

DTL Inequity Symposium

Chicago Team 5(CHI5) - Enforcers

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**Lack of leadership and empowerment in
underserved high school students**



Background to Need Statements

Status Quo:

- A significant amount of high schools in Lake and Cook County,IL are **severely underperforming** --> low scores and achievements
Ex: Our school has 5% low income students while a nearby school has **51.5% low income students** at Wheeling High School
- Students in such schools were seen to be far **less motivated** making them more likely to be stagnant members of society
- These less empowered communities faced **less academic performance as well as more homelessness and violence**, a major setback in a student's life
- We as a team felt this lack of empowerment and leadership must be addressed for the betterment of students lives

Key Insights from Research

After Researching Through Multiple School Reports we found that:

- Schools with 40-60% of the student body receiving free lunches(low-income students) have the following trends:
 1. **More than 50%** of the student body quantifies that **they feel a lack of effective leadership** within their school.
 2. **Only 5-15% of students are proficient** in standardized **math and english tests**
 3. There is an average of **30-40% achievement gap** between **low income students and students with above average household income**
 4. **AP Classes enrollment** is low around **10-15%** out of the whole student body
 5. Average **SAT** score is **450** in both sections (**900/1600**)
 6. **3-5%** of **homeless** student body
- These schools receive very low funding and are at high risk of losing many opportunities
- High trend of absence

The facts above signify a lack of self-empowerment throughout the underserved high school students



Final Need Statements(Top 3)

1. **A way to address the lack of educational resources for the ELL students at Wheeling High School in order to get an increase in standardized test scores by 5 percent.**
1. **2. A way to address the lack of educational proficiency on standardized tests for the underserved student body at Wheeling High School in order to increase the standardized SAT Reading and math test scores to at least a 500 for both sections.**
1. **A way to address the lack of educational proficiency in core subjects for the 49.5% low income household high school kids of Streamwood High School in order to ensure at least 5% increase on proficiency at Math and English standardized tests.**

DTL PHASE 2

Brainstorming

Need Statement Selection:

Must Have	Nice to Have
stakeholders/organizations who are willing to work together for a solution	A solution that is effective and sustainable
manageable in the time frame/viable	A solution that provides financial stability opportunities
locally implementable: stays within local boundaries and coincides with laws/policies	A solution that allows students to have resources for the school day
A solution that is accessible regardless of economic status	A solution that is reasonable- not exceeding financial feasibility
A solution that can be implementable no matter the location of student	A solution that provides shelter
	A solution that trains students to be more empowered in the long run
	A solution that provides group homes for a great number of homeless students
	A solution that is considerate of natural conditions, ex: rain, snow, storms, etc
	A solution that provides proper nutrition
	A solution that educates students to stray away from coping mechanisms such as violence, alcoholism, etc
	A solution that provides proper clothing and books
	A solution that provides access to technology for a viable future

After finding our top 3 need statements we made a must-have and a nice-to-have for all 3 and picked this needs statement as our top area:

A way to address the lack of resources for the way to address the lack of educational proficiency for the ELL students at Wheeling High School in order to get an increase standardized test scores by 5 percent.

Insights From Stakeholders

Main Three Stakeholder Meetings(so Far):

1. The principal of Wheeling High School, Dr. Hubbard:
 - high amount of first-gen and immigrant students
 - education gap
 - language/communication gap
 - Goodman Foundation, Good Neighbor, Mckinney Vento Act, and Omni Youth Services (meeting set up)
 - There is also an AVID program for ELL learners
 - Newcomers Center
1. Mrs. Weigel, an athletic director:
 - student-athletes at WHS are disadvantaged
 - cannot exposed to the sport that they play in middle school
 - Mrs.Weigel also mentioned the programs that they fund and utilize to undocumented residents.
1. Mr. Varela, an AVID teacher:
 - ELs AVID and AVID programs
 - applications-certain amount of people qualify(limit on resources)
 - preparing for post high school life
 - main problem underserved high schoolers face is the **lack of involvement of parents, not due to choice but due to circumstances.**

****We have 3 more stakeholder meetings that are lined up****

