12-5-2017

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

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The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

By Ben Brikman

Service Learning Experience

Semester Reflection

Expectations

Future Change, Effort, and Outcomes

Differences I Made for the Site

Personal Learning

Social Problem/Issue

Research

Cystic Fibrosis

Cystic Fibrosis, which is a common lung disease that produces thick mucus in the lungs which often leads to respiratory infections and reduces one’s breathing, continues to affect many children, parents, and families of those patients that have a strikingly low life expectancy (Antoniou, 2016). According to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Patient registry, the official registry for the biggest CF organization, there are more than 70,000 people worldwide that are currently living with Cystic Fibrosis. Nearly half are living in the United States and is most common in the white male population. The same registry provided that there are approximately 1,000 new cases of CF diagnosed every year. On top of that, three out of four patients are diagnosed by the age of two.

Social Issue

Cystic Fibrosis

Stephanie and Kathe work to engage the community through social activities, big fundraising events, donation drives, and giving awareness for the community. They run a very open office, where they constantly receive visits directly from CF patients and their families. The CFF runs huge events each semester, this semester focused on three big events: their September dinner, “65 Roses Gala,” and “CF Climb.” In September, they had a dinner for the community at Claim Jasper. In October, they hosted an event called “65 Roses Rocks,” a huge themed gala that entitled to raise money for CF research. In December, they hosted an event called “CF Climb,” a race that cars for participants to run through the 50+ stadiums of the Sam Boyd Stadium. This event also contributes to CF research; CF research being the biggest component of their mission.

Service Site Approach to Issue

Stephanie and Kathe work to engage the community through social activities, big fundraising events, donation drives, and giving awareness for the community. They run a very open office, where they constantly receive visits directly from CF patients and their families. The CFF runs huge events each semester, this semester focused on three big events: their September dinner, “65 Roses Gala,” and “CF Climb.” In September, they had a dinner for the community at Claim Jasper. In October, they hosted an event called “65 Roses Rocks,” a huge themed gala that entitled to raise money for CF research. In December, they hosted an event called “CF Climb,” a race that cars for participants to run through the 50+ stadiums of the Sam Boyd Stadium. This event also contributes to CF research; CF research being the biggest component of their mission.

I expected to undergo tedious office tasks while not truly gaining much from the community service. Knowing that it was going to be office work that I was going to be enduring. I did not foresee any type of extravagant experience to blossom. Upon entering the later months after getting acclimated at the CFF and taking on more important tasks, my service felt much more redeeming. I feel like I couldn’t have received this same experience at any other site. This is a site I will stay in close contact with.

References


