

A Community Engagement Student Project Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Community Pharmacy

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Objective

The objective of this project is to describe the development and implementation of a semester-long project that applies the knowledge of the social determinants of health (SDOH) to the development and delivery of pharmacy services in the community setting.

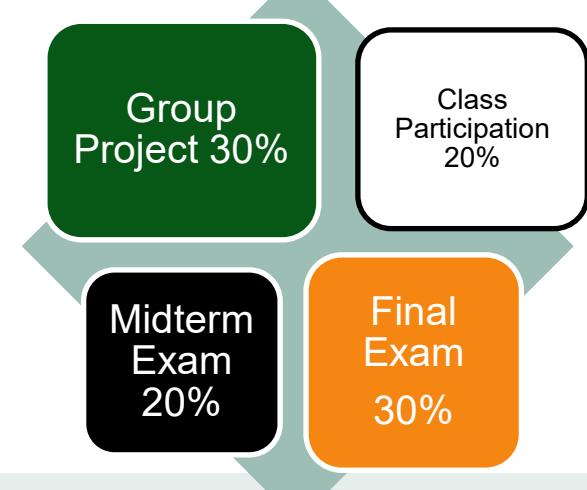
Methods

The SDOH and Community Engagement Project was modeled after the BUILD Health Challenge (a funding collaborative and award program)

- Bold
- Upstream
- Integrated
- Local
- Data-Driven
- Modified and implemented in a Community Pharmacy Elective course for second-year PharmD students
- Semester-long project timeline
- Groups of 4-6 students

Project Grade Breakdown: 200 points total

- Community Needs Assessment = 50 (25%)
 - (Worksheet + Interview)
- Project Proposal = 60 (30%)
- Final Presentation = 40 (20%)
- Peer Evaluation = 50 (25%)



Project Components



Conduct Community Needs Assessment

- Community Competency Worksheet
- Census data research and windshield survey
- Pharmacist interview (in-person)

Identify Community Organization Partner

- Addresses at least one identified social risk factor
- Unique to identified community needs and specific pharmacy resources

Develop Customized Proposal

- Describe Problem and Solution
- Implementation Strategy
- SWOT Analysis
- Impact and Feasibility

Final Proposal and Presentation

Results

- From 2021-2023, a total of 10 proposals were developed and presented.
- The most common social risk factor addressed through this project was transportation (n=6, 60%)

Year	Group	Partners	Social Risk(s) Addressed	Proposal Summary
2021	1		Transportation Access to Healthcare	Monthly free clinic in Walmart parking lot Staffed by pharmacy and medical students and residents Free health assessments, POCT, lifestyle and medication counseling
	2		Stigma Transportation	Drug Take Back, Naloxone and Needle Exchange in Kroger parking lot Staffed by Choice Health Network, Knoxville PD and pharmacy interns
	3		Health Literacy	Development of OTC Medication Safety Brochure Distribution within Neighborhood Health Clinic Directing patients for counseling at Pruitt's Pharmacy
	4		Medication Cost	UTHSC Pharmacy students will create and maintain a resource of medication assistance programs (linking to NeedyMeds) for easier practical use by Good Shepherd Pharmacy
	5		Transportation Health Literacy	Champions Mobile Pharmacy - weekly health fair collaboration Blood Pressure screenings, dietary consultations Herbal and alternative consultations
	6		Transportation	Maryville High School seniors to provide transportation to the pharmacy for senior citizens in the community during their elective off period
2022	1		Transportation	City Drug Store to contract with Uber to provide rides for rural patients Downtown - to the pharmacy for medication refills and CMRs Coordinate appointments with primary care provider
	2		Transportation	Development of a prescription delivery service for low-income patients
2023	1		Health Literacy	Weekly health information seminars in tents in field next to Kroger Staffed by Pharmacy interns, SNPhA, and Common Table Health Alliance
	2		Access to Healthcare	Bi-weekly health services provided in portable booths in CVS parking lot Church Health Services - eye, dental, physical therapy, behavioral health Pharmacy services - MTM, POCT, counseling

Conclusions

The SDOH and Community Engagement Project is an innovative way to develop structural competency for students interested in practicing in community pharmacy.

This activity was effective at inspiring innovation and entrepreneurial thinking about the social determinants of health as it pertains to community pharmacy.

Reported Challenges

- Difficult to prioritize vs therapeutics courses
- Percentage of final grade in course
- Semester-long time-frame added pressure
- Group work and shared responsibility

Accommodations

- Provided 2 hours of class time to work on project
- Thoughtful timeline (awareness of integrated exams)
- Required proposal draft and provided timely feedback
- Deadline extensions prn with no penalty
- Individual final grades based on peer evaluation

