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#### Healthy WAY: Wellness in All Youth

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## Model

- Call for proposals released
- Teams identified within the local high schools which included:
- students
- teachers
- community members
- Each submitted proposal must include:
  - research question
  - project summary
  - supporting data
  - implementation strategy
  - resources needed
  - outcomes and measurement
  - budget

# Workshops

- Opportunity to work with mentors from the community with knowledge of community issues
- Competitive process
- Presentation of results at end of day
- Six-month implementation phase
  - Leadership at each school to keep moving forward
  - Regular reporting/accountability
     to UK CERH project manager

Empowering Youth to Create Solutions



Presenters: Melissa Slone, MSW and Frances Feltner, DNP, FAAN
University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health,
Hazard, KY



Pikeville High School Mentor and Students- The Empty Chair Project

Healthy WAY encourages student led teams to work collectively on an identified problem, by reviewing local data, trends, and research to develop a strategic plan of action with key stakeholders in their schools and communities.



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# **Anticipated Outcomes**

- Students gain leadership and problem-solving skills
- Learn to analyze health data, trends and research
- Develop a strategic plan of action
- Collaborate with key stakeholders in their schools and communities
- Design and implement a grant budget

### Conclusion

Community organizations can partner to invest in initiatives like Healthy WAY to restore hope and resilience in our youth. Tips to ensure success include:

Organizational support, a staff mentor dedicated to the project for the entire period, partners in the school systems and venues for the students to share their outcomes.

"It helps problem solving and speaking abilities for the students involved and can make a huge impact on your community. It not only can change the lives of people it serves, but also the ones who put the idea together. I would recommend doing this every year and offer it to more students throughout the region for more of our students to be involved in this amazing experience." \*Pikeville High School Student Participant