

**Social Determinants of Health: Communities at Drake and Tecnológico de Monterrey**

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**Introduction:** As a part of the Global Health course (HSCI 104), students will use Photo voice to examine social determinants of health in the community. Throughout the semester groups of students will attend selected local DMARC food pantries to conduct a service-learning project. This presentation will focus specifically on the Drake IMPACT Pantry location. A global context, through partnership with Tecnológico de Monterrey students in Mexico, will be accomplished through virtual teamwork.

Previous data from the spring 2019 semester Global Health class will be utilized to form a general understanding of the social determinants of health that impact food pantry clients. Last year Drake University students were partnered with nutrition and healthcare students from Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico. A survey was created for both Universities to utilize throughout their research. Data from surveys found key needs by clients locally and on an international level. At the Drake IMPACT pantry, 77% of respondents answered yes to the following questions: In the past year, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food? Do you have any other needs that you would like help with? Other needs were identified as help with transportation to and from the clinic, prescription aid, mental health services, housing support etc. Tecnológico de Monterrey found similar results but also had high response concerns about current living situations and not seeking healthcare due to high costs. Students in the current class (Spring 2020) will build upon this information to implement appropriate interventions.

Current research throughout this semester is divided into 2 key aspects.

The first part includes completing a Photovoice project along with students from Tecnológico de Monterrey. Through the Photovoice project both universities will be compiling qualitative information to document and reflect reality of social determinants of health affecting the surrounding communities. By visually identifying important determinants, we will be able to compare and contrast globally. Being able to compare these similarities and differences will allow for a greater global understanding and ability to create interventions and produce meaningful change.

The second aspect of this project is to utilize the 2019 data to create an intervention specific to the Drake IMPACT pantry. This intervention will address a key social determinant of health identified through the Photovoice project and survey results. Examples of interventions include developing and providing education to staff, organizing fundraisers or compiling local resources for clients to utilize for additional support. The partnership with Tecnológico de Monterrey will provide an international prospective and the ability to have a global partner. Some local DMARC food pantries identified the need for healthy food recipes. Working closely with nutrition students from Tecnológico de Monterrey will allow the ability to extend our global partnership and meet the needs of patients locally and on a global scale.