

INTRODUCTION

Throughout U.S., low-income students make up the majority. However they are still less likely to graduate from high school compared to their higher income counterparts.

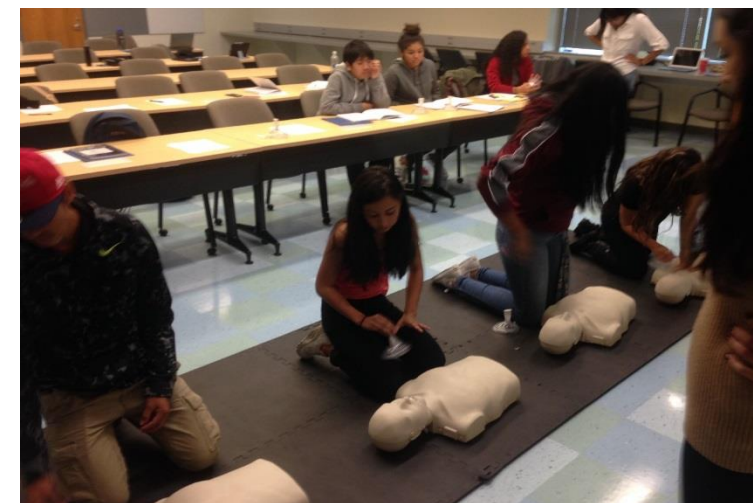
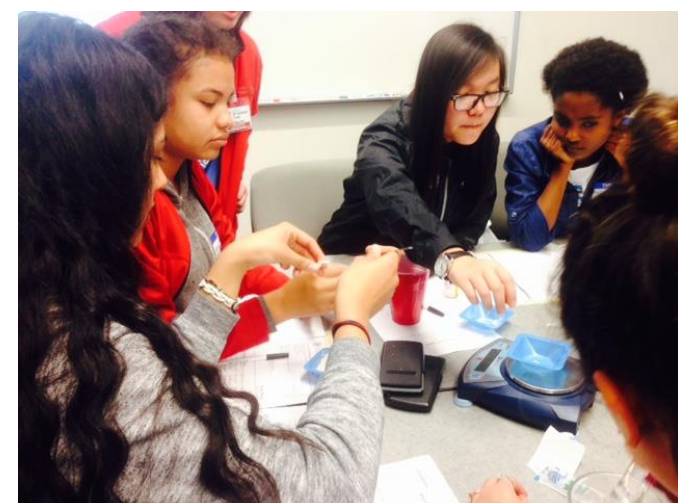
Factors that promote this gap

- An under resourced education system
- Low socioeconomic status
 - Parents' levels of education.
 - Violence and drug-ridden neighborhoods.

Pipeline programs serve a purpose to close this gap, by providing the necessary opportunities to help provide assistance to these students.

My fellow classmate, Ian Simpson-Shelton, and I created the pipeline program, **Health Professions Recruitment and Exposure Program (HPREP)**. The purpose of the program is to help close the education gap in San Diego.

HPREP is a program that provides educational and social support to students from disadvantaged neighborhoods.



The pictures above show: Calculating pill size w/ pharmacy students; CPR certification training; learning about the San Diego free clinic

METHODS

- We chose to work with Kearny Mesa, Lincoln, and Hoover High school.
 - Received 35 applications and accepted 12 students.
 - Accepted students based on performance in school, a personal statement, family income, and letter of recommendations.
- HPREP started in August 2016 and will end in June 2019.
- The students meet at UCSD School of Medicine once or twice every month on Saturday (10AM-3:30PM).
 - From 10AM – 12PM students are taught a lesson.
 - From 1PM – 3PM students work on their community projects.
- On each Saturday session we have undergraduates, medical students, pharmacy students, and physicians come to give lessons.
 - Lesson held thus far: Health Disparities, Nutrition, Digestive System, Hypertension, Diabetes, Pharmacy Topics, CPR Training, Laboratory Techniques, Microbiology, Ultrasound and Suturing Session.
- With every session, we leave the last 2 hours for students to work on a community project.
 - Students were put into 3 person groups and they chose a topic.
 - Topics: Substance Abuse, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease, Obesity.
 - The students analyze the relation and impact these diseases or issues have on their own communities.
 - Students will be presenting their projects June 10th 2017.
- Survey Data
 - The students were sent surveys to fill out, which went over the general impact HPREP has had on them this past year.
 - 10 students filled out the survey

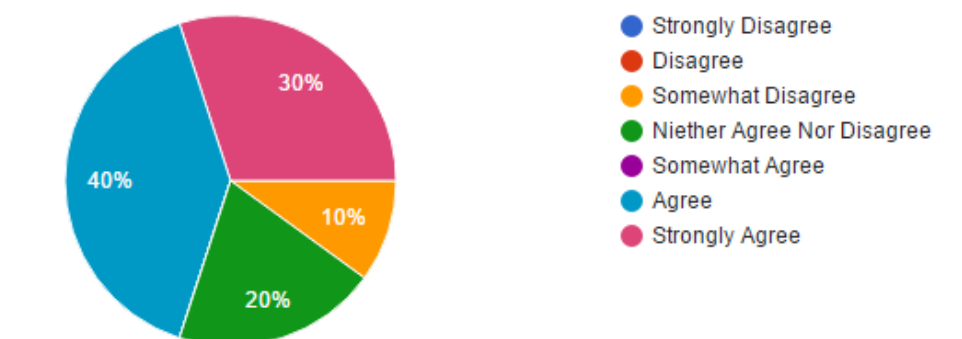


- Beach day, learning fundamental of ultrasound on model, learning the functions of a light microscope

FINDINGS

HPREP has helped improve my academic performance in school.

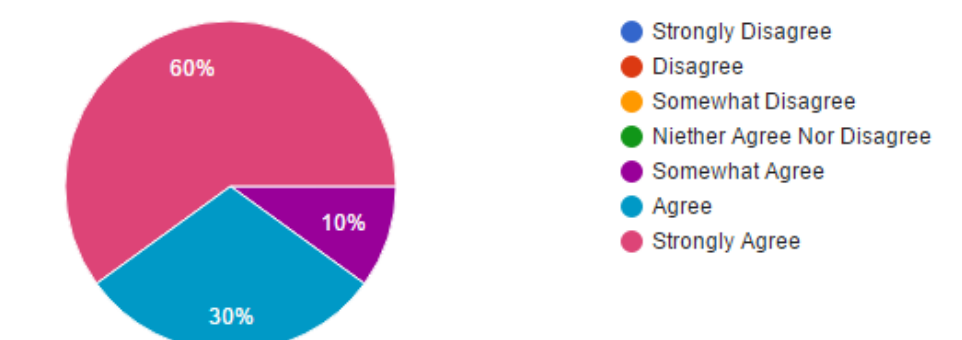
10 responses



- Over the course of the year, students seemed to feel that HPREP has helped their performance in school, whereas some did not see much improvement.

HPREP has given me a better understanding of health disparities within a community.

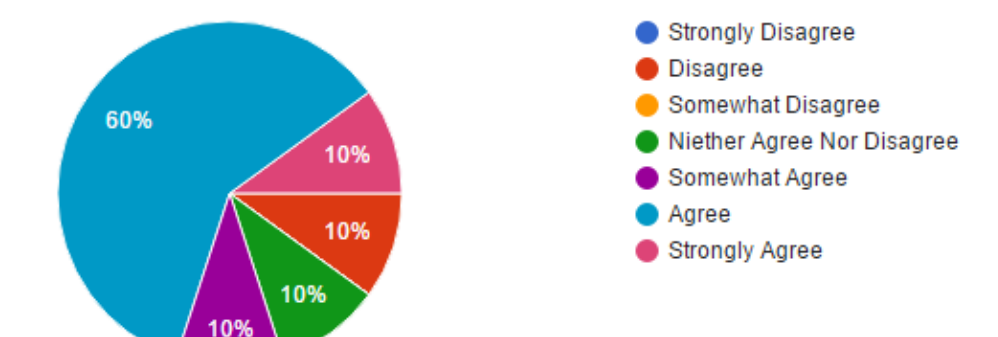
10 responses



- The students had a better understanding of what health disparities were by the end of the year.

I am worried I will not be able to attend college due to cost of tuition.

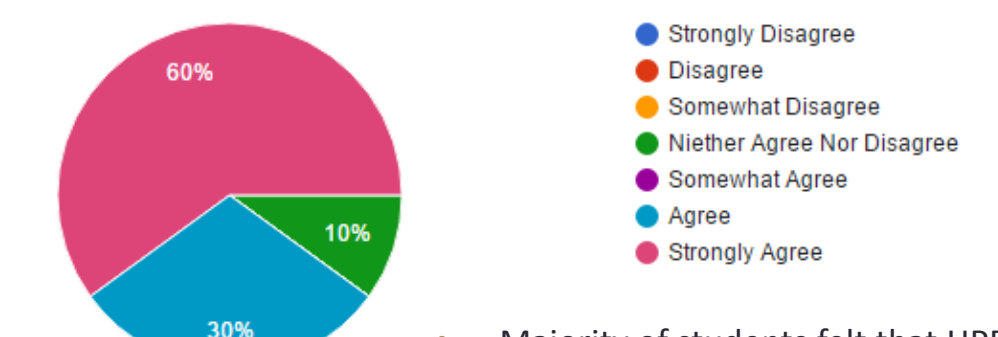
10 responses



- College tuition is still a big fear amongst the students.

HPREP has improved my chances of attending a 4 year university.

10 responses



- Majority of students felt that HPREP has made attending a four year university more of a possibility.

CONCLUSIONS

The results provide some suggestions for to improve the program for the next school year:

- First, we plan to make sure that HPREP has a positive impact on each student's academic performance in school. We will need to stay up to date with the students progress reports and make sure they are receiving the proper aid.
- Second, the fear of being able to afford college is still high amongst our students. To lessen this burden, we will help students apply for scholarships nationally and locally.
- Third, the program saw large improvements in what the students understood about health outcomes and health disparities – this was a main objective of the first year of the HPREP program.