



CARE Connect: Community Assessment, Referral, Education, and Connections Project

Purpose

Chronic lack of access to healthcare and adequate nutrition leads to health disparities that make food insecure families more vulnerable to disease. Through a multidisciplinary initiative, we conducted a pilot to assess the feasibility and preliminary efficacy of providing health screening, education, referrals, and follow up services for food pantry patrons that directly and indirectly addressed critical public health issues.

Impact

With support from a Course Development and Enrichment Grant (Offices of Service-Learning, Undergraduate Education, Outreach and Engagement), our team has created a new service-learning course at OSU (2017 launch).

In cooperation with Buck-I-SERV, a five-week community outreach/service learning STEP experience will be offered as a pilot of the semester-long course. Service learning will take place in Columbus (urban) and NC (rural).

Our team facilitated connecting 85% of high risk clients with primary care. We have disseminated our results at 2 international conferences, via 6 poster sessions, and have 3 manuscripts in preparation.



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY



Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Medicine
School of Health and
Rehabilitation Sciences
Division of Health Sciences and
Medical Dietetics
Division of Occupational Therapy
Division of Athletic Training
Division of Physical Therapy
Division of Respiratory Therapy
Division of Health Information
Management and Systems

Community Partners Involved

Stowe Mission
Community Development for All
People (CD4AP)
Salvation Army Food Pantry
PrimaryOne Health Central Ohio
Community Health Centers

How you can get involved:

- Support our wonderful community partners!
- Students should watch and register for our upcoming service-learning course (2017)
- Students can email Dr. Spees to be added to our volunteer list.
- Encourage funders to support these types of multidisciplinary initiatives
- Faculty can engage in collaborative research and upcoming service-learning course

To get involved, contact:

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Medical Dietetics & Health Science
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