

Project Title: Advancing Minority and Underserved students within HOSA-Future Health Professionals at Bellevue East

Timeline: June 2019 - June 2020

Funds Requested: \$20, 000

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Abstract Proposal: Bellevue East High School proposes a project to provide funding to advance our CTSO HOSA-Future Health Professionals. The purpose would allow qualified students the opportunity to enhance learning opportunities by attending both State and International Leadership Conferences. This would provide students with more hands on learning experiences, access to advanced professionals in their desired field of study and reduce financial stress on median or low income students who would not likely be able to attend such events.

Project Description: This funding will be utilized as a way to create more learning opportunities for HOSA students. This will be particularly helpful in allowing minority and or low income students a chance to travel to state and national competitions. Bellevue East HOSA program consists of $\frac{1}{3}$ low income and minority students. Statistically, these students are less likely to pursue advanced education. By providing extended learning opportunities students will become more invested in their future career goals and will hopefully move on to post secondary education.

This project will be guided by the HOSA advisors, which will include oversight from Bellevue East administration. Funding will be utilized to pay for state and national fees, transportation costs, accomodation and professional HOSA uniform attire. Supplies required for competitive events will be purchased and provided to students.

Vision and Purpose:

1. Connections to the PFI Areas of Focus and Purpose State

Secondary - Postsecondary Transitions

- This project will strengthen secondary-post secondary transitions in multiple ways: 1) Create positive learning experiences for students who are underserved in Healthcare pathways. 2) Provide financial assistance to allow students to move beyond state events and expose them to larger scale events and opportunities. 3) In affiliation with our state and national HOSA boards, scholarships and post secondary information is provided to students to expose them to career pathways and environments.

Statewide Partnerships and Initiatives

- By exposing students to scholarships and higher learning experiences they will have a higher likelihood of advancing to a post secondary institution, most commonly in Nebraska.

2. How is this activity innovative?

- All activities at state and national events are innovative learning experiences, however providing funding to allow students to attend without incurring personal cost is not only innovative but also a huge benefit to students.

3. Overall Outcomes

- After students have had the opportunity to attend both state and national level events they will have gained a larger appreciation for the healthcare field and developed a stronger sense of purpose and desire to pursue further education in the medical field.
- Students will be able to share their experience with younger students at both Bellevue East and at our district middle schools. Students create community awareness projects that are utilized both for competition and for promoting our Bellevue East HOSA program.

Needs Statement:

1. Data which supports the purpose of the proposal

There is a statistically lower representation of racial and ethnic group members in health occupations relative to their numbers in the general population. At Bellevue East we have a higher number of minority students participating in HOSA. Over 50% of Bellevue East students attending state HOSA are minority students. Currently 30% of our HOSA students are African American, 15% are hispanic and 10% are listed as "other" (consisting of Asian, native American, Pacific Islander).

According to Jordan J. Cohen, Barbara A. Gabriel, and Charles Terrell in their research article, *The Case For Diversity In The Health Care Workforce*, the long-term solution to achieving adequate diversity in the health professions depends upon fundamental reforms of our country's pre-college education system. Bellevue East's HOSA program has been listed as one of the fastest growing and more successful programs in Nebraska over the past 3 years. In order to maintain growth and allow more students to have greater exposure to advanced competition and learning opportunities, we need to be able to provide a more affordable way for students to pursue these experiences.

Bellevue East is a community of moderate to low income students. We are currently listed by the state of Nebraska as a school with 44.8% of our students receiving free and reduced lunch. We have a population of 30.5% minority students. More than half of our minority population falls into the free and reduced lunch category.

2. Communicate the Needs based on the Data

Given the above facts, it is clear that providing more exposure and opportunities to minority and lower income students will produce a desired outcome of advancing their education. As such, it is fair to say that financial barriers to attending any learning experiences outside of the regular school programming becomes increasingly challenging for these students. Providing a low to no cost opportunity will increase student participation and lead to higher learning outcomes.

3. Identify the Stakeholders impacted by this activity and how they will be served.

This activity benefits many stakeholders both within the Bellevue school district and community. By allowing students better access to advanced learning through state and national events, we will be increasing our student involvement in both Health Science education classes at Bellevue East and in turn providing higher quality pre-college experiences. Instructors who attend these events with students will also be provided with more professional development opportunities which can then be transferred to direct instruction in the classroom.

Goals and Objectives

Goals: Create a secure funding plan to provide Bellevue East students an opportunity to attend both state and national HOSA conferences at little to no cost.

Objectives:

Activity 1 - utilize PFI funding to subsidize the cost for 10-15 students to attend the International Leadership Conference in Orlando, FL from June 17-23, 2019.

Activity 2 - Utilize PFI funding to subsidize the cost of membership to HOSA and state HOSA competition fees for 25-50 students (depending on membership numbers)

Activity 3 - Utilize PFI funding to subsidize the cost for all qualified students (top 3 in state event or junior or senior standing) to attend the International Leadership Conference in Houston, TX in June 2020.

Impact on Career and Technical Education

1. Identify the number of students/teachers and partners involved

Bellevue East HOSA is not limited in the number of participants involved, however, for the 2019 ICL we will have 2 advisors and 12-15 attending. Over an 18 month period over 50-100 students can be impacted by providing state exposure and then potential national exposure.

In a high school setting the more students see others participating and getting experience the more likely they are to want to become involved. Hopefully with success we will see a larger number of students of all backgrounds choosing to participate in Health Science classes and belong to the CTSO, HOSA- Future Health Professionals.

2. Impact of the activity on student learning and or professional growth.

Research has proven that students who are actively involved in extra-curricular activities have a stronger connection to their school and a larger investment in their educational future. This access to advanced learning experiences for the students will provide them with opportunities to collaborate with other health professionals outside of the school setting. This will not only expose them to current and expanded medical knowledge from experts in the field but it also increases student access to professionals outside of the secondary setting. This will make these

opportunities more accessible to those from lower socio-economic backgrounds and provide a more level “playing field” for all students regardless of demographic.

3. Relevance to the Nebraska Career Field Model, Economic and Workforce Development.

Nebraska follows a statistical pattern very similar to that seen in the general US population, that only 15% of healthcare workers are derived from diverse populations. The acquisition of skilled health care workers coming from diverse backgrounds would enhance Nebraska’s existing demographics. Studies have shown that many people from lower socio economic backgrounds or those that come from minority communities are less likely to seek health care. By having more minority employees in skilled positions, we would hope that we would see an increase in people from culturally diverse backgrounds seeking appropriate medical care.

Statewide Impact

1. How will the activity reach secondary/post secondary consortia members?

Bellevue East will work with the Nebraska Department of Education to reach schools that currently do not offer Health Science or HOSA programs. Collectively, Health Science Education is largely underrepresented at the secondary level and by working NDE to encourage HOSA at more secondary schools, including middle schools, we can be providing a stepping stone for students to pursue advanced education in a health related field, without schools needing to change current curriculum.

2. Nebraska Career Clusters or Fields addressed.

The primary career cluster that this project will address is the Health Sciences career pathway. However, we also recognize that the introduction to Health Sciences also may encompass the Human Sciences and Education cluster as well.

3. Collaboration with external stakeholders/partners

Bellevue East HOSA will collaborate with middle schools within Bellevue and work with NDE to disseminate our information about the increase of underserved students participating in CTSOs and health science programming.

Proposed Method of Delivery

The 2019 International Leadership Conference will take place from June 17-23 in Orlando, Florida. Future delivery would happen during the 2019-2020 school year, with both state and national conferences taking place in 2020.

Evaluation: describe the project evaluation plan as it relates to the goals and objectives.

Project organizers will measure effectiveness by obtaining written summaries and surveys from students upon graduation from Bellevue East. This will allow us to examine the effectiveness of the HOSA program in helping students develop an interest in Health Careers.

A secondary measure would be noted in our overall participation at both state and national events. If we have more students who are able to participate due to the reduction of the financial barriers then this project will have proven successful.

Budget Plan

Budget Narrative:

Utilize the funding to provide conference expenses for as many qualified (placing in the top 3 at state) as possible.

Example						total
Activity A: cost for 10-15 students to attend the International Leadership Conference and 2 chaperones		HOSA uniform - Jacket \$100 (only require 3-5 as we have several on hand)	airfare: \$450 - as of March 7, 2019 Lodging: \$200/night x 6 nights	\$110/per person	\$1000-2000 of student fundraising	\$12,800-15,600 Depending on number of students attending
Activity B: cost of membership to HOSA and state HOSA competition fees for 25-50 students				HOSA membership costs \$14/person State conference fees \$40/person		For total of 25 = 375 50 = 700 25 = 1000 50 = 2000
Activity C: attend the International Leadership Conference in Houston, Tx in June 2020			Airfare - based on 10 students and 2 chaperones Approx \$300 Lodging: \$200/night x 5 nights	\$110/per person	\$1000-2000 of student fundraising	\$10,920

Grand total of request: based on the above numbers, accounting for the largest student qualifiers, the total cost would be 29,220. This is larger than what we are requesting at this time. We would like to make our request a reasonable amount so as to allow other groups to learn from our planning.

Other ideas/thoughts to consider:

Ideally we would like to cover the cost for all students who qualify to attend the International Leadership Conference. It is difficult to predict how many students will reach that standard each year. Therefore, we request a set amount of funding that would be dispersed evenly among qualified students to reduce cost to a manageable level. This will provide underserved students the best possible opportunity to be able to access these advanced learning experiences.