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PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Project SCORE (Student Centered Outcomes Research Experience) uses a youth participatory action research approach to overcome the fact that existing education, prevention, and intervention efforts to improve health outcomes for Mississippi's youth have been less than successful due to a lack of direct input from affected youth. Project SCORE brings together underrepresented high school and graduate health sciences students in a year-long informal public health education program and mentored research experience to develop relevant health behavior and promotion research questions, provide exposure to public health concepts, training in research methods, and facilitate the development of student-conducted research and health communication projects mentored by near-peer graduate health sciences students and faculty.

Project SCORE aims to:

AIM 1: Captivate interest of underrepresented high school students using their real-time challenges of negotiating health threats like COVID-19 and recruit them to participate in a year-long youth participatory action research afterschool public health-focused program & mentored research experience led by near-peer mentors.

AIM 2: Recruit, train, and mentor a diverse group of health sciences graduate students to serve as near-peer mentors, preparing these students to incorporate principles of community engagement in research.

AIM 3: Cultivate college and career awareness among high school students in areas related to public health, especially social and biobehavioral research, increase science engagement, and explicitly support matriculation into STEM college programs.

AIM 4: Develop a student-centered health behavior & promotion agenda addressing student-identified needs.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Our community partners are integral to this program!

@BGCLOU @StewpotJackson



Some of team SCORE at a professional development retreat.

FUNDING

SEPA SCIENCE EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP AWARD
Supported by the National Institutes of Health

This project is supported by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, under Award Number R25GM142065. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.