

Health Policy Ambassadors Program: Connecting Students to Health Policy Advocacy

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Introduction

The Health Policy Ambassadors program partners students with community-based partners in Birmingham, AL to address health equity via policy advocacy, following the CDC Policy Process.



Objectives

To engage community partners and students in policy advocacy by:

- 1) Providing students with hands-on experience with the policy process
- 2) Building partner's capacity for policy engagement.

Timeline



Health Policy Ambassador Products

(September 2022 – April 2023)

- ✓ **Survey** to assess nurse practitioners' perception of scope-of-practice issues in Alabama
Challenges: Complexity of Stakeholder Engagement
- ✓ **Implementation plan** for the City of Birmingham to establish an Office of Sustainability and Resilience
Challenges: Managing the Political Landscape
- ✓ **Resolution** to recognize March as Arts in Education Month in the City of Birmingham
Challenges: Contacting City Officials



Conclusions

Joint stakeholder-student approaches to policy change have multi-fold benefits.

1. Students engage with health policy beyond the classroom setting through a structured program.
2. Stakeholders receive support in grassroots health policy change.
3. Community members experience the positive effects of health policy change, namely strides towards health equity.

Acknowledgements

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