

UNC Public Policy

Experiential Education Project Descriptions, AY 2015- 2016

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Capstone (PLCY 698), Fall 2015

Carolina Common Enterprise: The team studied the feasibility of cooperative approaches to solar energy in North Carolina by analyzing rural and urban approaches to consumer cooperatives, identifying prospective communities, and recommending an implementation strategy that does not compete with larger energy providers.

Carolina Common Enterprise: The team researched best practices in food cooperatives to help design a strategy for a food buying club network to address the needs of food deserts in rural North Carolina.

Carrboro Affordable Housing Task Force: The team used mixed methods research to monetize the cost of implementing and maintaining Carrboro's 10-year affordable housing plan.

Danville Regional Foundation: The team assessed the feasibility of a community health action plan for the Dan River Region by researching potential policy barriers, and they proposed additional policy initiatives that could facilitate the plan's goals.

Historic Black Towns and Settlements Alliance: In order to study the potential for creating a heritage corridor among the eight member towns of the HBTSA, the student team conducted a literature review and case studies, then recommended cultural tourism strategies that build on the towns' assets.

Kenan Institute for the Arts: As an early step in a 3-year project, the team studied a neighborhood in Winston-Salem and its potential for arts-based economic development, drawing on case studies, and research on the area's history, demography, and zoning regulations.

Pasquotank County: The team researched the economic impact of restoring the ecologically impaired Little River in Pasquotank County, North Carolina, resulting in a cost- benefit analysis of improvement strategies.

Piedmont Health: The team helped develop a strategy that leverages faith-based community networks to expand awareness, education, and access to care in

underserved communities. Final products included a tailored booklet and mapping tools that will help Piedmont Health target and engage faith communities.

Roanoke River Partners: Based on case studies of seven organizations similar to RRP, the team developed a report on best practices for creating a regional brand for the Roanoke River Region of North Carolina, as well as proposing actionable strategies to showcase the area's heritage and increase tourism.

Capstone (PLCY 698), Spring 2016

Durham Neighborhood Compass: The Durham Neighborhood Compass integrates data from local government and other sources to allow local stakeholders to track quality of life in Durham. The team initiated a community equity indicators process by researching what other cities are doing, and facilitating a series of community conversations.

FHI 360: The team conducted research on public health, with the aim of coding existing public health laws in developing countries and assessing how countries responded to the 2014 Ebola outbreak.

Inter-Faith Council for Social Service: The team evaluated eight hunger relief programs throughout the East Coast and synthesized the strongest elements in a recommendation for hunger relief in Orange County, North Carolina.

Kenan Institute for the Arts: As part of a broader effort to facilitate creative placemaking in Winston-Salem, the team researched and analyzed potential local policy changes and other strategies relevant to the redevelopment of historic structures.

No Kid Hungry North Carolina: The team researched implementation of the School Breakfast Program in four southeastern states to determine best practices, and identify lessons learned, that could help increase participation in the School Breakfast Program in the state of North Carolina.

North Carolina Early Childhood Foundation: The team investigated the differences in birth to eight policies between U.S. states, focusing specifically on the critical areas of health, governance, family support, and learning environment.

Orange County Rape Crisis Center: The team researched Title IX compliance in K-12 schools, with a focus on sexual assault and sexual harassment, and synthesized a list of best practices that will guide future research on Title IX implementation in local schools.

Tiny Home Community Collaborative: The team helped the Collaborative sort through complex local zoning restrictions and make the case for expanding the THHC's innovative model, which promotes food as medicine, farming as therapy, and housing as healthcare for individuals with mental illness.

Third Sector Alliance: The team studied nonprofit (501c3) organizations operating in Orange County, North Carolina, quantifying the direct, indirect, and induced economic effects that these social benefit organization have within the community.

United Way of the Greater Triangle: The team conducted mixed-methods research focused on sustainability through collaboration to enable the expansion of United Way's Teaming for Technology La Familia Program.

Village of Wisdom: The team provided background research for a parents' guide to the school to prison pipeline for Village of Wisdom, a group that works with families to develop the resiliency and self-confidence necessary to overcome the achievement gap.

Wake County Housing & Transportation: The team conducted research to help Wake County create a new affordable housing plan, focusing on an analysis of affordable housing plans in other municipalities that operate under a similar legal context.

WomenNC: The team conducted research on the status of women in North Carolina and developed a set of best practices for WomenNC to use while working towards their goal of encouraging state legislation that supports the elimination of injustice against women and girls.

Clinic (PLCY 393), Fall 2015

Four student teams conducted community listening sessions with representatives from 17 local non-profits to assess their individual and collective goals, needs, and concerns. Participation organizations included Volunteers for Youth, Farmer Foodshare, the American Red Cross (Triangle Area chapter), Club Nova, TABLE, and the Jackson Center.

Clinic (PLCY 393), Spring 2016

Bridge II Sports: The team conducted research to determine whether significant challenges exist that prevent disabled individuals from obtaining driver's licenses in North Carolina.

Community Empowerment Fund: The team conducted research in support of improving volunteer retention practices.

EmPOWERment, Inc.: The team conducted qualitative research and community education, specifically focusing on tenants' rights and responsibilities in Orange County.

Jackson Center: Using mixed-methods research, the team focused on best practices of sustainable communication strategies in order to further the organization's mission of preserving and honoring the historical traditions and values of the Northside community in Chapel Hill.

TABLE: Using qualitative methods, the team assessed and evaluated the use and perceived benefits of the meals provided to children as seen through TABLE's partner organizations.

Triangle BikeWorks: The team designed a survey to evaluate the organization's programming and provide concrete evidence for inclusion in grant applications.