



UNC Public Policy Capstone Projects, 2016-2017

PUBLIC POLICY

The Capstone program is the culminating experience of the Public Policy undergraduate major, offering seniors the opportunity to integrate and apply their academic knowledge and skills in a real-world policy environment. Projects are listed with the name of the community partner.

Benevolence Farm (Fall 2016): The team conducted research on policy barriers for women reentering society after incarceration, current advocacy efforts within nonprofits, and metrics for measuring advocacy.

Benevolence Farm (Spring 2017): The team conducted interviews to develop an understanding of the complex barriers that incarcerated women face upon re-entry, then created a collection of policy briefs and an advocacy evaluation plan to help Benevolence Farm measure the outcomes of their newly-formed advocacy branch.

Centre for Homeownership and Economic Development Corporation: The team supported the Centre in their efforts to focus on workforce development by reviewing previous successful case studies and conducting interviews with local stakeholders. The team identified five main barriers to economic development in Orange and Chatham counties and developed recommendations to combat these barriers.

Chapel Hill Campus and Community Coalition: This team benchmarked Chapel Hill's noise ordinances as well as the enforcement culture surrounding these policies. By conducting quantitative and qualitative research on seven peer communities, they identified various strategies to promote responsible off-campus student behavior.

Dementia Inclusive Durham: The team estimated the prevalence of dementia in Durham County, began administering a needs assessment within the faith community sector, and developed a database to compile survey results with the over-arching goal of promoting the wellbeing of individuals with dementia.

Genesis Farm Educational Foundation: The team investigated the role of female farm owners and operators in North Carolina to identify key challenges these women face in pursuing successful agricultural ventures.

Golden LEAF Foundation: The team used data gathered from interviews with stakeholders to evaluate the application process for Golden LEAF's Community-Based Grantsmaking Initiative, which has awarded almost \$40 million to support projects designed to increase economic opportunity in North Carolina.

Immersion for Spanish Language Acquisition: ISLA seeks to empower Latino families in becoming bi-cultural citizens through an immersive heritage language program and community immersion programs. Based on observations, case studies, and academic research, the team made recommendations to further ISLA's goals.

Innovate NC: This team explored the capacity of small towns to support innovation with a particular focus on Wilson, NC. The team applied an international innovation assessment tool originally designed for large metropolitan cities, recommended areas of opportunity for innovation in Wilson, and highlighted relevant case studies.

InnovateNC Asheville: The team researched strategies to target the lack of diversity in the climate change sector by constructing programmatic recommendations that target a specific educational level for increasing STEM exposure and education.

North Carolina Early Childhood Foundation: The team reviewed and assessed secondary sources and programs to determine the impact of parent engagement on early childhood education. Their research found 4 major themes and subthemes to compare the 3 regions of NC and the national level.

Orange County Board of Health: The team examined the feasibility of a state statute that allows for women to purchase oral contraceptives directly from a pharmacist without a visit to a doctor.

Orange County Rape Crisis Center: The team designed and implemented a survey for Chapel Hill-Carrboro High School students to measure the students' knowledge of Title IX and their access to its grievance procedures, as well as gauge their understanding of sexual consent and assault.

Project Picture Day: The team developed a mixed-method survey tool kit for measuring the impacts of Project Picture Day on Haitian children and related adults.

Refugee Community Partnership: This team explored their client's Bridge Builders Program, which brings refugee families together with local volunteers for relationship building, resource sharing, and skill building. The team refined the program's objectives and built an evaluation framework to measure the impact of the program.

STEPS: Through extensive interviewing and data collection, the team provided the necessary information to determine which local schools would benefit the most from the STEPS program, a

school-based cognitive-behavioral group intervention aimed at addressing root causes of the school-to-prison pipeline.

Solar Head of State: The team researched tools for measuring renewable energy policy change and constructed a set of metrics to help Solar Head of State evaluate the impact of their solar installation projects in partner countries.

Sonder Market: In order to help The Sonder Market make the greatest impact on food accessibility conditions at UNC, the team conducted a best practices assessment of college campus food cooperatives, as well as a survey of UNC students and faculty.

Southeast Raleigh Promise: The team worked to determine what actions could be taken to holistically revitalize a community through education, housing, economics, and community wellness while mitigating the negative impacts of gentrification.

Swey (Fall 2016): The team identified programs to be implemented in Fairmont, North Carolina that would address the community's most pressing challenges by connecting and empowering the town's residents.

Swey (Spring 2017): The team focused on evaluating urban nonprofits as a way to develop best practice recommendations for Swey to expand their poverty reduction and youth development work in rural Fairmont, NC.

Third Sector Alliance: The team studied the transportation gap in Orange County, NC, and sought alternatives to close this gap through an innovative transportation project.

Town of Chapel Hill and Carrboro Human Services Advisory Board: The team conducted a human services needs assessment for the towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro to inform funding recommendations for local agencies and non-profits.

United Way of North Carolina: The team focused on promoting the use of the recently released Self-Sufficiency Standard report for North Carolina by designing a policy brief, spotlights of local United Ways, and a toolkit that provides resources on securing basic needs and pathways toward economic self-sufficiency.

we are (working to extend anti-racist education): *we are* works to combat racism in early childhood education. The team researched best practices to evaluate participant comprehension of anti-bias curricula.

Wild Forests and Fauna: This team investigated economic models for reforesting land parcels in Appalachia and the Piedmont. The team reviewed economic models and analyzed the types of land for ideal application of each model, producing a toolkit that outlines possibilities when landowners present a reforestation opportunity.