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Project FOCUS

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By: Glen-Marie Quintanilla

Purpose
- To help students with intellectual/developmental disabilities achieve academic success, independent living, and employment goals.

History
- Project FOCUS is a two-year post-secondary education program.
- Project FOCUS started three years ago with one student.

Community Service Paradigm
- Volunteering at Project FOCUS is a social change.

Social Issue
- The lack of inclusion within higher education environment.
- There are not enough resources for students.

Approaches to the Issue
- Educational coaches help the students.
- Project FOCUS helps the students find jobs and internships.
- My approach to the social issue would be to volunteer as often as possible, and to promote inclusion in my future classroom.

Current and Ideal State
- Currently, not every college has a program for students with disabilities.
- The ideal state would be inclusion for all and accommodations for all students.

Making a Difference
- I helped many students with their homework, and I built friendships.
- As a whole, Project FOCUS is helping create an inclusive environment.

Professional Learning
- I am able to get hands on experience working with students with special needs.

References
- Shah, Nirvi. "After Special Education, Students Turn to College."