**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Health Career Collaborative was established to create inroads to pursue health careers for high school students from underrepresented backgrounds. By fostering partnerships between these students and medical mentors, the HCC hopes to achieve a symbiotic relationship; a relationship in which medical students are better able to understand and empathize with communities that they will serve, while also ushering in a new generation of caregivers to reshape the medical landscape.

**STATEMENT OF NEED**

- **U.S. Population by Race/Ethnicity**
  - White (61.5%)
  - Black or African American (12.3%)
  - Asian (5.3%)
  - Unknown Race/Ethnicity (0.6%)
  - Multiple Race/Ethnicity (2.3%)
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (0.1%)

- **Medical School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity**
  - White (61.5%)
  - Asian (21.6%)
  - Black or African American (6.2%)
  - Other (0.8%)
  - Unknown Race/Ethnicity (13.7%)

- **U.S. Physicians by Race/Ethnicity**
  - White (56.2%)
  - Asian (21.6%)
  - Black or African American (6.2%)
  - Unknown Race/Ethnicity (13.7%)

- **Healthcare U.S. Physicians by Race/Ethnicity**
  - White (56.2%)
  - Asian (21.6%)
  - Black or African American (6.2%)
  - Unknown Race/Ethnicity (13.7%)

**OBJECTIVES**

- Increase underrepresented students’ feelings of belonging in academia & medicine
- Aid students in establishing careers in healthcare by equipping them with the social capital, skill sets, and knowledge necessary for entry
- Create avenues into healthcare for students from disadvantaged backgrounds
- Enhance participants’ rate of graduation from high school & entrance to college
- Prepare students to be successful in college and in their future careers.

**RESULTS**

![Pre/Post Survey Results of 2018-2019 HCC Participants (n=10)](image)

- I have a plan for how I will reach my career goals
- I know about many different career options in the healthcare field
- I am considering a career in healthcare
- The connection between us
- Building relationships/connections with students*
- How medical students took the time to teach and learn with us

*Something I liked about the program was...

**FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

Expanding upon this partnership between East Palo Alto Academy and Stanford School of Medicine, in 20-21 the program was adapted to the virtual setting to abide by COVID restrictions. Future efforts should investigate the impact of remote mentorship programs on students’ feelings of belongingness within medicine as compared to in-person programs. If positive correlation is found, this would highlight the opportunity to provide remote programming to underrepresented youth as a potential vehicle to make our workflows more diverse, equitable, and representative for all, and could expand capacity by offering opportunity to students who live distant from partnering medical schools.

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**REFERENCES**