

Community Problem Solving Summaries



2019 International Conference

#problemsolved

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Summaries presented come directly from the students as submitted.



Visit Zippy Mart for novelties commemorating your IC experience and for books about CmPS and our other components.

Remember to visit the CmPS Showcase in the Ice Rink on Friday, June 7th from 7:30-9:30 pm to view the projects and discuss the projects with the competitors.

Future Problem Solving Program International is proud to present the 2019 International Conference Community Problem Solving project summaries. Students competing in this component focus on real community problems. Teams and individual competitors explore local or global issues and select a CmPS project that relates to civic/cultural issues, education, environmental concerns, health concerns, or human services.

International Conference 2019 CmPS Competition Projects

- ❖ 22 Junior Division Teams
- ❖ 16 Middle Division Teams
- ❖ 26 Senior Division Teams
- ❖ 15 Individual Projects

Welcome CmPSers,

Let me take a moment to congratulate each of you on your accomplishments and on the completion of your projects! Each of you is a champion to your community and to your Affiliate. The impact you have had on communities around the world is boundless. We, at FPSPI, are astounded by your perseverance, creativity, and diligence. You and your coaches should be very proud.

As I have perused your submissions, I have been amazed by the depth and variety of projects that have been submitted to IC 2019. The number of Affiliates that are included within the Community Problem Solving Component reveals the importance that you and your communities place on CmPS. Young people like you are making strides in solving the problems that my generation has caused in our world. Thank you for addressing those challenges in your communities.

As you compete this week, I would like to remind you of several points. You will make many friends this week and you will carry those friendships back home along with a wealth of memories. Participate in as many activities as you possibly can - dance; sing; write. Have fun as you share this unique experience with other problem solvers from around the globe.

My only job this week is to make your CmPS experience memorable and successful. If you need anything from a glue stick to a listening ear, be sure to contact me. I cannot guarantee that you will leave UMass with a trophy, but I can guarantee that you will have changed the world with your inspiring projects. Start planning today for CmPS 2020!

Brenda Porter

CmPS Coordinator
Cell #606.424.1369

JUNIOR DIVISION CmPS TEAM PROJECT SUMMARIES

Australia

Bully Buddies

St Andrew's Anglican College

Peregian Springs, Queensland

Charlie Fraser, Xavier Hargreaves, Luca Dadzio, and Lachlan Sandford-Bell.

Coach: Jillian Green

JT-2012

Bullying is a big problem, globally. Through experience and observations of incidences of bullying, we identified that bullying is a problem in our school community. We also identified how important it is to have self-belief. We wanted to help, educate and give our fellow students tools to rise above bullying and develop self-belief, so whatever the situation, students will be able to rise above anything and shine. This desire to make a difference in our school community gave us the idea of 'Bully Buddies'. We have implemented many key ideas to educate others and raise awareness in our community.

Australia

Food Fanatics

Westbourne Grammar School

Truganina, Victoria

Justin Jinu, Taylah Fynney, Kamil Rawdanowicz, Anjali Sharma, and Haiteng (Thomas) Xia.

Coaches: Nicole Armatas and Paul Barklamb

JT-2005

The Food Fanatics project began when we saw news about famine in third world countries. We were appalled to see starving children, while students at our school were throwing good food in the bin. We decided to do something about this global issue. We gathered information on this topic by surveying the students and surfing the Internet. We made animations and short videos to educate children about food waste. We made speeches and enforced having compost bins in classrooms. We also provided tips to parents. We hope to influence our school community in significantly reducing food waste at Westbourne.

China

Hanging Houses (Diaojiolou) in Chongqing

Yuying Primary School

Chongqing

Zichen Hua, Hanyu Li, Dongting Shi, Jiayi Li, Ziyao Xia, Yuning Wang, and Ruoyao Duan.

Coaches: Cheng Jinghong, Wang Yuanyuan, Liu Xin

JT-2021

Chongqing, is a famous mountain city. It has a unique style of building called diaojiaolou (a type of stilt house). Nowadays, diaojiao lou are seen less and less. This situation is very serious. We hope that diaojiaolou and its culture can be well protected and continue to be carried forward to obtain new life. We formed a team to work. We have communicated with more than 5,000 students and taught them the culture and characteristics of the stilt buildings, which greatly stimulated their attention to the stilt buildings and enhanced their enthusiasm for protecting and learning about them. We made use of the Internet to carry out publicity, so that more people know about diaojiaolou and may protect it. We have put forward a plan to publicize and protect diaojiaolou.

China

Sort It Out! They Are Recyclable!

Shanghai Jiangning School

Shanghai

Yi Zhou, Ziting Qiu, Qiuhan Zhu, Bokai Cui, Jiankun Li, Wanchen Zhu, Yuzhen Wu, and Yuqi Wu

Coach: Xiaoyi Zhu

JT-2023

The recycling rate of low value-added garbage in the community is very low, most residents even cannot clarify which waste is recyclable, in what ways might we effectively improve the recycling rate of low value-added garbage to promote the utilization of waste resources? We must start immediately, mobilize students and community residents to learn the knowledge of garbage classification. During the past 6 month's cooperation, our CmPS team carried out 10 publicity activities, affecting nearly 500 families around the school. We totally put up 50 posters and distributed nearly 500 refrigerator stickers to the target audience.

Florida

ARTS (Appreciating, Reviving, and Teaching Skills)

Rymfire Elementary School

Palm Coast, Florida

Ava Wheaton, Reese Dingle, Connor D'Agostino, Noah Doolin, Morgan Chafe, Abbie Blumengarten, Savannah Tawbush, Layla Croslin, Lily Lisowski, and Aniyah Graham.

Coach: Amy Kopach

JT-2013

ARTS (Appreciating, Reviving, and Teaching Skills) has realized that many of the handicraft arts are not being taught at school or at home like they were in the past. We believe that these are important skills to know how to do in life. We are focusing on teaching your basic knowledge of diminishing arts such as woodworking, sewing, cooking, repairing, and gardening. Children that have learned these basic skills are able to use them in the future for pleasure, necessity, and profit.

Florida

P.A.L.S. (Positive Acts Lift Students)

Rymfire Elementary School

Palm Coast, Florida

Samantha Newell, Halley Londono, Kyleigh Brown, Anna Gimbel, Marion Clayton, Kade Manley, and Jack Wronowski.

Coach: Tim Ruddy

JT-2006

P.A.L.S. strives to be Rymfire Elementary's Ambassadors of Loneliness! We recognize that some students and adults struggle socially. There can be many different causes as well as many different signs of this struggle. As a result, they can develop both physical and psychological issues throughout their lives. Our goal is to stop this! Through our Be a PAL month events, Buddy Benches, Lunch Buddies, Compliment Chain and more, we worked hard to make sure every student at Rymfire feels that they are important and not alone.

Florida

T.R.A.I.N. (Training Rescued Animals In Need)

Rymfire Elementary

Palm Coast, Florida

Wyatt Cristlieb, Jacob Moss, Desirae Astrologo, Ashley Kassin, Aria King, Nyla King, Jasime Santana, and Desmond Akmentins.

Coach: Kate Sturman
JT-2007

Our Community Problem Solver group T.R.A.I.N. helps socialize several cats and dogs at the Flagler Humane Society. There are many animals at the shelter in need of homes and they are in need of positive human interaction. We use clicker training with cats and dogs to help build positive experiences, confidence, and connections. We feel this gives them a better chance to be adopted and to find their forever family.

Georgia

Hospital Helpers

Baker Place Elementary School

Grovetown, Georgia

Aubrey Aenchbacher, Felicity Agee, Robert Gilbert, Courtney Heath, Katelyn Hoy, Kadence Kerstetter, Sophia Packer, Lilly Pollard, and Aislinn Williams.

Coach: Christa Arrington
JT-2014

After completing the Creative Problem Solving Process, we decided to focus on the underlying problem of lack of education for children who are long-term patients at our local Children's Hospital of Georgia. Originally, we decided to work with the patients in small groups, playing thinking games. Unfortunately, we were not allowed to do this because we are under 18 years old. So, we decided instead to create laminated, educational, activity mats for the children to enjoy with wet-erase pens, so they could be easily erased with hospital-approved wipes.

Kentucky

Project Share Your Calm

Central Elementary

Paintsville, Kentucky

Alexis Howard, Courtney Meade, Serenity Stambaugh, Rileigh Lewis, Madison Spradlin, Allie Sexton, Kendra Dixon, and Kameryn Duncan.

Coaches: Miranda Duncan and Charlene Owens
JT-2008

Our team decided to call their project Project Share Your Calm. When deciding on a project, the team identified the biggest problem they saw as their peers not being able to deal with the many stresses that come into their lives in a productive manner. Many kids were being labeled bad when they knew they were really awesome kids. An initial survey given to students showed the biggest stress relievers for them were recreational activity, sensory help (such as stress balls), and working with the arts. The team has worked to provide activities to teach coping strategies to others.

Kentucky

Project YANA (You Are Not Alone)

W.R. Castle Memorial Elementary

Wittensville, Kentucky

Adara Campbell, Lorelei Arms, Elijah Skaggs, James Morris, Chloe Scarberry, Alyssa Johnson, Haley Anderson, Kylie Castle, and Sophia Stambaugh.

Coaches: Heather Campbell and Cherysh Workman

JT-2017

W.R. Castle Elementary's Project YANA has been working to improve their school environment so that students feel happy and accepted. The Smile Squad learned that loneliness is a problem for students in their school and have been working to improve this situation by creating morning greetings for each K-2 classroom, reading positive messages during morning announcements, creating inspiring posters to hang throughout the school, writing positive mirror messages in student restrooms, creating a buddy bench for young kids who need a friend at play time and creating new student welcome kits. Additionally, they hosted an event with special speakers from The Johnson County Health Department and Mountain Comprehensive Care.

Kentucky

Warming Warriors

Highland Elementary

Staffordsville, Kentucky

Clara Bolden, Madelyn Burchett, Bethany Chapman, Gabe Conley, Trent Cox, Jady Estep, Mia Estep, and Madi Goble.

Coaches: Andrea Hall and Amy Conley

JT-2010

The Warming Warriors are not only warming the homeless, but they are also providing them with the tools necessary to improve their quality of life. Moved by economic deficiencies in their county, the team, in conjunction with their community partners, have provided warmth to the homeless through a Community Coat Rack that supplies coats, scarves, gloves, socks, shoes and toiletry items. It has now branched out to support the needs of all impoverished individuals across the county. Through the distribution of detailed, comprehensive brochures full of information, these community members now have access to free job training, educational services, GED training, free and subsidized housing, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, emergency homeless shelters, free counseling and referral services, as well as a vast amount of other information. Warming Warriors are warming hearts and changing lives one person at a time.

“Life's most persistent and urgent question is, “What are you doing for others? An individual has not begun to live until he can rise above the narrow horizons of his particular individualist concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.”

~Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Michigan

Harper's Heart Heroes: Teaching Kids How to Save a Life

Kalamazoo Creatives

Kalamazoo, Michigan

Cambrie Bencik, Hazel Arugaslan, Lainy Brant, Edie Ford, Lara Arugaslan, Ellie Ford, Sophie Boudreau, Bodie Bencik-DeVetter, and Evan Brant.

Coach: Sherrie Bencik
JT-2004

Since cardiac arrests can happen to anyone, we chose to increase awareness with 1st - 5th graders, so they know what to do in emergency situations, increasing the chances of survival from a cardiac arrest. We learned from emergency physicians and the American Heart Association to create and send an educational video to 1500 public elementary schools in Michigan. We also did in school learning sessions with 600 kids at Mattawan Later Elementary School and worked with physicians at Western Michigan University of Medicine to conduct a large base CPR Study. We also helped a State Representative to propose new legislation.

New Jersey

Protecting Perishing Pollinators

Millstone Township Elementary School

Millstone Township, New Jersey

Christopher DellaRosa, Brendan DeRose, Mahi Desai, Layla Greenleaf, Presley Greenleaf, Lorenzo Muñoz, Alexey Nekrasov, and Rebecca Swartz.

Coaches: Beth Topinka and Jennifer Modula
JT-2001

The Protectors of Perishing Pollinators decided that our problem would be the decline of pollinators. If pollinators start declining, this could throw the food chain out of whack. Pollinators pollinate plants such as blueberries, which are New Jersey's state crop. We are going to make a model of a pollinator garden so that people know how to make an ideal pollinator garden. We are also going to make calendars that list what plants will attract which pollinators, and when it is a good time to plant them. This will encourage people to create gardens that attract pollinators.

New York

Project Kind Kids

Meadow Elementary School

Baldwin, New York

Madelyn Ortiz, SaNaii Wray, Damian Figueroa, CJ Graham, Daniel Altschuler, Rose Altschuler, Sabra Miller, Alexander Casimir, Elizabeth Hill, Laura Velasquez, Karan Punj, Lucas Duet, Emmanuelle Tiong-Smith, Gavin McGinley, and Stephen Love II.

Coaches: Emily Bascelli and Mark Coccarelli
JT-2016

After speaking with members of their school community, the Meadow Elementary Community Problem Solvers identified unkindness as a prevalent problem. Students were excluding their peers, engaging in arguments, and being disrespectful. The CmPS Kind Kids surveyed the student body to identify where unkind acts were most frequently occurring. The data indicated unkindness was most frequent at less-structured times, like lunch and recess. The Kind Kids decided to launch a kindness campaign. The campaign involved signage, assemblies, videos, morning-greeters, and a peer-mediation program. They hope to create a culture of kindness in order to make long-term changes within their school community.

Singapore

H.E.R.O. How Emotional Resilience Operates

Chongzheng Primary School

Singapore

Samantha Lim Jia Ying, Rizq Felix, Niko Lim Xin Yu, Nadhirah Asyura Binte Muhamad Fairoz, Tricia Ho Rui, Pravena Deve D/O Chandramohan, Ashwin Sridhar, Donovan Lee, Manikandan Navika, Vaze Reva Sameer, Nurul Hazirah Binte Hasrin, Yi Zhi Chin, and Charmane Ho Xin Yan.

Coaches: Ahamed Khan Ameer, Ng Huilin Emi, Tan Mei San, and Ji Pei Fen
JT-2009

The H.E.R.O. campaign aims to encourage children aged 7 to 12 to build emotional resilience, so as to help them overcome life challenges. In recent years, there have been increasing number of children suffering from stress and anxiety, leading to depression, self-harm and suicide for the more severe cases. We wish to shed light on the importance of resilience to overcome these issues, as well as to introduce our resilience ANR strategy to help children to find a simple yet practical way to develop a positive resilient mindset.

Singapore

Project Eat Fit

North View Primary School

Singapore

Akalya Verkatachalam, Ayeesha Zahra D/O Mohammed Zubir, Caleb Jin Kai Ng, Jia En Chan, Clara Chaw, Joey Jia Qian Lim, Elizabeth Sherina Si Qi Lim, Yu Han Tan, Haylay Ying Er Toh, and SK.

Coaches: Jasavelle Ting, Tan Yi Xiu, and Paraathi D/O Pachaimuthu
JT-2015

Project Eat Fit aims to raise awareness of the harmful effects of high intake of the ultra-processed food and promote healthy eating habits of students and their families. Due to its convenience and appeal, consumption of ultra-processed food is prevalent throughout Singapore. Studies have shown that high intake of such food leads to an increased risk of diet-related diseases. We firmly believe that healthy eating habits start from young and continues into adulthood. Thus, we encourage students and their families to reduce their intake of ultra-processed food through exhibitions, workshops and talks, and promote healthy eating habits through games and hands-on activities.

Texas

Operation Paris Pride

Crockett Intermediate School

Paris, Texas

Cate Biard, Caleb Echols, Olivia Fitzgerald, and Grant Frierson.

Coach: Debb Fleming
JT-2018

Project Paris Pride was chosen by a team of four sixth grade students after hearing presentations from local historians. Team members were concerned that if they didn't create a way for the citizens of Lamar County to easily access the town's history, that citizens would lose the opportunity to link the future of our town to its rich and colorful past. Team members updated information about Lamar County's history using technology. This project is significant to our community because our town's history is not easily accessed for our citizens.

Texas

Team R.A.B.B.I.T.S. Reusing Articles Bringing Better Imaginations Towards Success

Bowie Intermediate School

Bowie, Texas

Kyler Beavers, Anmarie Burris, Brooklen Burrough, Asher Carr, Caige Cox, Laney Enlow, Shannon Evans, Hayden Heugatter, Aidan Hughes, Ashlyn Magee, Ellie Mowery, Olivia Richey, Tyler Richey, Heidi Siebert, Olivia Stewart, Corben Wolsey, and Eli Woolf.

Coach: Cindy Hedeman

JT-2019

Thousands of crayons are wasted and thrown into the landfill in Montague County annually. How might we, Team R.A.B.B.I.T.S. (Reusing Articles Bringing Better Imaginations Toward Success), reduce the amount of crayons being wasted in 2018-2019 so that the environment might be improved for the citizens of Montague County? The team researched crayon waste and recycling of crayons. To date they have saved over 50 pounds of crayons from their local landfill--that is about 5600 crayons. The team delivered over 20 pounds of upcycled crayons to their local police station, fire station, hospital, library, counseling center, and pre-school.

Turkey

Waste Detectives

Private Bornova Secondary School

Izmir

Duru Altin, Ceylin Ulu, Nehir Goc, Ecrin Sari, Duru Yildirim, Defne Ayan, Nehir Sagat, Ece Yasan, Ada Gunver, and Efe Ozbek.

Coaches: Fatma Sebnem Sen Aksoy, Ayse Baser, and Zeliha Eyiol

JT-2025

Our nature cannot produce water and food is very important in our life. This major problem in the world was also a problem in our school too. Therefore, we studied food and water waste. We organized events, made presentations, held a kermis. We wanted our students to be aware of this problem.

Virginia

Bringing Back Family Mealtime

Cople Elementary & Montross Middle Schools

Hague, Virginia

Sydney Bedford, Jaidyn Burnett, William Townsend, David Lane, Daniel Cisneros, Joshua Headley, and Felipe Martinez.

Coaches: Andrew Woodrow and Anne Evans

JT-2011

As our schedules fill up with more activities, homework, and a shift in priorities; one thing that has begun to become less common is Family Mealtime. This is unfortunate and Team C.H.U.C.K. W.A.G.O.N. has worked to bring back mealtime to the families of Cople Elementary. Research shows that children that eat regular meals with their families have better grades, eat healthier meals, and have stronger relationships with their parents and siblings. So remember, put down the cell phone, turn off the television, and enjoy a good meal and your family.

Washington

Forest Friends

Cathcart Elementary

Snohomish, Washington

Thomas Morrison, Liam Bartholomew, William Dacy, Henry Perrigo, Sophia Leuck, Robert Herzog, Tate Swetman, Case Friesen, Olivia Robbins, Otto Nicholson, Truman Lee, Luke Carlson, Ethan Jewett, and Tristan Lamb.

Coach: Sadie Brumley
JT-2002

Team 'Forest Friends' developed and implemented a project that raised awareness among elementary students about forest safety and the importance of keeping our environment and the forest ecosystem healthy. We presented our project ideas in K-6 classrooms, researched ways people could be safer in the forests and created and displayed informational posters school-wide. Plant ID classes and a Tree Club were created. We also became a Washington State Certified Green School. Each of these activities encouraged students to get outside with their families to enjoy the forests and taught them how to take care of our forest environments.

Washington

Socio-Emotional Assistance for Students

Cathcart Elementary

Snohomish, Washington

Blake Koski, Gillian Sherwood, Caroline Mellis, Kennedy Brewer, Kennedy Pass, Rikki Miller, Delaney Pass, Jubilee Reed, Samuel Blankenship, Amelia Brumley, Avalon Lacy, Aurora Thomas, Penelope Stilwell, and Brenna Klassen.

Coach: Sadie Brumley
JT-2003

Team 'Socio-Emotional Assistance for Students' created a project focused on identifying and supporting students who suffer from a wide variety of socio-emotional needs in our school. After gaining the support of our administrators and teachers, we implemented a number of solution ideas that would benefit these students such as a Pen Pal letter writing program, homework help and friendship lunch-time groups, after-school art classes to promote fun and socialization, and skits to address the areas of need our classroom teachers identified such as how to deal with problems on the playground, how to be a good friend, and bullying.

“He who wishes to secure the good of others, has already secured his own.” *~Confucius*

MIDDLE DIVISION CmPS TEAM PROJECT SUMMARIES

Australia

EduEat

Mount St Benedict College

Sydney, New South Wales

Murphy Allan, Jaslyn Angus, Amelia Chan, Lauren Dean, Samantha Kelly, Claire Kim, Danielle Kotzander, Nikki Mehrseresht, and Sophie Thompson.

Coaches: Miriam Gillett, Kevin Jones, and Emma Hopkins

MT-2103

EduEat aims to educate 11-13 year olds on the importance of nutrition. We are raising awareness of how nutrition affects daily life and impacts learning. Our school timetable structure has changed, forcing recess and lunch later in the day; this is exacerbating concentration problems as students lack the required nutrients to perform. We have been working to provide healthier alternatives at the canteen, posting nutritional facts and recipes on digital signage and connecting with the target group through social media. Our message has reached a wider community through national news and radio and we are seeing positive changes.

Australia

Team S.A.N.I.T.Y. (Solving Situational Anxiety In Today's Youth)

Fountain Gate Secondary College

Narre Warren, Victoria

Elijah Attrill, Jesse Bell, Aisa Kaltak, Mackenzie Morrison, Alexandra Verhagen, and Samantha Verhagen.

Coach: Katie Byers

MT-2104

Our teams focus is on solving situational anxiety in today's youth after discovering that 68% of the students at our college have or are currently experiencing the symptoms of stress and anxiety, due to social or academic concerns. Our team has created a number of tips, strategies and workshops in order to further educate and provide students with support in stressful situations. We have consulted with our schools Principals, Teachers, Student Managers, and a Headspace Professional who have influenced the success of our team's projects. In the near future, we want to implement our strategies in the broader community.

China

Bridge Culture Inheritance and School Bridge Practical Experience Pavilion

Liuhan-Xinhua Experimental School

Shanghai

Sihao Lu, Huixin Zhou, Jiayi Wang, Yuyang Sun, Jiahao Shi, Ziheng Chen, Jiaying Yan, Jialing Hou, Jiahao Wang, and Jianxin Ren.

Coach: Lifeng Lu

MT-2115

Most of the accidents were caused by the fact that the bridge disease was not discovered and rectified in time, which is related to the maintenance level of our bridges, but the premise is that we do not know enough about the disease of the bridge and lack sufficient attention to the harmfulness of the disease. We hope to fully display the common and typical diseases of bridges of various structural types with rich materials and diverse forms of expression, which help to improve the awareness level of bridge workers in the bridge diseases, and cause the whole society to pay full attention to the operational safety of the bridge.

Colorado

S.E.L.F. - Students Empowering Love Forever

Flagstaff Charter Academy

Longmont, Colorado

Olga Rokhlenko, Greta Wedel, Emma Milczuk, Ruby Walker, and Ellen Choonya-Deroche.

Coach: Kahlie Benz

MT-2113

As eighth graders at Flagstaff Academy, we were astounded by the quantity of our peers who expressed insecurities including physical dissatisfaction, social isolation, and more. Because of the negative feelings we have experienced, seen and observed, we decided to advocate for a positive change. Thus, S.E.L.F. (Students Empowering Love Forever) was created in order to aid teens in their journey for self-love, regardless of any differences. The members have created a website that contains a positivity blog and connected social media outlets to provide inspiring posts. In addition, we have worked with students through various activities.

Florida

Juuls are for Fuuls

Flagler Palm Coast High School

Palm Coast, Florida

Kenneth Logan, E Hawkins, Cole Thomas, Alexandra Khoriakov, Jerry Mock, and Nicholas Bereznicki.

Coaches: Diane Tomko, Sarah Reckenwald, and Caitlin Hutsell

MT-2106

Juuls are for Fuuls is a group of freshmen students dedicated to increasing the amount of factually accurate information on the adverse effects of e-cigarettes. While our beginning target audience was teenagers, we have expanded to speak at elementary schools due to the increase in e-cigarette usage at that level. There has been an astronomical increase in e-cigarette usage within both demographics. Our group members know somebody who either owns or has used an e-cigarette, and we believe that nobody deserves to be a Fuul.

Florida

SKILLS

Indian Trails Middle School

Palm Coast, Florida

Genesis Epstein, Veronica King, Benjamin Kopach, Robert Miller, Matthew Nevod, John Newman, Chloey Rudy, Katelyn Telfer, Carols Silva, and Paige Reckenwald.

Coach: Jennifer Colindres

MT-2107

1 in 3 college students do not know how to boil an egg. 87% of teens claim they do not know much about personal finance. Searching to Keep Independent Living and Life Skills (SKILLS) provides scholars in Flagler County with the knowledge of cooking, baking, personal finances, and household management. Through innovative education techniques, ranging from cooking lessons to budget planning games, SKILLS is educating our generation in these necessary tasks. Partnering with local experts, SKILLS is providing multiple opportunities for children to acquire these independent life skills.

Illinois

Homeless not Hopeless

Nippersink Middle School

Richmond, Illinois

Melissa Roedel, Olivia Church-Sowinski, Mason Jarocki, and Madi Havlicek.

Coach: Chris Wagner

MT-2105

Our project's main goal was to make a positive impact on the lives of those who aren't as fortunate as us, specifically the homeless in McHenry County. We put our plan into action by fundraising at local schools, making care packages, volunteering, and raising awareness through our schools. We realized while doing our project that the many causes of homelessness aren't due to their own wrongdoings, and were shocked to see how many people thought they were. We wanted to change this and instead fill them with empathy.

Kentucky

Juul Breakers

Johnson County Middle School

Johnson, Kentucky

Alivia Hackworth, Chloe Dyer, Laken Salyers, Emily Farler, Kaylee Gibbs, Constance Martin, Dakota Shepherd, Hannah Piedad, and Jonathan Cole Butcher.

Coaches: Pamela Burton and Brenda Dyer

MT-2102

To combat the growing addiction to electronic cigarettes, Juul Breakers wrote Senate Bill 218 and attempted to get this bill passed by Kentucky's State Legislature. They testified before both the Senate and House Health and Welfare committees. By writing this bill, testifying, and sharing their stories with media outlets throughout their home state and the neighboring state, Juul Breakers has increased awareness about the dangers of juuls and the importance of school districts confronting this issue in their local school districts. The students' bill encouraged all school districts to educate students, faculty, and parents about the dangers of electronic cigarettes.

Massachusetts

Project SNAP (Special Needs Assistance Program)

W.H. Galvin Middle School

Canton, Massachusetts

Pranav Addanki, Nishka Baduamanda, Ishita Jaiswal, Disha Nayak, Daisy Nguyen, Isabella Siu, Ethan Tran, Anika Valluri, and Anthony Wang.

Coach: Vijay Addanki and Anvitha Addanki

MT-2110

Project SNAP is working to assist students with special needs are valued and supported in a variety of programs, services, and activities and educate families with kids who have special needs and their providers about the latest technological equipment that are available to help them to assist their children. We have been working with various students with special needs by bonding with them, doing arts and crafts, playing games, exercising, and improving their academic performance.

New Zealand

Bottle Boys

Francis Douglas Memorial College

New Plymouth, Taranaki

Sreeram Murugaiyen, Cade Thompson, Amos Pease, Harvey George, Jackson Powell, and Joshua Goble.

Coach: Robyn Wackrow
MT-2111

The FDMC Bottle Boys' main focus was to demonstrate environmental sustainability and lead by example to recycle 1.5-litre water bottles. After Cyclone Gita struck destroying the main water supply and resulting in 800 bottles of water delivered to FDMC daily, the Bottle Boys took action and collected almost two thousand bottles which would have otherwise gone to waste. They harvested wild bamboo and created bottle pods which are mini greenhouses designed to fit over raised garden beds. These are donated to our community so that vegetables such as tomatoes, capsicums and so on can be grown throughout winter.

New Zealand

The Merry Foresters

Francis Douglas Memorial College

New Plymouth, Taranaki

Germaine Grewal, Josiah Gillespie, Isaac Jones, Jared Sampson, Jacob O'Connor, Heath Waayer, and Daniel Prendiville.

Coach: Robyn Wackrow
MT-2112

The Merry Foresters Future Problem Solving group from Francis Douglas Memorial College have utilised fallow land from the school farm while simultaneously supplying fruit to those in need. Poverty is a huge social issue in New Zealand. 40,000 children are hospitalized annually due to malnourishment. In our forest, Te Mara Manaakitanga, (The Garden of Nurture) we have designed, sourced, funded and planted 80 trees, carefully chosen to provide organic fruit every month, including winter. This is donated to Foodbank who distribute it to needy families in our community.

Singapore

Project Heartstrings

Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)

Singapore

Yongxi Denise Goh, Sze Rui Althea Tan, Pei Wen Vivian Ling, Hsin Yun Sheanna-Grace Tan, Netra Narakattuvalappil, En Yi Dorothea Ang, Si An Amber Chen, and Yi Xuan Charisse Chin.

Coach: Yeo Jun Han
MT-2108

Project Heartstrings aims to provide emotional support to and equip children from low-income families in Singapore with character skills and values to empower them in realising their future endeavours. Based on our research, children aged 7-9 years old in Singapore from low-income families (gross household incomes not exceeding \$2033 per month), often face challenges that have negative impacts on their lives, such as low self-esteem. Through this project, we aim to strengthen the emotional foundation of these children, primarily through a character development lesson package, and other initiatives with the intention of enhancing their emotional development.

Singapore

Project S'more

Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)

Singapore

Xinyi Lee, Shi En Hannah Ho, Ying Hui Jocelyn Lee, Ruishan Teo, Jing Wen Adele Ng, Wanzhen Li, and Gabrielle Tay.

Coach: Eriyanty Mohammad and Audrey Chen
MT-2109

Project S'more advocates for better sleeping habits to combat sleep deprivation amongst youths aged 13 - 18. Sleep deprivation is the condition of a lack of sleep. According to a 2018 survey, Singapore is the 2nd most sleep deprived country out of 12 countries profiled; and 92.5% of the 987 participants from a perception survey we conducted slept less than the recommended 8 hours of sleep. Through the two-pronged approach of knowledge increment and provision of resources to youths, Project S'more aims to improve the sleeping hygiene of youths in Singapore.

Texas

Project Blackout

Andrews Middle School

Andrews, Texas

Zion Barrington, Bain Britten, Kathleen Curry, Audrey Daye, Meagan Espinoza, Charlize Galvan, Adriel Gonzalez, Ranger Harvey, Alexia Hernandez, Anna Hicks-Duarte, Kaitlin Hinson, Mariska Hubert, Anisa Jimenez, Madisyn Llanez, Emma McArthur, Bella Newbrough, Jon Pipes, Jackie Quintanilla, Autumn Rivero, Alexa Rodriguez, Felicity Salinas, Sarah Shaffer, and Cole Tompkins.

Coach: Elizabeth Hill
MT-2114

Project Blackout is increasing the number of citizens addressing light pollution, so that Andrews citizens are healthier. We handed out surveys to collect data from citizens and completed topic research. From that data, we discovered the issue at hand: citizens' health and wellness. We visited the McDonald Observatory to gather information and brainstorm solutions. We developed diverse solutions that are designed to target specific demographic groups: a publicity campaign, pledge-a-thon, science discovery nights, video game/app, and other community events. All of these solutions are made possible by a number of partnerships we've established with local businesses and organizations.

Turkey

Zero Waste Absolute Gain

Private Bornova Secondary School

Izmir

Nisa Deren Dogan, Ecem Eylul Ozkan, Pinarsu Guclu, Gul Handan Karakose, Umut Tahiroglu, Melek Maltas, and Duru Nur Ozturkoglu.

Coaches: Fatma Sebnem Sen Aksoy, Zeliha Eyiol, and Ayse Baser
MT-2116

We noticed that a lot of packaged snacks are sold in our school's canteen every day. The trash bins are full of package waste and plastic bottles. The plastic waste is a real danger for marine life and animals. In order to prevent unconscious waste disposal to the nature and to create awareness on the preference of bio-degradable products we planned some activities in our school, and we tried to show that we do not need packaged products in our life.

Wisconsin

CFCP (Creativity for Children Patients)

West High School

Madison, Wisconsin

Kira Sotos, Katja Goetzka, and Noemy Lesieutre.

Coach: Kris Bauer

MT-2101

Our project focused on incorporating creativity in the lives of child patients to boost their morale while in recovery. We collaborated with the Ronald McDonald House, encouraging children staying there to create and submit artwork for a show in our high school's art gallery. Those who attended the show wrote compliments to the artists. The compliments, along with a certificate of participation, thank you notes from each of us, and money raised at the event was sent back to Ronald McDonald House. We hope our project has helped children in their recoveries by boosting patient morale and encouraging creativity.

SENIOR DIVISION CmPS TEAM PROJECT SUMMARIES

Alaska

Generation Connection

Cordova Junior/Senior High School

Cordova, Alaska

Ria Smyke, Faith Collins, Anika Witsoe, and Olivia Carroll.

Coach: Anika Smyke

ST-2225

The Generation Connection project's goal was to better connect our generation and the elders of Cordova. We interviewed 25 long-time residents of Cordova and made posters of their lives, displaying them at our high school. We planned out events for each month including: a Nerf Gun fight, making fifty "sur-pies" for our community, a Grandma's Christmas dinner, an assembly where four elders came and shared their stories, a game night, and a show at the museum featuring our posters and the elders. The posters with QR codes were put into a hand-made book that will be donated to the museum.

Australia

ARC: Advocating for Recycling in the Community

The Illawarra Grammar School

Wollongong, New South Wales

Andrea Avenido and Cecilia Arsenovic.

Coach: Jean Burton

ST-2212

Sadly, recent statistics have shown that a majority of Australia's waste is not recycled, instead significantly large quantities are dumped into landfill. It is evidently clear that better waste management systems are needed to ensure that Australia's recycling scheme does not continue to be in a state of crisis. We aim to educate primary and senior students on the importance of recycling and encourage them to develop good recycling habits. Our school has just started implementing plastic recycling bins due to our project and we have made it a primary focus to advocate for further recycling throughout the school by garnering community support. We are confident that advocacy and education will be key in solidifying lasting change that our project has brought.

Australia

T:REE Tolerance: Respecting Everyone's Equality

The Illawarra Grammar School

Wollongong, New South Wales

Nicole Russo, Lily Mauger, Mary Bul, Jarod Tuckwood, and Michael Kyriakoudes.

Coach: Jean Burton

ST-2205

Australia is a nation celebrated for its multiculturalism. However, despite its vitality, prominent examples of intolerance exhibited within our society pose a threat we cannot ignore. Our team recognised that the issue of racial intolerance demands a complex and extended solution and as a result, we have developed a multi-pronged approach that will target this issue at its core. By applying our three-step solution to our target audience and the wider community we effectively encouraged the advocacy and took action against the spread of intolerance within our racially diverse society, inspiring ideas of kindness and tolerance within older primary school children.

California

Project Strength Over Silence (SOS)

San Juan Hills High School

San Juan Capistrano, California

Kiley Espineira, Isabelle Peloso, Grace Aitken, Savannah Wilson, Jason Kepple, Cheyenne Torres, Nick Wycoff, Luke Binoya, Cooper Murr, Ajay Bhatia, Eric Fritz, Ella Friess, Isabel Royal, Lauren Culwell, Giselle Barough, Tyler Hsieh, Araceli Carreon, Roman Panah, Makena Tinney, Gracie Hammond, Louiza Gava, Shaili Patel, Malia Lynde, Sage Groves, and Sophie Schlesinger.

Coach: Student Run

ST-2215

SOS's goal is to provide every child with the necessary resources to help cope with mental health issues. This year, we brought the community together through the Walk For Wellness, raising \$4693.75 for the mental health ward at Mission Hospital, and provided educational resources. We continued to present our project, and furthered outreach by advocating for youth at Orange County's Be Well Mental Health Conference and advocated for furthered mental health resources at our school board district meeting. We began work with other organizations to build a teen center with mental health recourses in Ladera Ranch, a residential community.

Connecticut

Project GROW

RHAM High School

Hebron, Connecticut

Isabelle Benson-Clarke, Kristin Cavalieri, Khalia Chapman, Emily Cochefski, and Emma McCormack.

Coach: Sherri Pelletier

ST-2218

We created Project GROW, a program to encourage middle school girls to become more encouraged in STEM based subjects. We tutored these girls in after school math labs in order to increase their confidence and the number of STEM opportunities in the future. Our program is built to combat deficits in math skills within our district, as well as a lack of confidence in the classroom. In the long term, we hope to lead young girls into careers in the STEM field, so there is less of a discrepancy in the work force.

Connecticut

Spreading the Music

North Haven High School

North Haven, Connecticut

Diego Esponda, Carly Fresher, Kayleigh Meehan, Molly Coyle, Elliza Sayed, and Olivia Stefanik.

Coach: Bevan Moore

ST-2219

We began this project with the goal of enriching learning provided at the elementary school level. One area we identified was instrumental music exposure and instruction for elementary school students. When students reach high school, they can join our high school award winning band program, which requires that the students provide their own instruments. We found a solution to this problem, which also put gently used instruments students in our town had been storing since elementary school or middle school. These realizations and the profound importance of instrumental music education led us to create the spreading the music program.

Florida

FPC Bulldog Patrol

Flagler Palm Coast High School

Palm Coast, Florida

Nicholas Blumengarten, William Patin, Katia Martynuk, Abbigail Carver, Gabrielle Jackson, and Sydni Leon.

Coaches: Diane Tomko, Sarah Reckenwald, and Caitlin Hutsell

ST-2208

Concerned with school safety in light of recent data on school shootings, six passionate Community Problem Solvers took action. Our proactive vision is the first in our state to generate a comprehensive student-lead security action plan which includes: drones, K9s, school-based active shooter videos, survival kits and first aid training for teachers and staff. We are humbled to be the only students invited to speak at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Safety Commission Meeting. As advocates for a proactive approach to increase school safety, we are the voices for our peers. If not you, then who? We rise to the challenge!

Florida

Hours4Ours

Flagler Palm Coast High School

Palm Coast, Florida

Emma Tice, Rylee Millikan, Caroline Rizzo, Tate Underberg, Lily Murphy, and Ashley Buglione.

Coaches: Diane Tomko, Sarah Reckenwald, and Caitlin Hutsell

ST-2209

"Hours4Ours" is a Community Problem Solving project that is designed to give students direct access to community service organizations with a tracking component that enables students' ability to document the appropriate hours for their community involvement. Community service not only makes connections and builds relationships, but it builds character and teaches youth the importance of being involved. We are 6 high school students making an impact in our community. Join us on our journey helping students achieve the community service requirements to benefit their future endeavors.

Illinois

Project Ignition – Be the Key to Road Safety

Danville High School

Danville, Illinois

Kaleb Medina, MaKayla Smith, Shivangi Patel, Micah Cherry, Jolene Blodgett, Layla Castro, Amelia Ingold, Quemarij Williams, Alana Kleiner, Brooke Parker, Alexis Flores, and DJ Barnette.

Coaches: Lori Woods and Tamara Medina
ST-2206

Traffic accidents are the leading cause of death worldwide. Project Ignition addresses the hazardous regional/global conditions affecting road safety. One factor is too many residents do not have adequate driver's education. Many of these people don't have proper training and also lack the skills to teach their children good safety habits. Our focus has shifted to include road safety education for young children. Good road safety habits must be ingrained before driver's education courses. We focus on the impact of regional weather and hazardous road conditions on safe driving. Our motto is "We are All the Key to Road Safety."

Illinois

Project Mending Maria

Richmond-Burton Community High School

Richmond, Illinois

Caroline Keim and Hannah Schleibinger.

Coach: Belinda Veillon
ST-2207

Project Mending Maria brings awareness to children affected by natural disasters. By running fundraisers for Elemental Urbana, an elementary school in Vega Alta, Puerto Rico, we hoped to help create a more comfortable environment for children. Students from Richmond-Burton contributed to their impoverished school, which was severely damaged after Hurricane Maria. The children were affected both physically and psychologically. We donated school supplies and accumulated nearly three thousand dollars. A significant impact was made during this tragic time. These donations provided Vega Alta with utensils needed to help reduce the effect of natural disasters on the young students.

Kentucky

Be Kind to Your Mind

Leslie County High School

Hyden, Kentucky

Makenna Morgan, Cecilia Collett, McKenzie Bell, Abbey Howard, and Charity Sizemore.

Coach: Travis Hacker
ST-2204

In our community, substance abuse has become the most devastating issue we face. We chose to focus on a precursor to substance abuse – the mental health of teens. The National Alliance on Mental Illness states one-fifth of teens struggle with a serious mental health disorder. Our project – Be Kind to Your Mind – seeks to increase mental health awareness in order to empower teens to be more proactive in leading healthier lifestyles. Our solution, a Mental Health Fair at our high school, became the stimulus for our school district and provided the opportunity to reach other students in our feeder schools.

Kentucky

Broaden Your Horizon

Floyd Central High School

Eastern, Kentucky

Kelli Thomas, Isabella Stewart, Sahara Little, Savanna Price, Reece Terry, Chloe Watson, and Alyssa Tackett.

Coach: Bobby Akers
ST-2224

Broaden Your Horizon hopes to inform our community of jobs and job opportunities. Our focus is to help students that are just entering the workforce, adults who need jobs due to the closing of the coal industry, and adults who are moving back to our community, find suitable employment and work. We plan on holding job fairs and beginning a job shadowing program for our schools, something our area is sorely lacking.

Kentucky

It's Pronounced Appalachia

Paintsville High School

Paintsville, Kentucky

Hallie Coleman, Lucy Jones, Hannah Ousley, Matt Tackett, and Madison Webb.

Coach: Dawn McNew
ST-2223

In this modern world of technology and homogeneity, we find that our community is facing a tragic loss that many people are unaware of due to its imperceptible nature. The once thriving Appalachian culture is now diminished to the point where many children who have grown up in the foothills and mountains of Appalachia quite simply don't know or understand their heritage. Our Paintsville High School Community Problem Solving Team has created a project to help sustain and revive the dying Appalachian culture. From social media platforms to exhibition booths and interactive hiking trails-we hope to save Appalachian culture!

Massachusetts

Project PREP (Protecting Residents with Emergency Preparedness)

Dedham FPS and Galvin Middle School

Dedham and Canton, Massachusetts

Julia Friday, Max Gorman, Riley Harn, Hannah Kane, Bryan McDonough, Michael McDonough, Emily O'Neill, Sydney Parke, Amelia Chien, Eric Reilly, Ryan Roberts, Danica Seto, John Wilkinson, and Luke Wilkinson.

Coaches: Monika Wilkinson and Susan Crespi
ST-2213

Are you prepared for severe weather? With a recent influx of emergency weather situations globally and the impact our team has experienced locally, Project PREP has worked to improve the preparedness of residents in our neighboring towns. Our initiative has the goal of making residents safer and better equipped to deal with severe weather such as hurricanes, blizzards, and extreme temperatures. In addition to creating and sharing resources, hosting informational events and encouraging others to take steps that increase their preparation, we have advocated for change from local government. We invite you to visit our website at www.weatherprep.org.

Massachusetts

Project SMILE: Stress Management In Learning Environments

Canton High School

Canton, Massachusetts

Anvitha Addanki, Sylvia Chin, Ciara O'Connor, Sarah Hernandez, Jenny Mazzola, Sinead Qiu, Harshitha Valluri, and Sydney Weng.

Coach: Vijay Addanki
ST-2214

Project SMILE is working to reduce stress and improve mental health of students in Canton High School. Teenagers especially are susceptible to the lasting negative effects of severe stress and understanding the source of the stress can help people take measures to address it. We have promoted various healthy ways to cope with stress through yoga, meditation, guided imagery, exercise, breathing exercises, games, and more, and we hope to extend these activities to the greater community to improve the mental health of students in all learning environments.

Michigan

Self-eSTEAM

International Academy East & Troy High School

Troy, Michigan

Parvathi Nagappala, Sejal Patil, Apoorva Mirji, Purvi Raj, Abigail Liang, Kiana Yin, Nicole Kim, Julia Voyt, Euiyeon Lee, Anna Ji, Aishwarya Arvind, Prajna Polamarasetti, Rhea Narayan, and Angela Li.

Coach: Priyal Bajaj & Beena Nagappala
ST-2203

Since female employees acquire fewer than 25% of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) careers due to gender-related obstacles, our goal was to spark STEAM interests, dissolve the societal stereotypes, and create a bridge of connections between interest and implementation by creating free weekly interactive STEAM classes called STEAM Sisters. These classes allow girls ages 10-12 to interact with acclaimed professionals and experiment from ranging topics in STEAM. Through STEAM Sisters, girls collaborate with their peers and experience the power of women in STEAM, furthering their interests and raising their self-esteem.

Michigan

SISS - Students Increasing School Safety

Kearsley High School

Flint, Michigan

Delanie Schrieber, Jolie Timm, Autumn Sears, Connor Earegood, and Jenna Roush.

Coaches: April Yorks and Delanie Schreiber
ST-2202

The CMPS team of Kearsley High undertook a project with the purpose of fostering discussions about emergency situations in an elementary environment. We did this to help children throughout our community have increased emergency preparedness. To reach this goal, the team authored and illustrated books titled *The 'ABC's of School Safety*. Each page has a phrase on it that indicates an ALICE rule in an understandable way, as well as a hand drawn illustration that conveys the main idea of the clause in a fun and entertaining way. The team read these books aloud in several classrooms to many children.

New Jersey

Project gLEAFul

West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North

Plainsboro, New Jersey

Akanksha Tripathy, Ananya Parashar, Aneesh Durai, Anushka Iyer, Ishani Ranjan, Ishita Bhimavarapu, Jeffrey Liu, Jessica Xu, Kavitha Rao, Luke Shao, Martin Long, Megan Leung, Oliver Zhong, Sarah Hu, and Shavini Pursty.

Coach: Katie Foley
ST-2201

Due to the increasing size of landfills and large volume of food wasted, exacerbating hunger and food distribution issues, our project seeks to reduce the amount of food wasted in our community by raising awareness about the detrimental impact of food wastage on the environment and various methods to reduce this waste. Our initiatives included creating a vermicomposting system in our school to compost scraps from the cafeteria, hosting a Green Week that culminated with a Sustainability Fair to inform the school community on how to compost and implement sustainable practices, and sharing tips over Instagram and Facebook gLEAFul accounts.

New Zealand

All For One Lockers Project

Manurewa High School

Auckland

Yashna Kumar, Nirvana Makiangareu, Shanelle McKinney, Ever Catapang, Paravjot Kaur, Shayla Castle-Mokaraka, Faith Iosea-Robertson, Gloria Tauiliili, and Gemma Wu.

Coach: Ambure Giborees
ST-2217

All For One (AFO) Lockers Project is a two-year long project that provides services to homeless people. We are a group of teenagers, who have been running laboriously to begin a change on an enormous issue of homelessness in New Zealand. All For One has already purchased six huge lockers for the homeless people in Manurewa and is expanding to other suburbs/regions/cities. Our goal is to temporarily fulfil their human rights and need while the government houses the homeless people. AFO wishes to provide an adequate amount of resources for homeless people and increase awareness around the issue of homelessness.

New Zealand

Tradescantia Terminators

Kerikeri High School

Kerikeri, Northland

Charlotte Gamble, Faith Hohepa, Emilia Finer, Emilie Jones, Charlie Potter, and Jeany Kim.

Coach: Sandra Leaming
ST-2216

The Tradescantia Terminators are a Community Problem Solving Team from Kerikeri High School in Northland, New Zealand. Tradescantia is an introduced, invasive weed that grows in thick mats that smother native seedlings and destroy NZ's unique, indigenous forest. Our aim is to raise awareness of effective Tradescantia control methods to empower our local community, so they might take action. We use the Wairoa Stream Track to demonstrate effective biocontrol and manual control via beetle releases, weeding and native planting and then publicise our efforts and results through community outreach, mainstream media and social media.

Ohio

Project Leftovers

Solon High School

Solon, Ohio

Lea Kim, Katherine Dai, Sandy Shen, Julia Fan, and Rachel Wilson.

Coach: Sabrina Tirpak

ST-2222

Project Leftovers is a student group that fights school food waste by educating the local community about food waste and by redistributing food to those who need it within the community. Through an art contest and a food recovery program, we found more interactive ways to engage the community by providing under-privileged students with access to quality, sanitary food items, educating our peers about food waste by working during lunch periods, and communicating with students across all grades by collaborating with other student organizations.

Singapore

Project Vitalize

Hwa Chong Institution

Singapore

Mason Chew, Colby Peh, Jia Kang Lee, and Kong Yao Goh.

Coach: Anuradha Boyanapalli

ST-2210

Project Vitalize is a project aiming to raise awareness and funds against diabetes. We comprise of a 4-man core team as well as a 100 men organising team to help us with volunteer management as well as planning and execution of events. Through Project Vitalize, we aim to educate youths on ways to reduce their chances of developing diabetes and help the elderly manage the health issues associated with diabetes all by leading a healthy lifestyle, as well as raise awareness and funds for Diabetes Singapore (DS).

Singapore

The Rail Explorers

Hwa Chong Institution

Singapore

Ethan Quek, Jasper Soh, Wei Hng Chong, Junxian Ng, and Shao Wei Goi.

Coach: Chia Hui Peng

ST-2211

Our project aims to raise awareness of the Rail Corridor and its contribution to Singapore's biodiversity and cultural heritage. We created educational resources and used them to engage the public, who indicated that they have learnt much and plan to visit the Rail Corridor. Resources created include an e-info booklet and an engaging game cum audio tour app. The Ministry of Education has decided to adopt our resources for their outdoor education programmes. We also created a guide sheet on the Rail corridor at the ministry's request, this will be made accessible on the National Parks Board's Rail Corridor website.

Texas

Project Fresh Hub

Bellaire High School

Houston, Texas

Zaid Ali, Ami Katz, Safia Khan, Serena Hou, Angela Ling, Miles Mackenzie, David Tang, Samiha Zaman, Annie Zhu, and Shirley Zhu.

Coach: Beiyi Cai
ST-2220

In 2018-2019, when residents of the Kasmere and Sunnyside areas of Houston have limited access to nutritional food, how might we, Project Fresh Hub, maximize the amount of healthy food conveniently available so that food deserts become less prominent in these low socio-economic neighborhoods? At Fresh Hub events, we have distributed over 2,000 pounds of healthy fruits, vegetables, and bread to 300 Houstonians. Additionally, our communication services, such as our Remind messaging service and Fresh Hub app, help people maintain healthy lifestyles. To make this solution more sustainable, we have recruited freshmen and engaged community stakeholders to sponsor this project.

Texas

Project Helping Hands

Sinton High School

Sinton, Texas

Hannah Carawan, Claude Duhart, John Rees Flinn, Adolpho Trey Galvan, Rhiannon Manygoats, and Katelyn Rogers.

Coach: Heather Arnold
ST-2221

Project Helping Hands is providing backpacks and bags filled with food every week to selected elementary students. They have prepared and served a dinner to the community with plans to host another community dinner in the near future. The project has made donations to the local food pantry that helps over 300 families every month and placed many donations in our local blessings boxes. The team has collected donated clothes from the community to build up a clothing closet and distributed clothing to those who were in need of the assistance.

Turkey

Sbark of Hope

Mavisehir Okyanus College

Karşıyaka, Izmir

Anil Akalin, Ulas Enes Kozan, Naz Caferoglu, and Aleyna Aytar.

Coach: Binnur Yilmaz
ST-2226

One of the major problems in our country is stray animals living in cities. We have developed a collaborative and innovative solution across the region against the need for shelter, which is one of the basic needs of stray animals, which cannot be met at a sufficient and healthy level in the Karşıyaka municipality. Working together with public institutions, NGOs and the local community, with this system, we have developed an integrated system in the city, rather than the Municipal Shelters which are far from the city and human relations where the municipalities are very large and the animals are not accustomed to. In the next step, we aim to expand our project throughout the country by conducting wider participation studies on our project.

CmPS INDIVIDUAL PROJECT SUMMARIES

Connecticut

Paws 4 Help

Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School
Lindsey Carl

Coventry, Connecticut
Middle

Coaches: Laura Boates and Christina Hanks
MI-2503

Stress is a part of every student, whether or not the level of stress is high. The stress not only gets in the way of learning, but it can get worse, causing health problems. The Paws 4 Help project realized that and tried to help. The Paws 4 Help project has brought in a therapy dog into school to try to mitigate the stress in students, to create a stress free school environment. The project helped students realize that stress is okay but that high levels of stress are not. This project helped create awareness of stress, and helped some students that had high stress, and decrease their stress.

Florida

The B.L.A.I.R. Connection

Lake Highland Preparatory School
Grey Chapin

Orlando, Florida
Middle

Coaches: Kathy Barbay and Cady Brewer
MI-2501

The B.L.A.I.R. Connection (www.theblairconnection.org) is a support website for siblings of children with terminal illnesses. The website allows siblings to express their emotions through writing blogs or sharing photos. The mission of The B.L.A.I.R. Connection stems from my own experience as a sibling. My sister, Blair, passed away due to Sanfilippo Syndrome in 2017. In the project's title, B.L.A.I.R. is an acronym for Brave, Loving, Amazing, Inspiring, and Relentless. Terminally ill children have all of these traits, but their often-overlooked siblings do as well.

Florida

Root to Rise

Flagler Palm Coast High School
Ekaterena Kouzina

Palm Coast, Florida
Senior

Coaches: Diane Tomko, Sarah Reckenwald, and Caitlin Hutsell
SI-2604

My individual journey with yoga influenced me to expand the practice to more students. Root to Rise aims to implement mindfulness exercises on campus to decrease students' stress levels by providing the tools to help them be more self-aware. In other words, they breathe out their negative energy, so that they can rise above it. This allows students to be present in the moment. Select classrooms are able to practice yoga for about 30 minutes once a week, and many have reported significantly decreased stress levels and overall enjoyment with the practice. Soon, this will be a school-wide movement.

Florida

Thinking Out Loud

Flagler Palm Coast High School

Palm Coast, Florida

Valerie Diaz

Senior

Coaches: Diane Tomko, Sarah Reckenwald, and Caitlin Hutsell

SI-2601

Thinking Out Loud is a project focused on increasing the knowledge of a positive mental health in my community. To be able to achieve this goal, I have given presentations to 5th-9th graders in my county, as well as implemented ways for community members to learn more about their own mental health such as: community mindfulness walks, passing out brochures, and creating an online blog. My main objective is to be able to implement a mental health curriculum within the elementary schools' physical education classes.

Illinois

DeKalb County Homeless - A Helping Hand

Genoa-Kingston Middle School

Genoa, Illinois

Robbie Hill

Middle

Coaches: Stefanie Hill

MI-2504

This project facilitates the assistance to the homeless in DeKalb County. There is a growing number of homeless in the county that I live in. These people need assistance. I am organizing drives to provide to the homeless necessities that can help them in their quest for self improvement. These include clothing, food, toiletries, and gift cards that can be used to provide these necessities. To raise awareness of the homeless plight, a website was constructed to help the public understand them and to advertise locations for drop-off for donations.

Iowa

Clean and Healthy in Madison County

Winterset High School

Winterset, Iowa

Kacie Cowman

Senior

Coaches: Alissa Kerr and Sara St. John

SI-2603

I'm focusing on personal hygiene item donations after interviewing all of the local food pantries and learning that the largest one in Madison County always has a shortage of personal hygiene items. If families cannot afford to pay for groceries, how can they afford other necessities? I've talked to community leaders about the severe poverty throughout Madison County. I've reached out to a church about their donations to food pantries. Sadly, when people think of donating to a food pantry, they rarely consider the need for items besides foodstuffs, though hygiene items are still considered necessary for a healthy life.

Iowa

The Community Closet

Central Lee High School

Donnellson, Iowa

Hailey Alvis

Senior

Coach: Hollie Weber
SI-2609

Clothing is a way for people to express themselves, especially in their teenage years. The way we dress has an impact on the way we view ourselves and how others perceive us. Lower-income families are sometimes unable to afford clean, comfortable clothing. This often impacts peer relationships. To address this issue, I created the Community Closet to provide fashionable clothing in a variety of teen sizes. I publicized and promoted the Community Closet like an online boutique through Facebook and Instagram so that students could see what was available and to encourage donations from people in our community.

Kentucky

Discovering Deaf Culture

McCracken County High School

Paducah, Kentucky

Ava Kelly

Middle

Coach: Melissa Bryan
MI-2502

In the community of Paducah, Kentucky, there are about 300 families with at least one deaf family member. Unfortunately, most of these families struggle to receive the cultural atmosphere of which they need to truly thrive. This leaves those with hearing loss feeling a sense of detachment from the majority of their community. Discovering Deaf Culture is a project focused on integrating the ways of the deaf community into the local school system so that others may learn how to interact with those who experience hearing difficulties.

Kentucky

Operation Angel Wings – Hayley’s Box

Johnson Central High School

Paintsville, Kentucky

Megan Hudnell

Senior

Coaches: Jarred Gibson
SI-2602

Operation Angel Wings: Hayley’s Box was started by Megan Hudnall, in honor of her Stillborn sister, Hayley Jamison Hudnall. Hayley’s Box provides memory boxes to grieving families. Additionally, resources are given to bereaved families and awareness is raised. The Hayley’s Box blog has reached over 2,000 people in 27 plus countries. Megan has spoken at many events in order to give others insight to the issues tied to Infant Loss. Families around the globe dealing with infant loss have found comfort through Hayley’s Box.

Massachusetts

Mission Connect

Canton High School
Mary Kelley

Canton, Massachusetts
Senior

Coach: Meg Kelley
SI-2607

Patients who live at Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children (PRHC) in Canton, MA have very limited opportunities to connect with young people outside the hospital setting and are therefore at increased risk of social isolation. Mission Connect worked to increase opportunities for PRHC students to socialize with other teenagers in the community by hosting special events, inviting students from area high schools to visit and inviting PRHC students to events outside the hospital.

Minnesota

No- opioid

Apollo High School
Jocelyn Filiyaro

St. Cloud, Minnesota
Senior

Coaches: Karlyn Doyle, Christine Hermanson, and Tom Warnemunde
SI-2606

Did you know you're more likely to die from opioid overdoses than a car accident in the United States (U.S.)? According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in the past year, deaths due to opioid overdoses in the U.S increased by 12.5% - over 120 people per day!! It only takes 5 days to get addicted. 40% of overdose deaths stem from prescriptions written by doctors. The goal of "No-opioid" is to cultivate a deeper understanding of alternative methods of pain relief in order to lower the risk of opioid addiction for U.S. citizens.

Mississippi

Project K.I.N.D.

Germantown High School
Emma Suggs

Madison, Mississippi
Senior

Coach: Nikki Musgrove
SI-2605

Project Kind encourages kindness within schools to decrease the effects of bullying by going to schools and challenging the students through projects, such as reading books or completing age appropriate activities to implement positive strategies. The goal of Project Kind is to promote kindness, increase empathy, nurture differences, and decrease bullying. This project grew out of efforts to promote kindness among high school students but has expanded to reach students K5-12th grade. In preparation for this project it was helpful to interview school counselors and mental health professionals to determine the best ways to help students.

Texas

Operation F.E.I.S.T.Y Force

Crockett Intermediate School
Anna Grace Blassingame

Paris, Texas
Junior

Coach: Debb Fleming
JI-2401

Operation F.E.I.S.T.Y. Force was created by a young girl drawn to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). With the realization that girls her same age tend to be less confident in STEM, Operation F.E.I.S.T.Y. Force shares the love and excitement for STEM with peers thru the implementation of both weekly Coding Classes and a STEM Club with hands-on and confidence building activities. Intermediate school girls were also invited to a STEM Madness Camp with guest speakers, team building exercises, and experiments. To promote education, Operation F.E.I.S.T.Y. Force also has an informational website about STEM activities and helpful potential career choices.

Texas

Project L.I.F.E.

Prestonwood Christian Academy
Jade Hernandez

Plano, Texas
Middle

Coach: Lisa Quintana
MI-2505

Project L.I.F.E. (Living in Financial Excellence) tackles the need to teach teenagers the importance of financial management. I created an interactive program to teach fifth grade students at Prestonwood Christian Academy how to manage their finances. I met with the students monthly to provide key information on money management. I also partnered with First National Bank to provide valuable information on how to open a savings account and to start smart saving. My project has already equipped many teenagers with skills to make good financial decisions that will hopefully carry into their futures.

Texas

Project Bright Ideas

Sinton High School
Emma Nieto

Sinton, Texas
Senior

Coaches: Elizabeth Nieto and Heather Arnold
SI-2608

Because 3 of 6 Latchkey after school program teachers arrive at least 30 minutes after the students, and because the students have a lot of unstructured time each day, this often leads to difficulty in managing students' behavior. How might I, Project Bright Ideas, increase the students' access to engaging activities, so that there are fewer opportunities for misbehaving at Latchkey in the 2018-19 school year and beyond? I created baskets of learning activities that are used by Sinton High School volunteer tutors during the time that students are waiting for the regular teachers. I also built a Gaga Pit that allows Latchkey students to have a structured activity to release some energy. With the help of community members, I was able to collect board games and art supplies to make mobile game and art carts. An Xbox game system and games were donated and I created a ticket system where students can earn game time for showing good behavior.



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FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING PROGRAM
INTERNATIONAL

2015 Grant Place
Melbourne, Florida 32901
321.768.0074

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