

The Connection Community Consultants Group Projects 2014-2015 Academic Year

Survey Execution and Data Analysis for the Senior Home Maintenance Program

Organization: [Banner Neighborhoods](#)

Description: An important part of how Banner Neighborhoods works is by incorporating community feedback into how they develop and improve their programs. Students reviewed Banner Neighborhood's existing survey tool and chose a representative sample of 20 HMP participants. Students mailed surveys and led a focus group session to discover how participants learn about the HMP, what services they use and how often, and what changes they would like to see. The team spent time reflecting on the survey tool and the process as a whole, providing written recommendations to Banner for future steps in their final report. Students utilized both their biostatistical and epidemiologic knowledge to improve how this community organization can proceed in the future.

Final product: A report reflecting data analysis of survey information collected with discussion of limitations and future recommendations.

Team members: 3 JHSPH students, 1 SON student

Grant Writing to Fund the Generation E4 Youth Programs

Organization: [The DOOR, Inc.](#)

Description: Generation E4 Afterschool and Summer programs provide math and science support in addition to life-skills, violence/substance abuse prevention instruction during the school year and summer for Title I students. The staff at The Door needs your help applying for 1-2 grants to fund the Generation E4 programs. They've identified the grant foundations and have staff with background knowledge of grant writing to serve as resources for your team. To write the application, you will learn about how the Generation E4 program fits with the grant foundation's mission, as well as the program's role in the community.

Final product: Application to 1-2 grants to fund the Generation E4 programs. Knowledge of how these programs impact the community and fit the principles of the grant foundations

Team members: 2 MPH students, 2 JHSPH students

Exploring Suboxone Substance Abuse Treatment Programs for the Homeless

Organization: [Healthcare for the Homeless](#)

Description: Healthcare for the Homeless (HCH) requested a team of clinically minded students to research suboxone programs – a less-regulated alternative to methadone – to kickstart their own program. Through meetings with the volunteer coordinator and Chief Medical Officer, the students gained exposure to how the HCH clinic functions and how a new program is started. The students generated a final report outlining best practices, various program designs, and suggested implementation strategies that other organizations have used when adopting suboxone substance abuse treatment programs. The team then went a step further to adapt these ideas for a homeless population.

Final product: Final e-version report reflecting the team's literature review and recommendations

Team members: 2 SOM students (1 MD/MPH), 2 JHSPH students

Moving the NAMI Policy Manual into the 21st Century

Organization: [The National Alliance of Mental Illness Metropolitan Baltimore](#)

Description: Students worked with the new Executive Director of the National Alliance of Mental Illness Metropolitan (NAMI) in Baltimore, to revamp their personnel handbook. They brought valuable perspective to expanding on orientation guidelines for both staff and volunteers. Through this experience, the team gained knowledge about how a non-profit affiliate works at the director level, with a behind-the-scenes look at policy and procedures.

Final product: Electronic version of the NAMI-MB updated personnel handbook

Team members: 1 MPH student, 1 SON student, 2 JHSPH students

Quantitative Analysis of the Jubilee Arts Program

Organization: [Newborn Holistic Ministries](#)

Description: The [Jubilee Arts Program](#) provides dance, visual art, creative writing, and ceramics classes for youth and adults. Past SOURCE students helped them conduct a qualitative analysis of the program, and this team continued with quantitative analysis, demonstrating the value of the program to potential funders and partners. They developed a standardized survey tool for youth and adults and analyzed resulting data.

Final product: 2 standardized survey tools, Excel database for analysis

Team members: 1 SON student, 3 JHSPH students

A Guide to Greening Neighborhoods: City Policy and Best Practices

Organization: [Parks and People Foundation](#)

Description: The Parks & People Foundation provides a free copy of their Guide to Greening Neighborhoods to community groups interested in greening projects, such as adopting vacant lots and planting edible gardens. This team helped them incorporate new Baltimore City policies and updating best practices to their most current version in easy-to-understand terms for community groups.

Final product: Electronic version of the Parks & People Foundation updated Guide to Greening Neighborhoods

Team members: 3 JHSPH students

Introduce Southeast Early Head Start's New Location to the Community

Organization: Kennedy Krieger Institute's [Southeast Early Head Start](#)

Description: The Southeast Early Head Start program recruited SOURCE students to create a quarterly newsletter template and publish the first version. Students interviewed instructors who teach GED, ESL, and parenting programs, and also learned more about the child care programs. They included announcements and health tips for parents, and word searches and vacation tips for kids.

Final product: An easy-to-use quarterly newsletter template, with the first Winter version completed.

Team members: 2 MPH students, 2 JHSPH students

Weight Loss Program Development for the Uninsured

Organization: [Shepherd's Clinic](#)

Description: Shepherd's Clinic plans to put together a group weight loss program for their patients. They have successfully developed similar group programs of other health conditions and wanted to respond to community request for a weight loss program. Students reviewed the literature to find out what other organizations did, what worked and what doesn't, and what aspects of a weight loss program would be most advantageous for Shepherd's Clinic.

Final product: Final report that outlined best practices, recommendations, strengths, designs, and strategies used by successful group weight loss programs for low income and uninsured individuals.

Team members: 2 MPH students, 2 JHSPH students

Early Head Start Program Federal Self-Assessment Project

Organization: Kennedy Krieger Institute's [Southeast Early Head Start](#)

Description: The Federal government requires yearly self-assessments of all Head Start programs to track outcomes and inform planning. A SOURCE intern from the Baltimore Community Practicum program revised the SEEHS's previous self-assessment tool, and worked with Connection volunteers to conduct the assessment. Students interviewed staff and parents, observed staff-participant interactions, and examined appropriate documents and records.

Final product: Completed data forms of the newly revised self-assessment tool.

Team members: 2 JHSPH students, 1 MPH student, 1 SON student