



2021 COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS

HS 430 – COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM PLANNING

This document includes abstracts describing the 6 Service Learning Projects completed by senior-level Community Health majors at Iowa State University in collaboration with 5 Iowa County Health Agencies during the Fall 2021 semester (Cerro Gordo County, Crawford, Harrison, Madison County, and Story County)

Greg Welk, Ph.D. – Professor and Instructor
gwelk@iastate.edu

CERRO GORDO COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & OUTCOMES FROM CERRO GORDO COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

Jasmine Bailey, Logan Scheuermann, Nika Schneider, Trenton See and Alyse DeVries

Under the supervision of our county health partner Alyse DeVries, we completed three deliverables that created Syphilis awareness and ideas for the future. The three deliverables were an infographic, social media post and a summary of Syphilis programs/resources.

The infographic will be utilized online through social media and will be posted in the Cerro Gordo clinic rooms. It is essential that the infographic was simplistic and eye-catching in order to gain attention. The most important information for Cerro Gordo on the infographic was where to get tested and treated. It was also important that prevention, symptoms, and treatment was included. This allows individuals to assess their current situation and encourages them to present these symptoms to a doctor. This infographic will increase awareness and make getting tested for syphilis more

It is important for Public Health Officials to identify when additional prevention methods are needed. Syphilis rates in Iowa have nearly doubled from last year's reporting numbers, an increase of 87 percent. Cerro Gordo is taking steps to aid these Iowans and is always looking for ways to improve.

The excel sheet summary of syphilis programs and resources will aid Cerro Gordo in identifying possible prevention methods for the future. For example, Cook County in Illinois decided to provide condoms and provide an entire page about syphilis on their website. Another great resource that was included provided anonymous emails or texts to previous sexual partners if an individual tests positive. It is essential that county representatives are aware of these services and can utilize them more effectively.

This service learning project primarily focused on prevention methods, particularly in the area of awareness. Prevention tools are an important aspect of Public Health services because they empower and encourage the population to engage in their health. Syphilis can be a topic that can be difficult for patients to bring up or mention concerns for. It is important that patients feel these topics can be talked about. The deliverables we created will continue to aid Cerro Gordo in their future by increasing syphilis visibility online and in-person. Specifically, the program summary was created to aid Cerro Gordo for future intervention strategies based on previously existing programs. The social media post along with the infographic was created in order to inform the public and increase awareness for syphilis.

**500 + IOWANS HAD SYPHILIS IN 2020.
EXPECTED 60 % INCREASE IN 2021.**

approachable since all the facts are presented.

It is essential to reach Iowans through multiple avenues as some would not notice the infographic due to when it is posted, length or design. The social media post we created particularly for Facebook was much shorter. It needed to present urgency to get tested for Syphilis in Iowa and where. The post simply states where to get tested and shows that there has been an increase in syphilis this past year.

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Jasmine Bailey, Logan Scheuermann, Nika Schneider, Trenton See

Through this project we learned about the importance of communication and project management. We worked through collaboration and creativity to develop the three deliverables explained above. We introduced Canva into the project to create our infographic and Facebook post. We used Cerro Gordo logos and colors to create a unified social media and branding look. For our Excel Spreadsheet we used google drive so we can work on it throughout each week as we all had different schedules and other obligations.

As a group, we thought the research for the programs and resources was quite difficult. This is especially because most programs are developed to be overall STDs not just syphilis and some had just excluded syphilis. This development made it hard to find many resources for the Cerro Gordo County health leaders. However, we persevered and completed the deliverable with many programs and graphics for them to utilize.

Collectively, we believe that this project has helped us prepare for the workforce because we experienced the five elements of learning from a project; identifying a problem, documenting a situation, analyzing results, storing information, and later we will be able to retrieve this project for future use. Alyse aided us in identifying syphilis as a concern for her county. We documented our research of syphilis and how it affects people within Cerro Gordo County, and we looked at the campaigns and programs that can help Cerro Gordo and neighboring counties with the promotion of getting tested for Syphilis and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs).

During the project, we learned how to collaborate with each other by using a text message group, Google Drive for our documents, and using Zoom. We utilized Zoom every Wednesday and continued to use it throughout the project to complete presentations. The unity that we had was very beneficial to the project, as we had the same struggles at the beginning, and we were all satisfied with the ending results.

Overall, this project is beneficial to us, the students of HS 430 class, and the county health leader by providing us

Syphilis rates in Iowa have nearly doubled from last year's reporting numbers, an increase of 87 percent.

with an opportunity to get experience in how we would implement an educational intervention to the general population. Our county health leader benefits in receiving assistance in addressing the syphilis problem that has increased in Cerro Gordo. This project was an invaluable experience in building our skills as public health professionals and we believe it will be an experience we can draw upon in the future.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALYSE DEVRIES FOR MAKING THIS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE AND PROVIDING US A REAL-WORLD SITUATION. THIS PROJECT HAS TAUGHT US A LOT ABOUT PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOW WE CAN GROW.

SINCERELY,

JASMINE BAILEY, LOGAN SCHEUERMANN, NIKA SCHNEIDER, AND TRENTON SEE

CERRO GORDO SERVICE LEARNING

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & OUTCOMES FROM CERRO GORDO COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

Safie, Gwyneth, Winrose, Jaelyn & Alyse

Cerro Gordo group two’s project was focused on developing appealing internship criteria for students looking to intern in the health field for Cerro Gordo. This internship is primarily focused on the public health aspects of Cerro Gordo County. The internships are to be offered to college students so that they may gain hands-on experiences in health promotion or public health work. Our county coordinator was passionate about this project because she wants to create an experience for students that will lead them to create a change in the public health field in their future. Our task to complete for Alyse was to determine what criteria students are looking for in an internship. We

and potential employees to build rapport. It also allows for the employees to feel more comfortable and welcomed within the organization. With this in mind, we reached out to students of Iowa State University in the Kinesiology department who require an internship for their degree. We sent out a survey with simple questions to understand what they seek for their ideal internship. In doing so approximately forty students participated in the survey to give their opinion regarding important internship factors. The results of the survey were not as we expected. However, the survey allowed us to reassess certain aspects of the potential internship.

“This experience taught us how to progress through creating a plan by working step by step towards a goal, to achieve growth on a routine schedule. **THE SKILLS WE HAVE LEARNED WITHIN THE SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT WILL HELP MAKE US BETTER STUDENTS AND**

were able to collect information from college students and directly cater to the needs of the county health leader and students to sculpt an internship that was effective for both parties.

When preparing an internship, it is important to acknowledge the important qualities the future employees are looking for. This allows the employer

For an employer to receive applications for an internship, it is essential that the internship position is advertised. In regard to college students, the best way for Cerro Gordo to advertise their internship position is through technology. Whether that includes social media, online posting sites such as ZipRecruiter, or postings on their website. This allows for students of all different areas of the state to have the opportunity to view the internship. It increases the potential applicants Cerro Gordo will receive for the internship position. Within the job posting, including key words to help with the search can open the internship up to more exposure. Cerro Gordo wants to cater for the students' wants and/or needs in an internship. This allows students to work in the specific field of health, such as health promotion, and Cerro Gordo still reaps health benefits from the student’s work. Finally, Cerro Gordo can communicate their willingness to work with the needs of the students' university. They can fulfill the hour requirements that students need and give them real work experience.

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Safie, Gwyneth, Winrose, Jaelyn

This experience helped benefit both our academic and professional skills. Working directly with our county health supervisor helped give us a level of professionalism we have not experienced from different classes. Likewise, we learned how to effectively communicate and plan according to the community's needs. We were able to put to practice applying the needs of a health leader to their community in a way that was beneficial to the target population. After listening to the needs of the county health leader, we compiled a plan and checklist of what we will accomplish throughout the week to meet our goal. This experience taught us how to progress through creating a plan by working step by step towards a goal, to achieve growth on a routine schedule. The skills we have learned within the service-learning project will help make us better students and better future employees.

Through communication, we built a relationship amongst ourselves and the county leader. By sharing ideas and working together in developing the internship program, we created a working routine and rhythm. Collaboration is important in developing a relationship with the community and community members. Another skill that we honed from the service learning project includes leadership skills. A leader helps in providing and facilitating activities; working with the county leader helped us to stay focused on the tasks that were assigned. We reported all the results to our county leader and she continuously gave us feedback and clarification that helped us move forward on focusing on the goal of Cerro Gordo internship program. We learned that being patient and working on detail for every step of the program was crucial to getting quality results. This project really stood out because we had to be more thorough than other basic assignments. The duration of the project allowed us to have to gather more in depth research, like conducting a survey and analyzing results. Exploring and working with a public

health professional helped us to gauge a more realistic picture of real world workplace setup and how impactful working in a group can be to solving a problem.

**“SOME OF THE SKILLS THAT WE
LEARNED AND UTILIZED ARE
COMMUNICATION AND LEADERSHIP
SKILLS. THE SKILLS HELPED IN
FOCUSING ON THE GOALS OF THE
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.
THE MAIN GOAL OF THE PROJECT WAS
PROMOTING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Through this assignment we were able to create professional level graphics, presentations, and reflections. The combined efforts between our county leaders and ourselves allowed us to create a project we were proud of that we believe will positively affect Cerro Gordo's public health. We all used our strengths to add to the presentation. We used material from other sources to educate and guide our ideas. We learned how to transition each other's ideas to form a solid picture. All these factors helped in creating a quality layout for our presentation which will allow an internship that meets the requirements of both participants as well as the county office.

Special thanks to Alyse for taking the time to meet with us often and facilitating discussions to help us finish the project. You often allowed us to grow by frequently engaging with us and challenging us to think deeper. Additionally thank you to Louise Lex for helping to facilitate the project.

Sincerely,

Safie, Gwyneth, Winrose, Jaelyn

CRAWFORD COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & OUTCOMES FROM BLANK COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

Jayden Walker, Riley Maher, Arissa McGregor, Adalyn LaHue, Aaron Newman
& County Health Partners Kim Fineran & Cheryl Lahr

Throughout the semester, our service learning team worked closely with two representatives from Crawford County Health: Kim Fineran and Cheryl

“OUR GOAL IS TO SUPPORT THE
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF ALL
MOTHERS, CHILDREN, AND FAMILIES”

Lahr. Crawford County had one main goal that they were trying to achieve, and that was to receive the *Maternal and Child Health Grant* from the federal government. In order to receive the grant, there was a lot of research that needed to be done. The task that our group was assigned to do was to complete the necessary research and report it back to Kim and Cheryl.

The *Maternal and Child Health Grant* is very important to public health. It supports mothers, children, and families in various ways such as: assuring access to quality health care services, reducing infant mortality, providing access to pre and postnatal care, increased access to screenings, and a lot more. Low-income mothers and families need extra help, and this grant is essential to living a healthy life. Our research did indicate that Crawford county is on the healthier side, so they would benefit greatly from receiving this grant.

Our research consisted of nine main topics: population, number of mental health providers,

number of doctors' offices and their location, number of hospitals and their location plus whether or not they deliver babies, lead testing rates in children, teen birth rates (15-19 years), STD rates, and I-Smile. We researched all of these things for Crawford county, but we also researched six other counties as well. The counties we researched included: Audubon, Buena Vista, Carroll, Greene, Guthrie, and Sac. In order to find all of the necessary research we used various websites and even made phone calls. We were very successful in finding our data through the couple of weeks we were given. After we found all it, we then compiled it into different forms for our county leaders. We made infographics with quick statistics, written reports, as well as a table so that we could convey our research in different ways. Our written reports and tables were sent to our county health leaders in a format where the statistics could be updated and changed for later use. It was important for us to display our data in different formats. We understand that people learn and understand in different ways, and that is the main reason we chose to create different formats.

The data we collected is important to all seven of the counties we focused on. In order to receive a grant, there has to be sufficient evidence and reasoning as to why. We hope that with our work, we are able to help Crawford county get the *Maternal and Child Health Grant*. This grant will help improve the health and quality of life for mothers, children, and families in many countries.

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Jayden Walker, Riley Maher, Arissa McGregor, Adalyn, LaHue, and Aaron Newman

During our service-learning project our group had several learning experiences. Overall, we learned that community health is linked through many aspects. Our focus for this project was on Crawford county however when we met with our leaders we were tasked with looking into six other counties on top of Crawford. It was important to research all counties to completely understand trends and report numbers to our leaders in hopes of securing the grant. Researching so many counties was overwhelming at times but it was interesting to compare numbers as we saw differences in each county for the topics we had focused in on.

Our group also had to learn how to track our progress even when we were not given a specific task by our leaders. There were times when our leaders did not attend our scheduled meetings, so it was up to us to continue making progress on our project. This allowed us to work as a group and anticipate what we might be asked to do next for our leaders. Learning to do this will be a benefit us greatly in our future careers. There may be times when we are not given specific instructions, but we are still expected to be productive. Working on this project allowed us each to get an experience on what that may be like.

Finally, we got to learn how to conduct in depth research and complete statistical analyses. Learning how to complete strong research and effectively gather information on various topics in public health will help us as we prepare to enter the workforce. As shown in this project, research is essential when it comes to receiving grants because it shows the need for the grant as well as any health disparities that may exist among counties.

This experience has helped us become better communicators which is very important in public health. We effectively communicated with our public health leaders as well as other public health leaders in the other counties reached out to obtain the information that we needed to gather to be successful for this project. We also were able to practice good team working skills by keeping track of each other's progress and making sure that everyone contributed to the project.

“LEARNING HOW TO COMPLETE
STRONG RESEARCH AND
EFFECTIVELY GATHER INFORMATION
ON VARIOUS TOPICS IN PUBLIC
HEALTH WILL HELP US PREPARE TO
ENTER THE WORKFORCE”

An interesting aspect we came across when researching the various areas of our project are the various sources of information that report similar, but not entirely the same information. This was most apparent when finding reports on demographic information regarding the seven counties we were researching. This taught us the importance of being cautious when going to certain websites. It is important to consider if they are official sources because we want to prevent a drastic spread.

Overall, this project has taught us many important things that we will take and use once we start our own careers. We are looking forward to seeing if Crawford does receive the grant in the future!

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK CHERYL AND KIM FOR THEIR TIME. YOU HAVE BOTH ALLOWED US TO GAIN REAL WORLD EXPERINCES THAT WILL BENEFIT US IN OUR OWN RESPCTIVE FUTURES. THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WE GAINED FROM YOU HAS BEEN EXTREMELY HELPFUL, AND WE GREATLY APPRECIATE IT.

SINCERELY,

Jayden Walker, Riley Maher, Arissa McGregor, Adalyn LaHue, & Aaron Newman

HARRISON COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & OUTCOMES FROM HARRISON COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

Sara Rubino, Keegan Bethards, Claire Burger, Hanna Wiltse, Jessica Mancillaz & Brad Brake

For the Service Learning Project for Harrison County, we were asked to compile research based on the top health issues experienced by those in the community. We used the CHNA/HIP survey to find initial information, and we compared those results to a survey performed directly by our County Health Leader, Brad Brake. We then presented the information in the form of a PowerPoint that he could use to express the health issues to the Healthy Harrison Coalition. This coalition will be used to decide the focuses and health needs of the residents in Harrison County.

“... INTERPRETING THE NEEDS OF
HARRISON COUNTY”

It is important to be able to identify the health needs based on many different factors in the community. We assessed demographics to ensure the population that was most important to be reached currently, and what health disparities were most important to tackle now and in the future.

It was important for our county health leader to have all of the information in a format that was presentable and easy to access. From his standpoint, he knew there were

health issues within the community, but the tedious research can be time consuming. We were able to assist in both the initial research, interpretation of data, and create a presentation displaying all of the content.

Our partner, Brad Brake, is the Public Health Director of Harrison County. Brad provided us with data from Harrison’s Community Health Needs Assessment. Our job was to interpret and analyze the data so it could be used in a presentation that Brad would later give at the Healthy Harrison Coalition meeting. After interpreting the needs of Harrison County, our data was put into a presentation along with graphs, images, and important facts about the county.

This assessment was important in identifying common health behaviors and ideas that Harrison residents have. The information received allowed for a county health evaluation with a first-hand perspective. The results could aid in identifying if changes need to be made to better the health of Harrison County individuals.

The ending project provided information for our county health leader that could be used to present to others regarding the health of Harrison County. Our health representative was able to interpret the data and present it to other county health members regarding the health needs and behaviors of Harrison. It has already been used as a resource for Harrison County officials to reflect on and will be used in the future.

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Sara Rubino, Keegan Bethards, Claire Burger, Hanna Wiltse, Jessica Mancillaz

One of the main takeaways we had from this project was how to utilize various types of communication to contribute to our success. Not only did we use Zoom to meet with Brad every week, we would ask questions and discuss via email as well as on CyBox, a tool we used to share all our documents with Brad, and he could share his documents with us. Our team also utilized Google Drive programs to create our charts and PowerPoints so that we could all work on them together at the same time even if it was outside of our class time.

Learning how to utilize proper communication skills is a key success factor within the community and health field. There are so many different professionals that a person could be working with, such as government officials, health care workers, and public health officials. Being able to find effective ways to communicate and share data could largely contribute to the success of a person in the community health field.

“Being able to find effective ways to communicate and share data could largely contribute to the success of a person in the community health field.”

This experience has allowed our team to gain and enhance skills that will ultimately benefit us as we continue with our community and public health professional careers. Throughout this project, we have proven to be successful in researching a specific population, collaborating with a health professional, gathering related data, and providing a presentation that can be professionally presented to health leaders. We were also able to enhance our collaboration skills as we worked as a team for the entire semester. The skills we learned and improved on throughout this project will benefit us in each career avenue that we choose to take.

Overall, this project has been a positive experience that has provided a look into the community and public health world. In addition, we are grateful for Brad and his expertise and guidance throughout this project. By interacting with a community and public health professional, we were given insight and created a connection that will be beneficial as we move forward with our careers. This experience allowed for a hands-on environment that allowed us for a first-hand look into the profession.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR COUNTY HEALTH PARTNER, BRAD, FOR HIS TIME AND GUIDANCE THROUGHOUT THIS PROJECT. IT HAS BEEN VERY EDUCATIONAL. HIS GUIDANCE HELPED US LEARNED SO MUCH ABOUT WHAT PUBLIC HEALTH IS ALL ABOUT.

SINCERELY,

SARA RUBINO, KEEGAN BETHARDS, CLAIRE BURGER, HANNA WILTSE, AND JESSICA

MADISON COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & OUTCOMES FROM MADISON COUNTY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT Emily Allen, Elizabeth Flores, Cameron Lamb, Jocelin Sharfnejda, & Sharon Miller

Since the beginning of the semester, our service learning group partnered up with Sharon Miller, who is a representative of Madison County. For this project, we had one main goal in mind; to keep older populations of Madison County engaged in all aspects of health (physically, mentally and emotionally) during COVID-19 isolation. Since we are coming up on the flu season and another potential spike of COVID-19 during the winter season, creating an intervention that was simple and efficient was crucial for us to be successful.

**“IT IS VITAL TO MAINTAIN MENTAL,
PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL
ENGAGEMENT WITHIN THE OLDER
POPULATION DURING TIMES OF
CRISIS.”**

In order to accomplish our goal, Sharon gave us the task of coming up with an activity or an intervention we could potentially implement in Madison County. Sharon also had special requests for us to consider. She asked us not to incorporate the use of technology due to the fact that our target population was older individuals. This project was important to Sharon because she routinely communicates with the older individuals in Madison County who are affected by COVID-19 isolation and she saw how it was negatively impacting their mental health. She wanted to help improve their mental health, which is why she assigned us this mission.

At the start of our service-learning project, we did some research on our county using CHNA/HIP reports. We were able to find important statistics that would help us identify the need for our county. After identifying demographics such as population size and ages, we proceeded to research the effects of COVID-19 isolation on mental health. This was a key task for us because we were able to understand the root of the problem we were trying to address. We also created a COVID-19 timeline (specifically for Iowa and Madison County) in order to provide us with some structure. After doing our research, we then proceeded to come up with ideas for our intervention. After discussing it with Sharon, we narrowed it down and decided to create a newsletter. This newsletter consisted of different activities such as sudoku, a crossword, recipes, fun facts and activities that would help them be physically engaged at home. The idea was to create an intervention that would be useful at home due to being in isolation. Our goal was to make it enjoyable and engaging to target whole body health. We were able to use an online tool that helped us create the newsletter and Sharon was able to review it and approve it.

Creating an intervention we could implement for older populations during COVID-19 isolation was important to their health because it could help them stay away from any negative feelings or thoughts they may have during these times. As it is known, isolation can cause depression, anxiety and feelings of loneliness, especially for older adult populations since they are already very vulnerable to mental health issues. Depression and anxiety can lead to chronic diseases such as heart

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Emily Allen, Elizabeth Flores, Cameron Lamb, and Jocelin Sharfnejda

disease, high blood pressure and Alzheimer's disease. It was important to create the intervention in a successful manner in order to prevent any further health complications.

Throughout the process of creating our intervention for Madison county, we encountered a variety of ups and downs. Initially, we were quite nervous about the entire project. Having to collaborate with a community health professional and design a health intervention can feel overwhelming. We quickly learned this service learning project was exciting to create and rewarding to provide to the older population of Madison county. The overall experience of this assignment was great. This is largely due to our wonderful county representative, Sharon. She was always willing to help guide us in our process and even met with us twice in person.

This project allowed us to learn things we may not have had the opportunity to learn if not for the completion of this assignment. One major lesson we learned was the importance of understanding the population of individuals who live without technology. All four of us come from areas of advanced technology. This was a challenge for us to ponder ideas of how we could deliver our intervention without the luxury of electronic components. In exchange, we were able to discover new ways of connecting with the older population of Madison county. We were able to create a partnership with the staff of at home care workers to distribute our intervention. While creating this project, we learned how important community health resources are to small rural counties, such as Madison county. In parallel, we also learned how little the amount of community health organizations are available in these counties compared to those that contain large cities. Overall, this service learning project has taught us to think more diversely

and expanded our knowledge on the possibilities of working with other organizations to provide the greatest benefits for those in need.

**“LEARNING HOW TO UTILIZE RESEARCH
AND APPLY IT TO A REAL LIFE SITUATIONS
WILL FURTHER SET US UP FOR SUCCESS IN
OUR FUTURE CAREERS IN PUBLIC
HEALTH.”**

This experience has given us the opportunity to work with public health professionals that focus on the safety and needs of their county. We are now more comfortable and confident with our abilities to create a service project, lead scheduled meetings, and work with our county health leader and team members effectively even in long-distance circumstances. We have learned to evaluate, analyze, and report the data when it comes to interpreting results on health studies.

The experiences that we have gained through this project will help to prepare us for careers in public health. Getting hands-on opportunities opened our eyes to the importance of keeping the individuals within a community healthy and promoting the overall health of a county. The hard work that we put in throughout the semester will have a direct impact on the individuals of Madison County, which is extremely rewarding. Overall, this project has introduced us to new concepts and ideas within public health that we did not have experience in before the semester. We are excited to continue to implement the skills and knowledge that we have gained to promote health within communities.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK SHARON MILLER FOR HELPING US ALONG OUR SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT JOURNEY. WE APPRECIATE THE TIME AND THE KNOWLEDGE WE GAINED THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE PROCESS. THIS EXPERIENCE WILL HELP US IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!

SINCERELY,

EMILY ALLEN, ELIZABETH FLORES, CAMERON LAMB, AND , JOCELIN SHARFNEJDA

STORY COUNTY SERVICE- LEARNING PROJECT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & OUTCOMES FROM STORY COUNTY SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT

Maya Tydlacka-Hammeken, Grace Meier, Megan Seil, Denisse Chavez,
& Lesla White

For our service-learning project, we were asked to create an educational video to be sent to individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 in Story

“HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO
WORK WITH MULTIPLE PUBLIC
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ALLOWED
US TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE AND REAL-
WORLD EXPERIENCE”

County. To do this we used the animation app Moovly to create our video, and we researched COVID-19 guidelines that our county leaders provided us with as well as the CDC guidelines.

COVID-19 has been a pandemic for over a year and half, and many health care workers are facing

pandemic fatigue. This educational video may help relieve some of the fatigue public health workers in Story County are facing. Nurses and other public health workers here in Story County were feeling overwhelmed with COVID-19 and needed an easier way to inform those who have tested positive for COVID-19 about the illness. The video’s goal was to talk about symptoms, how to isolate, when to seek medical care, and provide other resources. Our goal was to create a simple video that could be understood by anyone in the public that provided them isolation instructions and information about the illness. This video will be sent out to those in Story County who test positive for COVID-19, and will help relieve some of the stress public health workers face when working with COVID-19

STUDENT SERVICE-LEARNING OUTCOMES

Maya Tydlacka-Hammeken, Denisse Chavez, Grace Meier and Megan Seil

For our service-learning project, we were asked to create an educational video that would be used for COVID 19 positive individuals. We started by contacting our Story County Health Professionals and setting up weekly zoom meetings to plan continuous communication throughout the process. During our zoom meetings, and emails back and forth we were able to communicate our progress and needs in a respectable and competent manner. We worked with them to produce a script, with all the essential components that needed to be included in the video. From then on, we divided the script into four parts and assigned each group member a part. We each completed a portion of the video using animations and the information we had gathered on the story county COVID 19 protocols. Our video contains key information on symptom information, next steps, safety procedures, preventative measures, and more. After all of us had completed our parts and perfected the animations, we finished by adding music and a voiceover to help keep the viewers more engaged. Throughout the process of creating this video, we learned how to maintain open and honest communication between each other while sharing our thoughts and opinions in a courteous manner. This project also opened us all up to the online platform *Moovly*. *Moovly* is a program used to make videos and, in our case, helped us create our final product.

Having the opportunity to work with multiple public health professionals allowed us to gain real-world experience. This experience included creating informational content that will be used by Story County. We were given the opportunity to develop our

professional communication through email and zoom. Utilizing Our professional meeting skills were also developed. Through this project, we were given the freedom to initiate meetings with our public health representatives. This project allowed us to present information in a professional manner to practice our professional public speaking skills.

This project has helped us inform the public on what to do if diagnosed with COVID-19. This is an important project that we have been a part of because we are getting

“THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS OF CREATING THIS VIDEO, WE LEARNED HOW TO MAINTAIN OPEN AND HONEST COMMUNICATION BETWEEN EACH OTHER WHILE SHARING OUR THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS IN A COURTEOUS MANNER.”

information out to the public in real time. It is also significant to us because we have been able to work with current health professionals and to see what they do for the public. This has been an important project for us to take part in and to put our best efforts into because we want all communities and individuals to understand the severity of COVID-19, and what their next steps are. Working with current health professionals has been extremely valuable to each of us, as we all one day hope to pursue a career in public health.

THANKYOU TO LOUISE LEX FOR HER TIME, AS WELL AS LES WHITE, THERESA, & SHERRI FOR ALL OF THEIR EFFORTS. WE ARE THANKFUL FOR THE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE FROM OUR COUNTY HEALTH LEADERS AND FEEL HONORED TO HAVE WORKED WITH THEM AND GAINED THIS EXPERIENCE.

SINCERELY,

GRACE MEIER, DENISSE CHAVEZ, MAYA TYDLACKA-HAMMEKEN, AND MEGAN SEIL