

Service-Learning in Health

Course: **Comprehensive Health**

School: **Hamilton High School**

Community Partner:
Wisconsin Donor Network and community members who are recipients of donated organs

Project Name: **Organ Donation – Myths & Facts**



Project Snapshot

After learning of the need for organ donation in Milwaukee, health students partnered with the Wisconsin Donor Network to research the facts and cultural myths about the topic. They also educated themselves on how to be effective advocates.

Based on their discoveries, the students put together awareness campaigns to help dispel myths within the community and encourage organ donation. Students created informational posters to hang around the school and wrote pieces for morning announcements.

To reach the community outside the school, students hosted a booth at school basketball games where they provided information on how to become a donor and invited guests to spin a trivia wheel to test their knowledge of organ donor facts and myths.

To “bring it home,” students wrote letters to their parents explaining their beliefs and wishes if something were to happen to them.

Reflecting on the experience, one student wrote, “Just hearing people’s stories, it makes me feel like everyone should be an organ donor. I spent a lot of time throughout the semester trying to make kids think about the fact that it could one day be them who will be in need. We need to think of others and how we can make our community a better place.”

Community Need/Issue Addressed

Good Health and Well-being*

According to the United Network for Organ Sharing, every 10 minutes, someone is added to the national transplant waiting list. On average, 20 people die each day while waiting for a transplant. One organ donor can save eight lives.

Through their ongoing campaigns, students have been able to dispel myths and increase the number of people willing to donate organs.

**from United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development <https://www.globalgoals.org>*