

Haley Schultz

Sociology 222

Reflection

This project taught me how to gather information and develop a grant to expand the Family Fun Times activities to other counties. I feel as though this is a very important skill to have for any career choice that I may have in the future. Since I have worked on the program development, implementation and assessment process for the last couple of semesters, I feel very passionate about it. Being able to work on the next step of this program has opened up my eyes to what we are accomplishing. I have been able to hear different insights of people who feel as though these programs truly help our community here in Farmville and surrounding counties. Not only has this project increased my knowledge of developing grants, but also skills on how to successfully create a community outreach program.

The project informed my understanding of other course content related to parenting and child development by finding connections between data of what is best for child development and observation of what this project does directly in our community. I felt that learning and applying was the best way for me to absorb the content. The project also gives you a feeling of accomplishment that a test does not. Yes, I could study for weeks for a test and get an A; however, once the class is completed you forget about that work to get the A. Unlike a test, this project has an impactful meaning to my time here at Longwood and gives me information and skills that I can use throughout my whole life.

In Kayla and I's part in this project I do not feel as though there are any areas for improvement. Everything has run very smoothly and effectively. The strengths of this project are

the potential benefits it has for not only Kayla and me but also classes after us. Although some students may take this class to fill a requirement, some students sign up who feel passionate about this project. I think that is a very strong characteristic of this class. The ability to join a class that makes an impact outside of the classroom is very enticing. I feel as though this class demonstrates the Civitae curriculum in action.

Throughout this project, I gained many professional skills that I got to improve on as the semester went on. One of these skills being interviews. I worked to construct emails to schedule interviews, develop interview questions, and use interviewing methods I learned in Sociology 345. I have not had a class that allowed me to enhance those skills and I am very grateful that I have. I think these skills set me apart from others when applying to jobs or grad school.

I think that Kayla and I are a perfect research pair. I think we both brought valuable ideas to the table and were able to work together to do everything seamlessly. I feel as though we both cared about this project and wanted to create something that has the potential to expand this program.