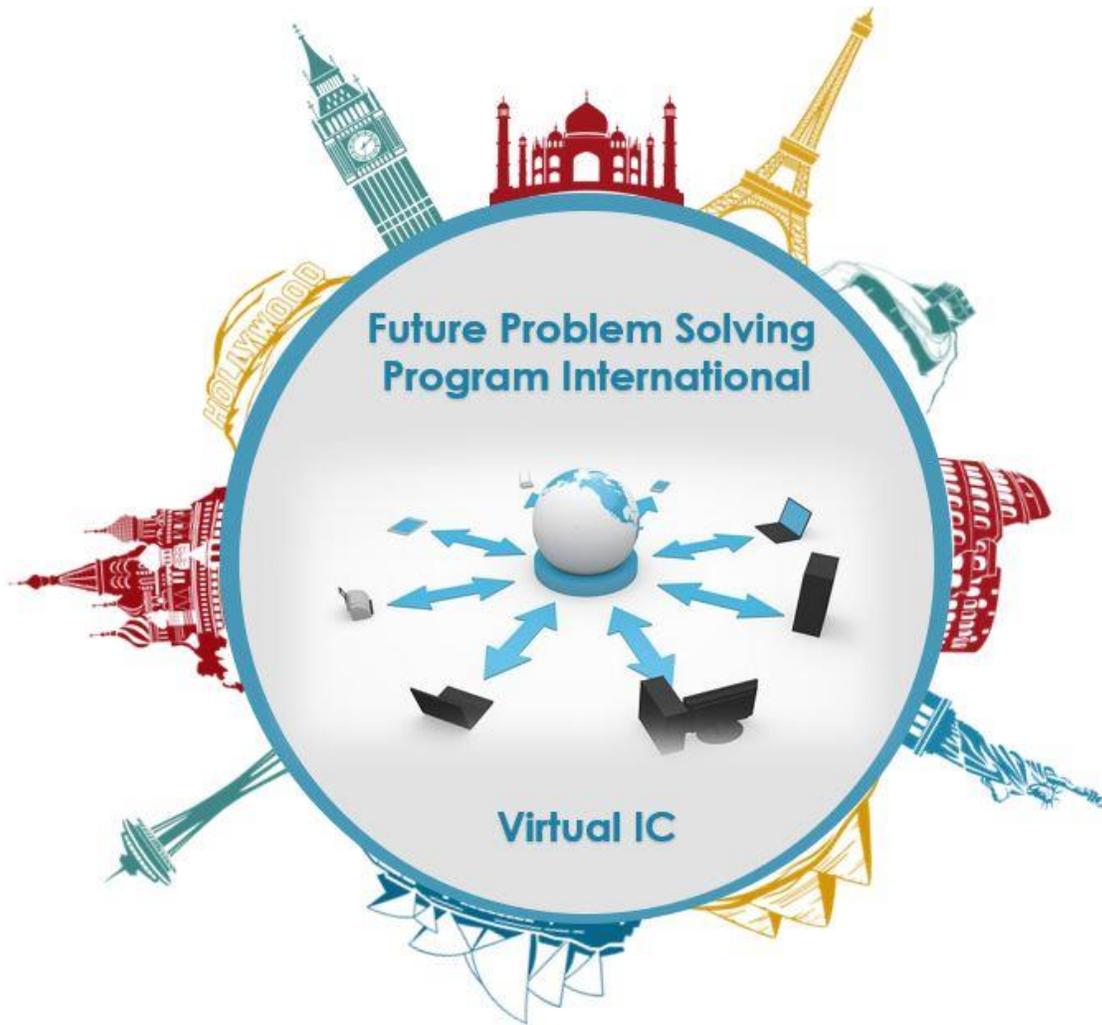


Community Problem Solving Summaries



2020 International Conference
#problemsolved

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Summaries presented come directly from the students as submitted.

Future Problem Solving Program International is proud to present the 2020 Virtual 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 2020 CmPS Competition Projects

- 17 Junior Division Teams
- 17 Middle Division Teams
- 18 Senior Division Teams
- 10 Individual Projects

Welcome Virtual CmPSers,

You are experiencing and participating in a futuristic venue that is unique and challenging. Your participation in this conference is a task that in itself has caused you to be more creative in the completion of your individual and team projects. COVID-19 has brought the future to us, and you have embraced that future. We are working in ways that would have seemed unbelievable even last year at the University of Massachusetts. However, we know that the work you completed in your communities was far from virtual; it was real, and the lives in your communities whom you affected are real, as well. The challenges you have overcome in preparing for this competition would have seemed impossible only one year ago. You did it! You persevered, and you are ready to enter our virtual platform as champions! The impact you have had on communities around the world is boundless. We, at FPSPI, are astounded by your perseverance, creativity, and diligence.

As I perused your submissions, I was amazed by the depth and variety of projects that have been submitted to Virtual IC 2020. The number of Affiliates that are represented in 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.

My only job this week is to make your CmPS experience memorable and successful. If you need anything, be sure to contact me. I cannot guarantee that your avatar will leave this virtual world with an award, but I can assure you that you will have changed the world with your inspiring projects. Start planning today for CmPS 2021!

Brenda Porter

CmPS Coordinator

Cell #606.424.1369

“Kid, you’ll move mountains!”

~Dr. Seuss

JUNIOR DIVISION CmPS TEAM PROJECT SUMMARIES

Australia

AIM (Australian Indigenous Messengers)

Melbourne Grammar School

Caulfield, Victoria

Miles Forster, Hamish McDonald, Nicholas Dreher, Freddie Hunt, Alexandra Chan, Eve Plummer, Ava Loke, and Laika Smith.

Coach: Adrienne English
JT-3001

Australia is a country of diverse people made of many different cultures and backgrounds. We are united by all being uniquely Australian. Our AIM team (Australian Indigenous Messengers) have set out to find more about how we are all connected. Understanding Indigenous culture and language will help us build a respectful and collaborative future for all Australians. We are all connected, so the First Nations Peoples history is our history, and their future is our future.

Australia

The Green Tree Project (Deforestation)

Westbourne Grammar School

Truganina, Victoria

Kai Ayai-Yap, Nikita Kumar, Sebastian Loupas, and Marley Nathan.

Coach: Paul Barklamb
JT-3006

‘The Green Tree Project’ Team is deeply concerned about the number of trees being cut down around the world each year. We have a passion for tackling the issue of deforestation and we want to educate students and the broader school community about this world-wide challenge. Having initially taught students about the importance of trees, with their help, we planted saplings around the school. We are now striving to implement initiatives which will allow us to expand our project beyond the school community. We are determined to combat deforestation and to have a positive impact on our environment.

China

Colorful Life, Skillfull Hand

Huaxin Experimental Primary School, Jiangbei District

Chongqing, China

Mingge Li, Heyinrui Liu, Yishiman Tang, Lanyue Qing, Ziyu Zhang, Nike Yang, Yifei Tan, Yuning Chen, Haotian Dai, Jintao Xie, Binghui Xu, and Lai Yuan.

Coaches: Xi Chen, Yajie Zuo, Ting Wang, Yun Wang, Yan Liu, and Fenglian Chuan
JT-3017

Primary students’ life skills are an important way to promote the development of adolescents’ physical and mental health, as well as an effective way to promote the development of physical and mental health. We want to help students improve their living skills so that they can live a better life. We selected these life skills through surveys and classmates’ interests: tying shoelaces, sorting out clothes, folding clothes, making beds, making dumplings, and arranging luggage.

China

Healthy Diet Healthy Growth

The Primary School Attached to Shanghai Normal University
Yuen Zhang, Jingtian Bai, Jiahe Li, and Ruiqi Duan.

Shanghai, Shanghai

Coach: Qi Ke
JT-3018

In China, people's living standards have developed rapidly in the past three decades. We can choose food as we like. However, judging from the student's fitness report collected by the school, the students' physical fitness has not improved a lot. Instead, new problems have arisen, such as allergic, rhinitis, obese, and premature development. We started the survey of lunch in the school cafeteria and found that half of the students could not eat well. Picky eaters are common. This surprised discovery made us eager to try to solve and improve.

China

No Depression, No Darkness

Chongqing Yudaishan Primary School

Chongqing, China

Yucheng Peng, Haotian Xue, Pan Deng, and Yuanchen Li.

Coaches: Ziwei Zhao, Chendi Wang, and Yu Lei
JT-3019

According to the data in 2019, there are more than 350 million patients with depression in the world. It is expected that by 2030, depression will be the first disease burden in the world. In China, there is a lack of knowledge about the prevention and treatment of depression. According to the survey, less than 10% of the patients have been treated with drugs in Chongqing. We hope to attract the general attention of the society and provide people with preventive measures and treatment suggestions, so that can reduce the suffering of people caused by depression in 2020 and beyond.

Florida

Tech Wizards

Rymfire Elementary

Palm Coast, Florida

Marion Clayton, Layla Croslin, Hannah Zubliones, Nyla King, Julius Paden, Jovaun Anderson, Sophia D'Agostino, and Isaiah Penagos.

Coach: Amy Kopach
JT-3012

Our group is trying to help teachers and students feel more comfortable with using technology in the classroom. We want to help teachers and students learn how to use a variety of apps for a lot of different classroom lessons and projects. We also want to help them learn how to troubleshoot hardware issues and give helping hands when new technology is tried. We feel that by educating teachers on how easy it can be to use the technology we have, the more comfortable the students and teachers will feel using it. We have created a website resource for teachers to use to learn about various apps and how to videos for them to use for students and teachers.

Florida

The Hero Squad

Rymfire Elementary

Palm Coast, Florida

Abbie Blumengarten, Josiah Baccus, Anna Gimbel, Aniyah Graham, Alyssa Fernandez, Kaylee Cavas, Xavior Rodriguez, Cameron Kalasnik, Timothy Kulev, and Persia Hughes.

Coach: Tim Ruddy
JT-3010

The Hero Squad realizes that children have had many experiences throughout their lives that involved First Responders. Due to these experiences, children may become afraid of or even dislike some First Responders. The Hero Squad is set to change that! They want to increase the positive experiences that children have with First Responders. The Hero Squad worked together to create more opportunities where First Responders came into the school and interacted with the students. They ate with them, read to them, handed out candy canes, played with them and much more!

Indiana

Recycling Rebels

Allisonville Elementary

Indianapolis, Indiana

Lydia Clark, Harlow Heath, Alyssa Ayers, Rose Strabala, Lily Heger, and Lyla Cunningham.

Coach: Emily Hodson
JT-3015

The Recycling Rebels will encourage plastic recycling at their elementary school and in their community by convincing the administration to set up a recycling program for plastics. To further draw attention to the problem, they will use collected plastic waste to create a sculpture of a sea turtle.

Indiana

Suicide Awareness and Prevention

Pendleton Elementary

Pendleton, Indiana

Ashton Jarrell, Kamden Richardson, Adrienne Anderson, Avery Barbosa-Hayes, Ethan Tannas, William Manship, Carter Reddick, Samantha Sutton, Moriah Kupferer, Adah Hupfer, Dexton Hitchens, Isaac Godbey, and Isaac Conley.

Coaches: Kim Collier, Shahin Rhinehart, Arin Anderson, and Angela Barbosa
JT-3014

Our students have faced multiple situations of suicide attempts and completions over the past year. They decided to create a website, handouts, and video talking with people their age about finding help and understanding that they are not alone. The website is entitled Sincerelysapp.com, which stands for Suicide Awareness and Prevention.

“Working hard is important. But there is something that matters even more: believing in yourself.”

~J K Rowling, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix

Kentucky

Can You Connect Me?

Central Elementary School

Paintsville, Kentucky

Kameryn Duncan, Serenity Stambaugh, Paris Short, Summer Terry, Annabella Kennedy, and Jenna Cole.

Coaches: Miranda Duncan and Erin Smith
JT-3009

We live in a world where different groups of people find themselves forgotten in the shadows of this digital age. Our team is empowering these forgotten people so that they are able to use technology to be more successful in the society they live in.

Kentucky

Operation Read More

Porter Elementary School

Hagerhill, Kentucky

Brylee Hackney, Jacob Horn, Rachel Horn, Sierra Kidd, Kinley Parsons, Emily Triplett, and Jonah Walters.

Coaches: Carla Bailey and Kelsea Arms
JT-3008

Literacy Lights identified a problem with current reading trends and access to books in their school and community. A survey was created for an online library and a group of Facebook followers. A grant was received for a Little Free Library. They collected 700 books. Donations and materials for library boxes were received. Big Sandy Community and Technical College built one library box. The Job Corps will build another box at the Van Lear Historical Society but have been held up by the current Pandemic. The team will register the two donated boxes with the Free Little Library organization as well.

Michigan

Health Benefits of Toys

Troy Schools

(Boulan Park, Baker, Barnard, Bemis)

Troy, Michigan

Aditi Gunukula, Affan Thimlapurada, Amogha Rakesh Ram, Tejas Raja, Guru Raja, Sreenika Perumalla, Karthik Prasant, and Hannah Wang.

Coach: Krishna Roy
JT-3013

In our world, toys are going away. You will usually see that significantly fewer people play with toys. Most people stop playing with handheld toys at the age of 5-6. The motor skills of the respondents have exponentially decreased since their toy-playing days. The social relationships of the respondents had diminished since some kids think that they are too old for play dates. Also, interactions with family may decrease which is a problem. Our team took upon this challenge and sought to find out why this was happening. When we figured out why this was happening, we dedicated multiple hours at our coach's house working together physically and at our houses online so the work would be finished.

New Jersey

Stopping the Spread of Spotted Lanternflies

Millstone Township Elementary

Millstone, New Jersey

Kyra Ahuja, Ryan Bailey, Samay Bajaj, Harry Biello, Nate Benjamin, Olivia Civello, Ellie DelGandio, Max Glantzberg, Presley Greenleaf, Elliana Kamal, Eva Kinsberg, Bella Maltese, Kayleigh Meagher, Elizabeth Mooney, Lorenzo Muñoz, Matthew Rosta, Connor Paulmenn, Rebecca Swartz, and Caleb Zachariah.

Coaches: Beth Topinka, Jennifer Modula, and Jo-Ann Trifiro
JT-3002

Spotted Lanternflies are threatening vital food crops in New Jersey, potentially harming our supply of over 70 kinds of vegetables and fruits that keep us healthy. Beyond health risks, the lanternfly can harm agriculture businesses that contribute \$1 billion to our state's economy. Our CmPS team, Stopping the Spread of Spotted Lanternflies, is determined to keep these problem insects out of our area! We share strategies with organizations that can help spread information throughout our community. We give presentations for environmental educators, government, festivals and businesses, building a network of people alert and eager to devitalize this terrible insect.

New York

Mental Helpers

Meadow Elementary School

Baldwin, New York

Olivia Kessba, Karan Punj, Damian Figueroa, Stephen Love, Leila Jerome, Shivanni Saroop, Lorilynn Ariza, Elizabeth Hill, Malakhi Baez, Gavin McGinley, Isaiah Bastien, Joseph Farrell, Alexander Casimir, CJ Graham, and Ben McGeachy.

Coach: Emily Bascelli and Mark Coccarelli
JT-3005

How might we teach students strategies to cope with pressure so as to improve students' physical and mental well-being at Meadow School in 2020 and beyond? Team will create a children's book, "Zen Dens", media messages, and an assembly.

New Zealand

Eco Warriors

Oaklands Primary School

Christchurch, Canterbury

Charlie Barnes, Ben Hanson, Max McAlister, Isis McKenzie, Thomas White, Madison McKenzie, and Keisha Byrne.

Coach: Caroline Martin
JT-3007

Our school has a large quantity of soft plastics in our lunches daily. These are not recyclable and end up in landfill or blown into our waterways. How might we, the Ecowarriors, encourage and engage our student community to bring plastic free lunches so that Oaklands School is contributing less waste to the world in 2020 and beyond.

Texas

Partners in Play

Bowie Intermediate School

Bowie, Texas

Kyler Beavers, Jaxon Castro, Caige Cox, Kodie Duke, Jalynn Elsas, Molly Enlow, Claire Gill, Xander Jones, Gracey Kesey, Ashlyn Magee, Jacob Mayfield, Isaiah McChesney, Ellie Mowery, Olivia Richey, Tyler Richey, Laney Segura, Willow Siebert, Olivia Stewart, Adryana Torres, and Corben Wolsey.

Coach: Cindy Hedeman

JT-3003

Partners In Play, after surveying their school community identified a large need to reduce stress by improving outdoor play opportunities. The neighborhood and school playgrounds were found unsafe and in poor condition. This motivated the team to create sensory paths, an outdoor basketball court, and Gaga Ball Pit. In the school year 2019-2020, 60% of those surveyed expressed a need for more playground space, which led us to ask, how might we, Partners In Play, increase the area of play for students in Bowie Intermediate community, so that children will have more opportunities to relieve stress through outdoor play?

Turkey

Don't Get Bored

Private Bornova Secondary School

Izmir, Bornova

Abdurrahim Taha Anbarci, Ebrar Emel Kalender, Gulen Altin, Ruya Altin, Ahmet Uner, Kubilay Onat, Osman Kaan Uzun, Rana Kizilkaya, Kubra Coban, Filiz Elif Ozer, Deniz Girgin, Onur Deniz Sezgin, Yagiz Utku Keser, Sare Naz Arslan, and Zeynep Ece Yavuz.

Coaches: Fatma Sebnem Sen Aksoy, Ayse Baser, and Nihan Akkus

JT-3016

In our school, we observed that our friends whose ages are between 10-11, are in the Symbolic Play Period, which is one of the developmental periods and which is full of energy and movement is in the foreground due to the characteristics of this period, they cannot establish a game by themselves. We observed that our friends between the ages of 12-13, who are in the Adolescence Period are bored because of the lack of sufficient activity areas and workshop areas in the building. "How might we provide different kind of activity opportunities in break time according to the characteristics of age groups of our friends between 10-13, so that we reduce the level of boredom and help them to have fun at school?"

*The more flexible we become in our thinking
and being, the more we open ourselves to
self-awareness & growth.*

~James Van Praagh

MIDDLE DIVISION CmPS TEAM PROJECT SUMMARIES

China

Juquan: Community Bus for the Last Kilometer

Liuhang Xinhua Experiment School

Shanghai, China

Yijun Wang, Shiqi Chen, Yajie Fu, Yuchen Lu, Xiyue Zhang, Xintian Zhang, Tianlin Zhu, Zirui Xu, Haohan Liu, and Lixian Xu.

Coach: Lu Lifeng
MT-3120

The bus hub in Juquan community is simple and crude. It's a good thing to repair the hub, but the project is very large, which requires a lot of manpower and material resources, and will also bring a lot of troubles, noise, etc. At present, the bus transportation capacity in Juquan community is insufficient, and the bus routes are still too few. Some platforms are set unreasonably, which greatly puzzles the community residents.

Florida

Flagler County Sports SWAP

Matanzas High School

Palm Coast, Florida

Ben Kopach, Jake Blumengarten, Aiden White, and Tommy Sturman.

Coach: Amy Kopach
MT-3110

The goal of our group is to provide gently used sports equipment to children of all ages so that they are able to play sports, regardless of their family's ability to afford the necessary equipment. S.W.A.P. is collecting donations of used sports equipment so that athletes can get the equipment they need. Athletes will also be allowed to trade up to the things they need next. Of course, we will never say no to a student that needs equipment, even if they do not have the means to trade anything. We have created a SWAP Shop where athletes of all ages are able to come in and donate, trade, and pick up sports equipment that they are in need of.

Florida

Project COPE (Collaborating with Others to Progress Emotional Resilience)

Indian Trails Middle School

Palm Coast, Florida

Kyra Baldwin, Mary Foulk, Stanley Gatzek, Brynn Gifford, Jack Gilvary, Glynnis Gong, Malina Hreib, Leila Jackson, Emma Mittedorfer, Samantha Simon, and Austin Weeks.

Coach: Jennifer Colindres
MT-3114

Project COPE, Collaborating with Others to Progress Emotional Resilience, is expanding awareness of mental health in Flagler County to improve our students' mental wellness. Through community events, presentations, social media, and collaborative efforts, Cope has increased mental wellness awareness by teaching coping strategies to our community. Highlights of our year include Stress-Free Saturday, an engaging event at our County Library, and creating Coping Tool Boxes for students. Project COPE is partnering with our school district to enhance the mental health curriculum to create a sustainable legacy that can benefit students for years to come.

Illinois

Project H.O.M.E.S. (Helping Out Many with Essential Supports)

Science & Arts Academy

Des Plaines, Illinois

Evan Kessler, Grace Murray, Evan Spear, Maia Duffy, Kai Gannon, Ari Gidalevitz, Elsa Torres, Mamata Bosker, Annabelle Powers, Callia Murray, Evan Buck, Joy Haddleton, and Neyasa Jindal.

Coaches: Cat Murray, Cara Duffy, and Sarah Bright
MT-3105

Project H.O.M.E.S. (Helping Out Many with Essential Supports) is about raising awareness of homelessness in our community. Our team researched the causes and challenges of homelessness, which affects thousands of people in the greater Chicago area, and then found that JOURNEYS/The Road Home is the lead organization that offers shelter, social services and housing to those who become homeless in our school's area (for the north and west suburbs of Chicago). We sought to publicize their information, encourage more volunteering, find a source of hope for those who are homeless, and discover additional ways we could help!

Kentucky

Necessary Skills for Life

Duff-Allen Central Elementary School

Eastern, Kentucky

Whitley Hall, Terry J. Jewell, Madison Lawson, Lindsey Marshall, Alaina Morris, Alexaa Morris, and Todd Prater.

Coach: Cecilia Prater
MT-3113

Necessary Skills for Life is a community problem-solving project created to teach students life skills that they will need to become self-sufficient individuals. The Duff-Allen Central Elementary CmPS Team collaborated with members of our community to offer life skills classes in a variety of areas that are not taught in school. Examples of classes offered were: sewing, cooking, finance, and auto maintenance.

Kentucky

Show Up, Speak Up, Vote

South Floyd Elementary School

Hi Hat, Kentucky

Raygan Bates, Peyton Caudill, McKenzie Mullins, Isabella Newman-Martin, Alexis Reed, Taylor Stumbo, Madison Sullivan, and LaMika Wnek.

Coach: Amy Martin
MT-3115

We promoted a high voter turnout in our community. Our county, and our part of the county, has shown very low voter registration and voting numbers in the past. Our goal is to have our community's voices heard and show them they can make a difference in their own circumstances. We worked to get people registered to vote, educate them on how and where to vote, and remind them of deadlines and election dates. We had a higher turnout in the fall and are continuing our efforts through the spring primary election and hope to have even higher turnout this year.

Massachusetts

Project SMILE (Seniors Matter In Life Everyday)

Galvin Middle School

Canton, Massachusetts

Ishita Jaiswal and Disha Nayak

Coaches: Roopali Ghandi and Akshata Naik

MT-3107

Seniors face many problems in their daily life including physical, mental, financial and lack of social engagement. They often lack skills to use the current technologies to perform online tasks which limit their ability to connect socially and seek information about their health or financial issues. Since these factors play a major role in their daily life, Project SMILE organized events to raise awareness, socially engage seniors and teach them to use new technology devices. We have made significant inroads into enabling them to use the new technology. We can't wait to see them thrive socially in their daily life.

Michigan

Advocates Supporting Small Businesses

Troy School District

Troy, Michigan

Jessica Wu, Manish Murthi, Puvi Venkat, Anvika Perumalla, Akul Gunukula, Vishva Charabuddi, Anjali Arvind, Mikul Saravanan, and Vineet Saravanan.

Coach: Krishna Roy

MT-3112

Our goal for this year to target Michigan based small scale businesses and raise awareness about impacts of online shopping in the local educational institutions and organizations and the community. Online shopping is so convenient that more people are doing it instead of going to stores. It is very detrimental to the health of geographical local small business. We are going to spread the negative impacts of online shopping to people unaware. Our end goal is for local geographical small businesses will be able to thrive in this modern era of online shopping.

New Zealand

Project P.O.R.T. Hills

Selwyn House School

Christchurch, New Zealand

Sarah Cox, Isabella Donald, Amelia Frew, and Beth Heywood.

Coach: Greg Pearce

MT-3116

The Port Hills in Christchurch, New Zealand have provided a wonderful location for fun, fitness and family for many years. Recently, they were devastated by wide ranging fires that forced people out of homes, and severely limited the use of the hills by the people of Christchurch. The Selwyn House CmPS team have explored and implemented a plan designed to both regenerate the Port Hills area and inspire the Christchurch community to once again visit this amazing location right on their back doorstep.

“It is good people who make good places.”

~Anna Sewell, Black Beauty

New Zealand

Unite in Strength

Mangawhai Beach School

Kaipara, Northland

Jack Brooks, Tatiana Chan-Chui, Ruby Judson, Michael Lynch, and Sophie Lambert.

Coaches: Cate Campbell and Brooklyn Wilson

MT-3108

The purpose of our project is to unite the young people of New Zealand/Aotearoa through sharing stories of strength, to break down prejudice and celebrate Diversity. We are creating 'strength cards' to use to inspire curious conversations between young people in school workshops and at home. Because of Covid-19 our solution has developed to be more online-based, where we have created an Instagram page and website where young people can share a video about why they are proud to have a strength, and share stories, music, art and writing inspired by their strength.

North Carolina

Project Refugee: No Needs Left Behind

Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy &
Ardrey Kell High School

Charlotte, North Carolina

Akhil Varikuti, Ajith Varikuti, Vishnu Vanapalli, Bumika Vanapalli, and Sindhu Sureshkannan.

Coaches: Geetha Veera and Charita Manchi

MT-3102

A refugee is a person who is forced to leave his/her country because of war, persecution, political turbulence or natural disaster. After screening process, they are resettled across the United States by non-profit organizations that are contracted by the federal government. When refugees arrive in this unfamiliar country they are associated with false-negative stigma like being accused of being a “criminal”. The PROJECT REFUGEE team has identified the negative stigma and found ways to raise awareness to eliminate this prejudice in order to gain support from the community. The solutions which raised awareness in our community included coat drives, handouts, tutoring clubs for younger refugees and more.

Singapore

Project deVICE

Raffles Girls' School

Singapore, Singapore

Aisyah Nur Humyra Binte Mohamed Riduan, Xuan Qi Lim, Chloe Foo, Megan Tze Ying Kwek, Atiqah Zahra Ahmed, Jia Shing Lau, and Gin Juat Tan.

Coach: Jason Yan

MT-3117

Project deVICE aims to cultivate safe device usage habits amongst Singaporean children aged 5 to 9 years old through educating and advocating to parents and caregivers, in hopes of preventing device addiction. Children now grow up surrounded by devices, dramatically increasing their risk of experiencing addiction and its effects. Through a series of initiatives and collaborations, we have reached out to nearly 2,000 families and educated them on the symptoms, effects, and prevention methods of device addiction. Together, we hope to equip children with the right skills and help them safely harness the full potential of technology healthily.

Singapore

Project Mindflayer

Raffles Girls' School

Singapore, Singapore

Esther Sue Ann Woon, Marianne Yining Wang, Gwen Jia Ying Chong, Kai'En Aw, Kayla Yann Ying Lim, Shao Yee, Clarissa Yen Yee Lee, and Joyce Fu Xuan Yeo.

Coach: Aliah Shariff
MT-3109

We are a Y3 CmPS team advocating against cyberbullying among youths aged 13 to 17 in Singapore. Cyberbullying is an issue that is becoming increasingly prevalent in Singapore, with 3 in 4 youths being affected by it. Our project aims to empower youths, both victims and bystanders, to take a stand against cyberbullying and deal with it appropriately and safely. Through our initiatives, we hope to increase the number of youths who are proactive and confident in deterring cyberbullying, so as to promote and establish a safer online environment for students in Singapore schools in the year 2019 and beyond.

Texas

Project Oasis

Andrews Middle School

Andrews, Texas

Kathleen Curry, Meagan Espinoza, Alexia Hernandez, Mariska Hubert, Aubren Jeppesen, Anisa Jimenez, Brieza Levario, Evan Mora, Autumn Rivero, Alexa Rodriguez, Sarah Shaffer, Jage Stokes, Bright Tyler, and Ethan Wade.

Coach: Elizabeth Hill
MT-3104

Because 84.2% of citizens not making efforts to conserve water, Project Oasis set out to increase water conservation in Andrews, Texas so that future generations have increased availability to groundwater. We partnered with AgriLife Extension offices to create and host educational courses and videos for children and adults. We designed a demonstration garden to promote xeric-landscaping, rainwater harvesting, and water wise practices. We met with Justin Cheyne from the City Council and Cory Marshall from the probation offices to discuss the demonstration garden's location and maintenance.

Texas

Project Play Ball!

Smith Middle School

Sinton, Texas

Hailey Burch, Jamie Burch, Charles Ellis, Jayden Gonzales, Addison Kay, Jolie Lankford, Lillian Lozano, Izabella Ohler, and Logan Ohler.

Coach: Elizabeth Nieto and Emma Nieto
MT-3218

Because the Sinton Little League Park facilities are not adequate, how might we, Project Play Ball!, enhance the facilities of the Sinton Little League Park, so that the children of Sinton, Texas have more opportunities to play sports in 2020 and beyond? Project Play Ball! has collaborated with our local Little League board to address some of the problems at the park. We have raised money through a kickball tournament to build a T-ball field in the spring. We created a slideshow to the Sinton 4B Economic Board to help gain funds for Little League to use to make major improvements to the facilities such as replacing rusted fencing, and plumbing repairs to the restrooms.

Thailand

The P.T. Manager

Kasetsart University Laboratory School Center for
Education Research and Development

Bangkok, Bangkok

Sirapop Attapun, Nat Wongsirimaetheekul, Konrawi Padmasiri, Panpaporn Sungsomboon, Poovis Boonyamongkonrat, Kanchanon Sirowate, Phensiri Sawasdeepirom, Methavee Pattanangkul, Auranitcha Krongyuth, Pareena Payackapan, Kantima Man-in, Rarin Yingyongrattanakul, Nithit Chaiwerawattana, Phuvis Komutmas, Abhiwitt Prajaksangsiri, and Phutthiphong Rodboun.

Coaches: Krissana Pokpun and Natnicha Ruenboon
MT-3106

In 2019, we started The P.T. manager project from the problem that our school has lots of plastic waste and the waste sorting system was not efficient so we decided to start the project to manage plastic waste by focusing on waste separation, increasing the value, finding alternative uses for plastic waste, and do some campaigns to educate the students. Examples of our campaign are we hosted Plastic Out camp, built Xmas tree from water bottles, etc. From the campaign we've mentioned above, we can reduce plastic waste and educate the students about the waste separation.

Turkey

Richter

Private Bornova Secondary School

Izmir, Bornova

Basak Gulkaya, Derin Aydin, Elif Naz Tansel, Aslihan Odabasilar, Ada Gunver, Can Polat, Cemre Coskun, Efe Ozbek, Ipek Nur Kara, Beyza Cakin, Derin Durali, Ecrin Sari, and Nehir Bilginer.

Coaches: Fatma Sebnem Sen Aksoy and Nurettin Yurt
MT-3119

Our Social Studies teacher studied on evaluating students' consciousness related with earthquake in classes after the recent earthquakes in our country and in the world. He concluded that students have not enough knowledge about what to do during an earthquake and the precautions which need to be taken before an earthquake. Turkey has faced great earthquakes in history and because of the characteristics of the region and its climate, the country has precise location in terms of dangers which can cause disasters. We can't eliminate danger, however; we can reduce them by getting ready. As Richter Team, what kind of things should we do so that we can raise awareness of students who are 10-14 years old at school?

“Be infinitely flexible and constantly amazed.”

~Jason Kravitz

SENIOR DIVISION CmPS TEAM PROJECT SUMMARIES

Australia

I Act

The Illawarra Grammar School

Figtree, New South Wales

Aaron Avenido, and Tamika Mansell.

Coach: Jean Burton
ST-3204

Autism spectrum disorder is a developmental condition that affects one's social communication and the way one processes information. We have identified that, within our school community, there is only a basic understanding of autism, leading to ignorance and lack of empathy, and this problem extends to our broader community. Our project aims to educate people on autism in order to ensure both people with and without autism feel comfortable interacting with one another and form healthy relationships. Thus far, one of our solutions has been a series of one-hour seminars that debunked common misconceptions surrounding autism, and improved student understanding of autism.

California

Keeping Children Safe Online

Canyon Crest Academy, Torrey Pines High School, and Cathedral Catholic High School

San Diego, California

Stefan Prestrelski, Samantha Prestrelski, Alex Chen, Sam Jafek, and Zoe Lee-Greenblatt.

Coaches: Tracy Yeo, Jennie Wei, Saejung Lee, and Beverly Jafek
ST-3210

Team iSAFE (Internet Safety for Everyone) was founded in 2018 to raise awareness on internet safety among children and provide education to our community. We conducted a community survey and developed a website that provides community-specific resources and a step-to-step “Jungle Guide” for privacy protection on social media. In the past year, we have worked with our local schools and organizations to host parent and student workshops to educate our community on cybersafety topics. These included presentations at the local library and schools (Carmel Valley Middle School, Canyon Crest Academy), and community organizations (Autism Society, Girl Scouts, Girls Who Code).

China

Project on Decreasing the Number of Stray Cats

China Welfare Institute Children's Palace

Shanghai, China

Qixin Wei, Yue Zhang, Youyi Zhang, Tongyao Zhao, Yitu Xue, Zhaoan Lu, and Longjie Hua.

Coaches: Yin Yudian
ST-3219

According to data released by Shanghai Animal Disease Control Center in 2018, the number of stray cats in Shanghai is about 3 million, which has brought many problems to densely populated Shanghai, such as neighborhood dispute, sleeping disturbance, etc. Two scientific ways can address this problem: TNR and cats adoption. We'd like Shanghai people to realize the challenges caused by the high number of stray cats, and the public to know the scientific ways of reducing the number. With this objective, our actions begin!

Florida

Language Without Limits

Flagler Palm Coast High School

Palm Coast, Florida

Chante Miles, Sidney Colino, Rovina Seetaram, Ariana Lopez, Kaylee Briggs, and Emily Marino.

Coaches: Jennifer Santore, Sarah Reckenwald, and Caitlin Hutsell

ST-3216

Language without Limits is a group of 6 high school girls who are dedicated to helping 4th-6th grade ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages) children succeed in today's English-dominant environment. By teaching the children social English skills, L.W.L. helps them break-down the language barriers they may face. The meetings on Wednesday afternoons go as follows: lesson taught using the L.W.L. lesson plan, a paper activity, a fun game related to the lesson. The members have formed a personal connection with each student and are welcoming to any new-comers.

Florida

Project Renew

Flagler Palm Coast High School

Palm Coast, Florida

Isabella Colindres, Paul Grau, Madelynn Oliva, Sean Gilliam, Arabella Borges, Emma Lindsley, Alan Hale, and Emma Zverinsky.

Coaches: Jennifer Santore, Sarah Reckenwald, and Caitlin Hutsell

ST-3217

Libraries are a cherished place that children enjoy visiting, but many libraries throughout the world lack resources specifically designed for teens. Project Renew is striving to increase the number of resources for teens throughout Flagler County's public libraries. Over the last two years, Project Renew has worked with the Flagler County Public Library on how to bring more teens to the library. At the Flagler County Public Library, Project Renew initiated a Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.) and opened a new Teen Spot with additional resources. Project Renew also began to work with Flagler County's school librarians to start bringing new resources into their spaces.

Illinois

The Vape Tapes

PORTA High School

Petersburg, Illinois

Sarah Meister, Andrea Sexton, and Ripley Zanger.

Coach: Rachel Chalmers

ST-3207

Vaping is a serious problem in our school. Students often hang out in the bathroom so they can vape rather than go to class. We knew we had to try and minimize vaping because of the dangers it poses to students' health. We are creating short videos with simple yet powerful messages that we hope will make people think twice about picking up vaping. Our videos will demonstrate the dangers of vaping, we will compare it to doing stupid acts, and will invite students to quit by providing an anonymous text line to help them.

“The measure of intelligence is the ability to change.”

~Albert Einstein

Kentucky

For Students by Students Tutoring

Johnson Central High School

Paintsville, Kentucky

Brooklyn Arms, Erica Jayne, and Chrystalen Stambaugh.

Coach: Jarred Gipson

ST-3212

For Students By Students Tutoring is a free tutoring program provided to students of W.R. Castle Elementary School by three high school students. We currently hold group and/or private sessions twice a week as well as virtual sessions. We will soon be hosting a school supply donation drive in addition to providing tutoring help through our website in mid-summer. Since our project began we have doubled the amount of students we provide tutoring to and students test scores and grades have raised. Students are excited to learn and go to school compared to the beginning of the year.

Kentucky

Project Future: A New Era

Floyd Central High School

Eastern, Kentucky

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

Coach: Bobby Akers

ST-3213

A New Era is aiming to increase job opportunities to people in our community by creating a job shadowing program.

Michigan

Operation H.O.P.E. (Hawks Out Preventing Exploitation)

Athens High School

Troy, Michigan

Arnav Shah, Julia Voyt, Justin Esdale, Anna Petrisko, Renée Elian, Krishna Kottai, Shristi Bagalkoti, Zara Mirza, and Ajitesh Kundeti.

Coach: Ami Shah

ST-3211

Human Trafficking is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world, exploiting 40.3 million people. Operation H.O.P.E. (Hawks Out Preventing Exploitation) focuses on connecting resources in our community to combat human trafficking in Metro-Detroit. We organized numerous events, including a clothes, food and toiletry drive to aid local survivors. We made Valentine's day cookies and wrote uplifting cards to let victims know we cared. We also made an awareness video on the topic. Finally, we raised over 180K dollars for a local organization by working with the student council.

New Jersey

Junior Coding League

West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North

Plainsboro, New Jersey

Aneesh Durai, Archit Mehta, Akash Srinivasan, Ruthvik Mukkamala, and Sahir Mir.

Coach: Katie Foley

ST-3202

Junior Coding League is a project that aims to solve the problem that several communities throughout the area are lacking effective and affordable computer science education and programs for students at an early age. We provide elementary and middle school students with free coding education by hosting programs at local libraries where students learn to innovate and apply coding skills by creating real-world projects.

New Jersey

Project FaceTime

Mahwah High School

Mahwah, New Jersey

Aditya Anur, Jake Garza, Anna Porucznik, Brianna DeMarco, Caroline Passaro, Keerit Grewal, and Madison Mariani.

Coaches: Justin Saputski and Christine Hartigan-Miller

ST-3201

Studies show that overuse of cell phones can lead to many different problems. It is very essential to encourage teenagers to disconnect from their phones because it can lead to maladaptive usage. Project Face Time gives teenagers positive alternatives to constant cell phone use.

New Zealand

Kumanu NZ - The Buddy Bench Guardian Program

Manurewa High School

Auckland, New Zealand

Wendy Duong, Gemma Peck, Anyana Tonga, Natalie Trinh, and Frances Peterson.

Coach: Ambure Giborees

ST-3208

KUMANU NZ began in 2018 through the Buddy Bench. A safe space for primary students to visit during break times developing their Social & Communication skills while talking about issues they face. We formed together as a group, to bring awareness to the rising Mental Health statistics in our Neighbourhood. We then developed the Buddy Bench Guardian program - training selected students and providing them with the tools and knowledge to deal with issues kids face today so that they in turn could teach others. We began with two nearby Schools and expanded in 2019 reaching 10 schools across Auckland.

“A flexible mind has a better chance to think differently and take a unique path in the life journey.”

~Pearl Zhu

New Zealand

Student Forward

Kristin School

Auckland, New Zealand

Evy Hwangbo, Claire Liang, and Chris Furlong.

Coach: Helen Mansfield

ST-3218

We have created and developed Student Forward to be the online platform technology to connect, discuss, and start action with other students, by students, for students. Connection at Student Forward is about connecting the diverse global student community through easily accessible tools. All discussion on our platform is focused on being open and accessible to as many students as possible. All of the students taking action on our platform connect, to share their progress and experience - to inspire and share perspectives and new action in different corners of the globe.

Singapore

Project Auxilium

Hwa Chong Institution

Singapore, Singapore

Wei Chern Ooi, Zeen Chia, Matthew Koh, Aloysius Chin, and Xinyan Liao.

Coach: Jean Ng

ST-3215

Our group has partnered with MIJ education hub to provide help and education to special needs individuals. We aim to promote the integration of special needs individuals into society and seek to achieve this by honing the interpersonal skills of students through heightened interaction with the public. To achieve this, we organized weekly interaction sessions and communication skills lessons to develop their interpersonal skills and build their confidence. Mass events such as carnivals were also held to grant students greater public exposure, providing opportunities for meaningful interaction to raise public awareness regarding the challenges faced by special needs individuals.

Singapore

Project IDentity

Hwa Chong Institution

Singapore, Singapore

Avier Tan Kai Wen, Bryan Toh Yu Him, Joash Poon, Wayne Leong, and Yuyang Xu.

Coach: Anuradha Boyanapalli

ST-3214

In Singapore, despite society's aims to become more inclusive towards members with disabilities, Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (PWIDs) face certain challenges such as lack of employment, social stigma from the public and over-reliance on their caregivers to carry out basic daily tasks. Project IDentity aims to solve these problems by focusing on equipping PWIDs with social and technical skills to help them become more self-sustaining and enhance their integration into society, and in addition, help to raise public awareness about IDs to increase acceptance levels of PWIDs in Singapore.

Texas

Bridging the Gap

Early High School

Early, Texas

Korbin Barr, Sidney Beckett, Jaci Bleth, Aaron Callaway, Madison Green, Seth LaRue, Cooper Neel, Hanna Pittman, and Christopher Zondag.

Coaches: Diann Biddle and Peggy Morales
ST-3206

Early CmPS chose to make a difference in residents' lives at a local retirement home in their community. The Underlying Problem for the project was: In Brown County, at a time when isolated retirement home residents are lacking necessary, stable relationships from family from family and friends on a daily basis, how might we, the Early CmPS Team, increase valuable social relationships with residents of Oak Ridge Manor, so that many can enjoy a sense of purposeful community in 2019 and beyond? Students went weekly to Oak Ridge Manor to play games and participate in engaging activities with the residents.

Texas

Readiness Across Mathematics Initiative

Bellaire High School

Houston, Texas

Zaid Ali, Amy He, Serena Hou, Safia Khan, Angela Ling, David Tang, Stephanie Tang, Meghna Yennu, Samiha Zaman, Annie Zhu, and Shirley Zhu.

Coaches: Annie Zhu and Shirley Zhu
ST-3205

The underlying problem is: In 2019-20, when 22% of 4th-6th grade students of the Old Spanish Trail and South Union regions of Houston do not approach the mathematics STAAR standards, how might we, the Readiness Across Mathematics Initiative, increase the math resources available to these struggling students so that math test scores of students increase? The RAM Initiative team led one summer camp and six workshops where students completed worksheets that drilled math skills for standardized tests and played fun math-related games. The RAM team also created a web application and raised funds for classrooms in the underserved community.

Turkey

Oil For Future

Izmir Ozel Bornova Okyanus Koleji

Izmir, Bornova

Eylul Aginler, Rana Sanli, Eray Ceylan, Harun Odabasi, Sudenaz Incesu, Ipek Kokuoglu, Defne Koc, and Dilanur Taner.

Coach: Nil Orhan Özteber and Emine Kaba
ST-3220

In this project, we acquainted 1000 people who lived Bornova, İzmir, Turkey and 20 waste oil-producing workplaces with waste oils. As a result, we gathered 200-liter waste oils. Furthermore, we signed a protocol with a company about exchanging waste oils with sapling fee.

CmPS INDIVIDUAL PROJECT SUMMARIES

China

Fit For Body

Huaxin Experimental Primary School, Jiangbei District

Chongqing, China

Haozhe Deng

Junior

Coaches: Xi Chen, Ting Wang, Yun Wang, Yan Liu, Fenglian Chuan, and Yajie Zuo
JI-3402

Studies have shown that obese children are more susceptible to diseases such as fatty liver, hypertension, and coronary heart disease. Childhood obesity can also cause abnormal fat metabolism and abnormal glucose metabolism, which is also an early syndrome of childhood diabetes. It may also increase the incidence of chronic diseases such as diabetes in adulthood. I want to raise the awareness of children and adolescents on a healthy diet to better prevent obesity.

China

Plan of F.E.H.L.(Focus on Elderlies with Hearing Loss)

Chongqing BaShu Ivy Academy

Chongqing, China

Yan Jia Tang

Middle

Coach: Tang Feng
MI-3506

Through promotional campaigns, Plan of F.E.H.L.:
Educates the elderly population to improve their knowledge about hearing loss, which includes its influences and consequences, promotes social awareness on age-related hearing losses, and improves the quality of medical care in age-related hearing losses in Chongqing Municipality.

Illinois

Pre-Kindergarten to Kindergarten: Involving Parents in School Readiness

Genoa-Kingston High School

Genoa, Illinois

Robbie Hill

Middle

Coach: Stephanie Hill
MI-3502

Learning from birth to the age of two is critical for development. Most parents need assistance to prepare their students for kindergarten. This CMPS project partners with the DeKalb County Basics, who aim is to educate parents on six strategies to prepare their children for learning in kindergarten. This is accomplished through creating an informational video for the Basics organization that professionals in medical, educational, and social agencies can utilize in diverse locations such as barbershops, churches, and other locations that parents frequent to both motivate them to participate in the program and reinforce these six skills.

Illinois

Project Caring Community

Richmond-Burton High School
Amelia Guanci

Richmond, Illinois
Senior

Coach: Brad Kaminsky
SI-3601

This project is focused around teaching the community how to embrace and support LGBTQ+ people. Due to a local culture that has little place for inclusive dialects, my school's LGBTQ+ outreach is non-existent. After I found myself trapped in situations that disrespected my identity, I decided that enough is enough. This project emerged as a response to homophobia so that LGBTQ+ students in my community can feel safe, and so that prospective allies have a resource to help them be supportive.

Iowa

Kindness is Key

Central Lee Middle School
Aubrey Weber

Donnellson, Iowa
Junior

Coach: Hollie Weber
JI-3401

This project worked to develop opportunities for regular education students to develop knowledge and empathy about neurologically different students within their school while also creating opportunities for neurologically different students to interact in positive social learning opportunities with other peers. A theme week was developed, activities were planned, and a coffee cart for teachers were all created to increase the opportunities students had to key in on being kind to one another.

Kentucky

Get S.A.F.E.

Leslie County High School
Abbey Howard

Hyden, Kentucky
Senior

Coach: Kiristen Webb
SI-3604

Project Get S.A.F.E. (safety awareness for everyone): Leslie county is nestled in Central Appalachia. When I began to look at the problems that faced my community, I noticed that Safety within our schools was an issue. My brother was diagnosed at an early age with Supraventricular Tachycardia (SVT) and always depended on my mother who works at his school to assist when he has an episode. This has led me to develop an S.A.F.E. Emergency Medical Plan which consists of a Student ID card to access information fast and easily in an emergency situation.

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”

~“The Lion and the Mouse”, Aesop Fables

Mississippi

Mission Cinderella

Whitmore Online School
Emma Suggs

Madison, Mississippi
Senior

Coaches: Deb Morali and Nikki Musgrove
SI-3605

In the state of Mississippi human trafficking has been reported as one of the biggest hidden crimes. Often victims of sex trafficking need basic hygiene products they do not have access to. Mission Cinderella has worked to increase the amount of basic hygiene products available for victims of sex trafficking. By providing Next Step bags to law enforcement and task force teams to have when a victim is picked up across the state of Mississippi in 2019 and beyond.

New Zealand

Above the Glass Ceiling

Kristin School
Tiffany Ho

Auckland, New Zealand
Middle

Coach: Helen Mansfield
MI-3504

My project is based on the premise that there are huge, acknowledged benefits when gifted, like-minded students can come together to interact in meaningful, intellectually challenging and stimulating ways. My research showed a current lack of readily accessible education opportunities and supports devoted to furthering gifted youth's unique learning needs, so I set up my own programmes. My project is based on a model whereby other gifted students can 'copy' my programme ideas to set up similar satellite Above the Glass Ceiling groups.

North Carolina

Food Savers

Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy
Radhika Unnikrishnan

Charlotte, North Carolina
Middle

Coach: Ambika Shyamala
MI-3501

The goals of this project are to bring awareness on the negative effects of food waste, ways to reduce the food waste and establishing food waste prevention strategies in my school and other events that I attend. To accomplish these goals I established collection tables, share tables, donated 33 pounds of food to a food bank and conducted Zero Food Waste challenge in Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy. Created a Food Savers Club to promote awareness on food waste. I presented at 2 different events where I got 15 people to join the club I created, The Food Savers Club.

*“We can’t take any credit for our talents.
It’s how we use them that counts.”*

~Madeleine L’Engle, A Wrinkle in Time

Project Heartbeat

Bellaire High School
Amiel Katz

Houston, Texas
Senior

Coaches: Annie Zhu and Shirley Zhu
SI-3602

Project Heartbeat was created to persuade district representatives with quantitative research that universal health coverage is the best solution to the health disparity in my community. My underlying problem is: In the years 2019-2020, when the people of the Pulga Loca Fleamarket lack access to medical care, how might I, Project Heartbeat, generate research on the correlation between lack of healthcare access and overall physical well-being of this community, so that I can persuade district representatives that healthcare reform is necessary? My best accomplishment is giving direct help to the people in my community, which the government lacks in doing.

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”

~Dr. Seuss





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