Background

- Research is essential to discover new information regarding public health (1). However, there is currently a gap between this new knowledge and its delivery to communities (2).
- Community involvement is the key to bridging this gap and improving the lives of others (2).
- University of Minnesota’s IonE Undergraduate Leaders Program allows students to gain experience with both research and community involvement (3).
- Pollinators we rely on for food are disappearing due to a lack of habitat (4). Solar farms provide an opportunity to re-plant pollinator habitats to help restore their population (4).

Mentorship

- Mentored Pine Island High School students by communicating and being open and honest to their questions.
- Mentorship happens through many types of interactions:
  - Video meetings.
  - Slack discussions.
  - In-person field experience.
  - Online field experience.

Project Goal

To demonstrate undergraduate research and community involvement to Pine Island High School students by sharing my journey through the IonE Undergraduate Student Leaders Program during a pandemic.

Project Plans

Discover and apply for 2020-2021 enrollment.

- Choose research: Strategic solar siting with pollinator gardens as co-benefit.

Begin meetings, research development, and sharing my experience.

- Interview and acceptance.

References


