting supplies where they are needed. We are also seeking grant funding.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 300+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 500+

Biyyiah Lee

Wayne State University

Nursing



PROJECT TITLE: Preparing Healthcare Providers to Work with Patients Using Medical Marijuana

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Medical marijuana patients in Michigan are relying on non-clinical personnel for their healthcare decisions. The number of registered patients in Michigan has increased over the years and a recent study co-authored by the Chief Medical Officer and co-owner of a dispensary in Washtenaw County, reported that "Only 2.6% of participants [select] cannabis products with input from a medical professional, although 54.9% relied on advice from dispensary employees. Cannabis and endocannabinoid system education for healthcare professionals is inconsistent across the United States and is lagging behind state legalization. Healthcare professionals need to be knowledgeable about cannabis to provide counseling and direction to patients that consume cannabis.

We disseminated a mixed method survey to gauge current cannabis knowledge of healthcare providers and allied health professionals in Michigan. Themes were used to develop objectives and content for a virtual educational seminar. Pre and post comparison tools measured changes in confidence of knowledge among attendees. Results show that 26% of participants considered themselves knowledgeable on cannabis however 79% encountered current patients consumers. Post intervention findings revealed an increase in confidence in knowledge of the endocannabinoid system, cannabis pharmacology, adverse effects, qualifying conditions, and evaluating patients' cannabis use. The mean confidence scores for all items (rated 0-5) increased on average by 0.92 from pre to posttest.

Attendees evaluated the intervention positively and were satisfied with the information received. The need and capacity for cannabis education is evident among this snapshot of healthcare providers and majority support was noted and should be considered for inclusion in designation specific curriculum going forward and to support related legislative and regulatory initiatives such as the potential mandate for public health code professionals for continuing education credits on cannabis for pain and symptom management presented by the State of Michigan Marijuana Regulatory Agency (MRA) Racial Equity Advisory Workgroup

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

I plan to continue my project efforts in the Midwest through a low profit limited liability company (L3C), Midwest CannaNurses Consulting, a black women owned Detroit based company that is a collective of registered nurses from various backgrounds in healthcare and academia that connect cannabis and healthcare by offering educational resources and products for communities and organizations alike, encouraging informed consumption, advocating for patients who chose cannabis, and developing individualized care plans for holistic treatment.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 5-10
NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 100+
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 140

Elisha Plaxico

Mercer University
 Nursing

PROJECT TITLE: A Multidisciplinary Collaboration to Reduce Vaping in Adolescents



SUMMARY AND GOALS:

This project aims to collaborate with the Georgia Sheriffs' Association to develop a curriculum for Choosing Healthy Activities and Methods Promoting Safety (C.H.A.M.P.S.) regarding the dangers of e-cigarette use and vaping to help decrease the usage of e-cigarettes in adolescents. This project has been created and presented to the Georgia Sheriffs' deputies, who currently offer the C.H.A.M.P.S. program to schools in 94 counties in the state of Georgia. The new curriculum will be evaluated to determine vaping education's benefit, perceived impact, and sustainability. This project hopes to achieve the Healthy People 2030 goal of reducing e-cigarette use in the adolescent population by targeting early intervention. The anticipated impact of this early education is to see an overall decrease in the usage of e-cigarettes and vaping products in adolescents.

The curriculum was created to be cohesive with the current C.H.A.M.P.S. curriculum presently in use across Georgia. The new vaping education was presented to the Georgia Sheriffs' deputies to educate the presenters on the material to prepare them to use the new education in the classroom. Then, to evaluate the new curriculum, an anonymous survey completed by the deputies will determine benefit, perceived impact, and sustainability.

At the start of this project, there was no vaping education presented in the C.H.A.M.P.S. program. Through a collaborative effort with the Georgia Sheriffs' Association, this project broadened the current C.H.A.M.P.S. curriculum and educated younger adolescents on the dangers of vaping and e-cigarette use. Data from this study suggest that this program is beneficial, sustainable, and improves education in the adolescent population regarding the dangers of e-cigarette use.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

My follow-up plans include continuing to work with the Georgia Sheriffs' Association and the C.H.A.M.P.S. program as a "vaping expert." I will also continue to adjust and edit the vaping content as needed.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 20+
NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 50-75
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 5,000

Pharmacy

Kammeran Cleaves

Lipscomb University

TITLE: My Health is Wealth: A Clinical Initiative to Combat Mental Health Disparities Within the Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy Community



PROJECT SUMMARY AND GOALS:

The purpose of the My Health is Wealth (MHiW) initiative is to bring a more personalized and all-inclusive program garnered towards bringing awareness to the importance of taking an active approach to combating the diverse causative factors of mental health disparities among members of the Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy (LUCOP) setting. MHiW was established to bring awareness to the Healthy People 2030 MHMD-05 objective to “Increase the proportion of adults with serious mental health illness who get treatment”. According to the American Psychological Association, anxiety is the top concern of health condition among college students at around 41.6% of the total population. These same individuals also experience increased mortality rates and advanced secondary comorbidities surrounding cognitive function and overall productivity. MHiW worked collaboratively with the LUCOP Wellness Committee to create reasonable goals to adequately identify and address the various mental health disparities seen within the community to ultimately provide achievable solutions that will improve the overall quality of life for the LUCOP community and destigmatize mental health disparities in healthcare providers. Providing education on the various factors surrounding mental health disparities served as a focal point within the goals of the MHiW initiative. To effectively engage the target audience, MHiW initiative maximized the Socratic method to encourage participants to take an active approach to understand the diverse needs surrounding the eradication of mental health disparities in healthcare professionals. By incorporating comprehensive methodologies, community members of the LUCOP community will be provided a more personalized experience regarding their current mental health state that will be evaluated at both the beginning and the conclusion of the program. At the conclusion of the program, the goal is to have provided each participant with the knowledge and access to numerous resources and to have improved the overall understanding of mental health.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Due to the success of the MHiW initiative, LUCOP will allow me to continue the activity process and conduct frequent mental health checkpoints for community members. MHiW has also begun discussing the initiation of the project with other colleges of pharmacy programs. My plan is to have an annual wellness program for COP community members to feel comfortable discussing their individual disparities and provide viable education and resources.

NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS: 5-10

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: Over 100

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED: 250+

Madeline Gemoules

St. Louis College of Pharmacy at the University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy
Pharmacy

PROJECT TITLE: Youth Prescription Medication Safety Community-based Project

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

According to the 2020 Missouri Student Survey, 9.4% of students (grades K-12) have misused a prescription drug at least once, with the average age of first use being 11 years old. Additionally, 6.3% of students have misused a prescription drug in the last 30 days. In partnership with Community Partners in Prevention (CPiP), a youth education and prevention campaign was implemented in the 4th-grade classrooms of the Rockwood School District during the 2021-2022 academic year. A 1-hour in-class medication safety curriculum was developed using toolkits provided by Generation Rx. Each session consisted of 4 activities that allowed students to learn about medication safety and taught them how to make good choices when it comes to taking medications. In order to gain more interest and participation from classrooms, the curriculum was aligned with the Rockwood



School District Physical Education Course Objectives and National Health Education Standards. During the year, over 300 4th and 5th-grade students participated in the program. Pre and post-assessment questions were developed but not yet implemented while the final curriculum was tested and finalized. Future directions of the project include continuing the program at Rockwood School district and expanding the program to the Clayton School District for the 2022-2023 academic year.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Community Partners in Prevention (CPiP) project coordinator, Lili Schliesser, will be moving to a new position at the Clayton School District where she will continue focusing on community prevention. She has provided program instructions for the new Rockwood CPiP coordinator and will also be taking the same materials to her new role. We are hopeful that the program will be provided in both school districts for the upcoming school year. We also hope to implement the pre and post-assessments developed into the curriculum so changes in perceptions and behaviors around prescription drug misuse can be quantified.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 5-10

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 300+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 600

Kristen Koch

University of Missouri – Kansas City
Pharmacy



PROJECT TITLE: The Diabetes Nutrition Project

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

A charitable clinic collaborated with a state extension office, University of Missouri Office of Extension and Engagement, and a local food pantry to provide free diabetes disease state management education and resources to improve diet and exercise habits among under-resourced patients with diabetes or pre-diabetes. Adult patients with self-reported diabetes or pre-diabetes participated in a once weekly evidence-based diabetes self-management 6-week course, Living Healthy with Diabetes. Education topics included commonly used medications, complications of diabetes, lifestyle modifications, and general disease state knowledge. Participants in the pilot-project course were offered a weight scale, exercise resistance bands, blood glucose monitoring supplies, a meditation CD, and a Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions book. A1c, lipid panel, BMI, and blood pressure were measured at baseline and 3 months later (after the course was completed) on a voluntary basis within the charitable clinic for those in the pilot project. Participants also voluntarily completed a pre-education survey to assess their access to resources needed to be successful with managing diabetes. This same survey was completed following participation in the course, with the addition of questions to assess perceived benefits provided by the program. Split between three cohorts, 27 patients have completed the Living Healthy with Diabetes course as part of this pilot project. The research team collected follow-up labs from 9 of 27 patients. 5 patients are not yet due for follow-up labs and 13 patients did not return for follow-up labs. Of the 9 patients for whom follow-up labs were collected, 5 patients experienced A1c lowering after 3 months. The average change in A1c was -0.37% (7.24% to 6.87%). In the post-education survey, patients answered “very beneficial” to receiving free A1c testing (88.9%), lipid panel labs and blood pressure screening (77.8%), a weight scale (66.7%), and resistance bands (44.4%).

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

This project will continue at Faith Community Health and future pharmacy students will have the opportunity to participate with the program if they have interest in diabetes education or serving low income patients.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 25-50

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 27

Lucas Kosobuski

University of Minnesota
Pharmacy



PROJECT TITLE: Gichi-Aya'aag Mino-Bimaadiziwin Elder Wellbeing Research Study

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

The project's aims are to 1) discern the current state of wellbeing of Bois Forte Elders during the COVID-19 pandemic, 2) inform the Tribal leaders and health and human services providers regarding the wellbeing of Elders and ways to improve wellbeing, and 3) inform the public health community of additional Tribal Nations of the need for more work in this area. A mixed-methods approach will be used to evaluate Elder wellbeing before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. The qualitative approach will involve semi-structured in-person interviews (or via phone or zoom if dictated by COVID restrictions) to discuss the project areas of interest. To gather quantitative data, measures from Dr. Walls' Giigewin Miikana (Healing Pathways) study will be adapted and, using a quantitative survey, Elders will rate their perceived sense of wellbeing in several areas (physical, emotional, spiritual, social). The project research question will be: What is the status of Elder wellbeing regarding mental health, healthcare access, food security and spirituality? Dr. Walls' Giigewin Miikana includes culturally validated measures for evaluating Elder wellbeing in the areas of interest in the research question. and these measures will be adapted for Gichi-Aya'aag Mino-Bimaadiziwin. The qualitative interviews and quantitative surveys will address Elders' sense of wellbeing in response to/during the COVID-19 pandemic and what services can be added or modified that would improve support. We will prioritize dissemination of findings to Tribal Council members and local service providers by sharing findings via written and oral "research briefs" that clearly identify potential policy and practice solutions for maintaining Elder health and wellbeing.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

We are currently expanding to another Tribal Nation.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 1-25

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 20

Julianne Mercer

University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy (PharmD)
Pharmacy



PROJECT TITLE: Evaluating Improvement in Understanding of Student Pharmacist-led Health Topic Discussions at an Emergency Shelter for Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

The Women’s Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh (WC&S) offers temporary housing for women who have had recent experiences with domestic violence, most commonly intimate partner violence (IPV). Multiple studies have found that IPV is associated with poorer physical and mental health outcomes in both men and women, thus increasing the importance of understanding how IPV affects specific populations who receive health services from free clinics.

Women at the WC&S have been found to have a high prevalence of mental health and psychiatric conditions, including, but not limited to, depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder and substance use disorders. Interactive discussions on desired health topics led by student pharmacists has the potential to increase confidence navigating the healthcare system and improve health outcomes for women at the site.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Many women were appreciative of these classes. As a group, us facilitators tried extremely hard not to just teach and lecture what we wanted them to learn. Rather, our goal was to continuously ask questions regarding what challenges residents' wanted to learn about related to health. Many women had questions about an array of disease states and medications, rather it be ADHD medications for their child, vaccinations for their newborn, or the climate and science of COVID-19. It was extremely gratifying to continuously have these important conversations with residents and fill the gaps that existed for them with regard to their understanding of health issues and health care in general.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 5-10

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 1-25

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 20-30

Daniella Tran

Texas A&M University, Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy
Pharmacy



PROJECT TITLE: Hedgie Health: Five Modules Focused on Child Health

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

According to a local news article from 2018, “the Coastal Bend (Corpus Christi) still lacks all-around access to affordable primary, specialty, behavioral health and dental care options, as well as services for pregnant women, uninsured residents and those who live in rural areas”. These findings suggest a need for early school-based interventions with a focus to provide access to health education in order to combat public health issues such as child obesity, tooth decay, and mental health.

I created an educational program, “Hedgie Health”, to collaborate with underserved communities in South Texas to deliver five modules focused on child health: physical activity, nutrition, medication safety, hygiene, and mental health. A Qualtrics survey will be sent to the parent/guardian of the participants (5-10 years old) present

during the session. The purpose of this study is to assess participant satisfaction and knowledge gained from the program, “Hedgie Health”. Resources will provide an understanding of using the MyPlate Method, healthy recipes, exercise games, handwashing importance, oral care, proper medication use, introduction to the pharmacy profession, and ways to improve children’s emotional well-being. Furthermore, we will then provide these resources on a website so that other educational providers may have access. By using the media, we hope to encourage other educational providers, health professionals, and health professional students to use “Hedgie Health” in their own communities.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

This community project will be a new service learning event carried by a student organization, SCCP (Student College of Clinical Pharmacy), at the Texas A&M College of Pharmacy. From these service learning events we aim to collect data to create a research poster with more defined results for the study. The website (www.hedgiehealth.com) will also remain published for anyone to access the project materials.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 25-50

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 100

Tammie Tran

University of Houston (PharmD)
Pharmacy



PROJECT TITLE: Diabetes Distress in Hispanics

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Diabetes distress (DD) involves the worries, concerns, and fears among individuals as they manage their diabetes. Social determinants of health (SDOH) contribute to disparities and barriers to attaining health. There is a clinically significant relationship between DD and disease management, medication adherence, glycemic control, and quality of life. Addressing a patient’s SDOH needs can positively affect their diabetes outcomes. However, there is scant data on the relationship between DDS-17, GAD-7, PHQ-9, and SDOH in Hispanic patients. Pharmacy student volunteers administered the DDS-17, GAD-7, PHQ-9, and SDOH surveys in English or Spanish to Hispanic patients with diabetes who receive care at an FQHC. We also performed chart reviews gathering information such as age, gender, BMI, A1C, years of diabetes, and number of medications. If the patients scored moderate to severe on the DDS, GAD, or PHQ9, they were referred to behavioral health. If the patient requested assistance for any SDOH need and they were referred to social work for resources. This project was IRB approved and we surveyed a total of 99 patients, however 1 did not complete all 4 surveys. First, 67% of patients were referred to behavioral health with positive scores for diabetes distress, depression, or anxiety. Secondly, 41% of patients were referred to social work for an identified social determinant of health need.

Traditionally, none of these patients would have been offered extra services and their PCPs would not have known they had any levels DD, depression, anxiety, or an SDOH need. We found that there was a statistically significant difference in the distribution of patients with moderate to severe DD and whether they had an SDOH need. We also found that there was a statistically significant difference in the distribution of patients with moderate to severe DD and whether their diabetes was controlled.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

We have submitted 3 poster abstracts to present at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Global Conference on Clinical Pharmacy in October. This has been an incredibly rewarding project for everyone involved. We know we have made a difference especially for an underserved population.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 10- 20
NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 75-100
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 99

Physical Therapy

Alexandria Wilson

The University of Texas Medical Branch
 Physical Therapy



PROJECT TITLE: Applying the PRECEDE-PROCEED Model: Addressing the Social Determinants of Health through a Student-led Pro Bono Physical Therapy Clinic

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

The purpose of this project is to outline the development and implementation of a community-based health initiative guided by the PRECEDE-PROCEED Model (PPM) to address the social determinants of health (SDOH) impacting patients at a student-run Pro bono physical therapy clinic. The aim of this project was two-fold: to understand and identify the various SDOH needs of the members of the Galveston community who attend the St. Vincent's Pro Bono Physical Therapy Clinic (STVPT) and offer resources to mitigate those needs upon discharge from the clinic.

In the PRECEDE phases, a needs assessment was performed to identify factors influencing optimal quality of life (QoL) within the Galveston community. Demographic and qualitative data were collected followed by conduction of thematic analysis and assessment of available resources for development of a sustainable intervention. In the PROCEED phases, an intervention was developed and implemented with the following components: student volunteer education and training on addressing SDOH, integration of patient social needs screening tool at STVPT, and allocation of community resources for identified patient needs. Knowledge of student volunteers regarding the SDOH following training, number of screening tools and resources distributed, and patient perceptions were investigated to assess the outcome.

It was found that there were several characteristics predisposing patients at STVPT to certain domains within the SDOHs. An intervention was constructed to educate STVPT physical therapy students on the SDOH, implement screening of SDOH as standard quality of care, and create simplified access to health literacy tools and Galveston County resources. It was found that the SDOH survey was effective in identifying needs that Galveston County had resources for. In addition, the SDOH training improved student understanding of the SDOH and how to utilize a screening tool and resource database to address them.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

One of the largest challenges was the time necessary to complete each phase of the PRECEDE-PROCEED Model. Though this was beneficial in creating a robust, community-based intervention, it limited our ability to complete an outcome evaluation in a timely fashion. The implementation phase of the project was also challenging because it took place while I was off-site on clinical rotations. This required extensive communication with student volunteers and faculty to ensure the intervention was continuing to be utilized as the STV pro bono clinic.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 15-20

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 75-100

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 100

Physician Assistant

Krista Feind

Case Western Reserve University
Physician Assistant



PROJECT TITLE: Trauma-Informed Care in Healthcare Education and Practice

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

Incorporating trauma-informed care (TIC) into healthcare education is important to ensure that future providers treat every patient with the utmost respect. Providers can also create a system which enforces TIC principles to resist re-traumatization of patients. While the need for this is especially evident in fields such as Women's Health, TIC should be used in every setting and with every patient.

In order to best incorporate TIC into the Physician Assistant Program at Case Western Reserve University, materials should be distributed evenly throughout the didactic year. Previously, the program had one quick 10-minute lecture included with a human trafficking lecture on TIC. Therefore, a reading focusing on interviewing methods, a guide on physical exam tips, and a case study discussion were added throughout the year. These materials will continue to be used for future cohorts of the program.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

The case study discussion just a few weeks ago was very well received by the cohort. We had great discussions on how TIC and healthcare work together to create positive relationships with patients. There was also a SANE nurse from the community there who contributed to the discussion and validated the need for TIC education for providers.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 25-50

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 200

Erin Hillis

Yale University
Physician Assistant



PROJECT TITLE: Oral Health Awareness Campaign

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

According to the CDC, by the time children are between 12 and 19 years old, more than half have had at least one cavity in their permanent teeth. Children ages 5 to 19 in low income families are twice as likely (25%) to have cavities than children from higher income households (11%). If children can be started early with an oral health regimen, they are more likely to continue these habits into their adult life. An Oral Health Campaign was held at a local grammar school (n=146). Proper brushing and flossing were demonstrated to the students, along with information about health benefits of brushing their teeth and gums. Students from graduate schools, undergraduate institutions, and local high schools submitted videos to the students in preschool through eighth grade about oral health daily. Toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss were provided to students, along with a month-long brushing calendar to help foster this healthy habit. By having students raise their hand with their head down, about 75% of students were brushing their teeth, and about 50% of them were brushing their teeth once a day. At the end of the month, the calendars were anonymously collected by the teachers. Among the students who returned the calendars, 50% brushed their teeth twice a day for the entire month. Follow up visit in one month revealed 50% of students were still brushing twice a day. From the beginning to the end of the project, the number of students brushing twice a day increased by 25%. A future longitudinal study is recommended to assess the lasting effect of this campaign, as well as a larger cohort spanning different socioeconomic areas. Limitations included small sample size, timing of the project, COVID 19 precautions, and method of collecting data.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Many of the students were very interested in the topic, and kept asking their teachers and principal for more information to read about and activities to do. I kept providing age appropriate resources to the students, as well as provided an activity booklet for them to complete, to help keep them engaged. Parents also mentioned their children were very excited to fill out the chart, so many of them have continued printing out a chart for them to fill out to have them continue to brush their teeth.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 20+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 100+

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 146

Kiesha Johnson

Mercer University
Physician Assistant



PROJECT TITLE: F.R.E.S.H

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

The proposed intervention, F.R.E.S.H (Free Relevant Education Supporting Health), is a four-session group-level behavioral intervention designed to increase condom use among AA women. Biological markers, such as HIV testing, and assessments will be used to determine the successful implementation and application of the intervention. Social Cognitive Theory will be the primary theoretical model used to guide the development of the intervention. Of the key constructs of the model, there will be four used for the intervention. The four constructs are knowledge, outcome expectations, self-efficacy, and emotional coping.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Instead of having a small group of participants, I conducted a training of the facilitator utilizing the same intervention and constructs.

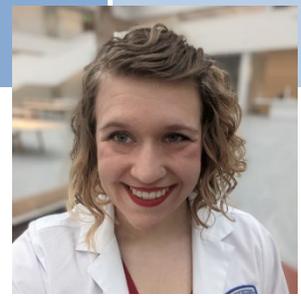
NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 1-25

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 25+

Laurel Mason-Gerard

Case Western Reserve University
Physician Assistant



PROJECT TITLE: Infant Mortality in Cleveland, Ohio: Babies dying at an alarming rate despite living in a healthcare rich area

SUMMARY AND GOALS:

The Problem: Cleveland has one of the highest rates of infant mortality in the country despite an abundance of local services and resources. In fact, the healthcare system may actually adversely contribute to infant and maternal health outcomes. This is in part from poor patient-provider relationships due to the attitudes, beliefs and behaviors of healthcare providers, as well as general mistrust in the medical system by the black community. In addition, many black women who experience infant loss have a lack of social support and access to resources. Lastly, I believe that there is an under-utilization of local services and resources due to lack of awareness among healthcare providers and the community.

Goal: Increase local awareness and education of infant mortality in the Cleveland-area

Objective 1: Improve health professional student awareness, understanding, and engagement of infant mortality

Sub-objective 1a: Incorporate specific education into the curricula of various health professional programs at Case Western Reserve University.

Sub-objective 1b: Increase student involvement in the community programs for pregnant women, moms, and children – not achieved.

Objective 2: Increase utilization of local resources for pregnant women.

Sub-objective 2a: Increase community awareness of local resources available to pregnant women – in progress.

Sub-objective 2b: Increase the community reach of local programs – in progress.

Objective 3: Improve early pregnancy resource connections.

Sub-objective 3a: Provide easy to find and navigate list of local services for ER and urgent care providers to direct newly pregnant patients.

Successfully educated 15-20 current CWRU PA students; created an extensive guide of local resources for pregnant women, and am in the process of distributing it to local healthcare facilities; created strong partnerships with several local organizations for future projects

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

I am still hoping to have an infant and maternal health event with FoodStrong to showcase all of the local resources available among the community. I also plan to teach another session of the PA program's culture and health class next year. Would love to coordinate an interdisciplinary or multi-organization showing of the film TOXIC. I am still in the process of coordinating distribution of my pregnancy resource guide to local ERs and medical offices.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT: 1-25

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT: 20

Kathryn Rebecca Mortensen

Mercer University
Physician Assistant



PROJECT TITLE: The Bridge to Resilience**SUMMARY AND GOALS:**

Resilience has been defined in many ways. For this project, we chose a targeted definition based on the population served: resilience is how well children bounce back in response to stress, anxiety, threats, or other adversity and vulnerabilities that they may face. The Bridge to Resilience began as the weight of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children were just being recognized. We, the project team, came together at a time when children were just returning to school and not yet able to participate fully in activities as before. Our goal was to assess the needs of this population of children ages 11-12, develop a week-long curriculum to foster resilience among them, implement the program, and re-assess the efficacy of our efforts to build sustainability within the community. With information gathered from scholarly research, key informant interviews, and focus groups, we developed the curriculum. We presented this process and development to this point at several conferences this spring. However, perhaps somewhat ironically, the ongoing nature of the pandemic prevented implementation with our community partners. The project did indeed lay the foundation to build a bridge to improving resilience in the target population, and the project team will continue to look for ways to sustain and continue our efforts. There is great potential in this project to impact the lives and shift the mindsets of many individuals and families. It is our hope that the program can be implemented, and our vision carried through with those who will continue in the community.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

I will remain in Atlanta after graduation, so I hope to restart working on the project in the fall. My goal is to involve current students and the same community partners to hopefully implement the program and continue working toward sustainability. My colleague who helped with the curriculum development may not be available for this phase, which is why I hope to "pass the torch" to others who will have the opportunity to engage with the community and "canonize" the efforts.

NUMBER OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS: 1-5**NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY PROJECT:** 1-25**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY PROJECT:** 25