



What?

PhysioCamp

- 👋 **PhysioCamp** is a teaching organization that promotes health sciences and hands-on STEM education to K-12 students.
- 👋 **The summer project** involved serving as a PhysioCamp programming coordinator for Pitt County, developing curriculum activities, and teaching at community partnership sites.
- 👋 **Project sites** included Joy Soup Kitchen, Bethel Youth Center, and Operation Sunshine.
- 👋 **Operation Sunshine** hosts our youngest participants, girls ages 5-13. This location will continue to serve as one of our afterschool mentorship program sites in the future.

So What?

STEM Engagement

- 👋 Increased science exposure *beginning in elementary school impacts positive viewpoints on careers in STEM.*¹
- 👋 *Students from rural communities with STEM enrichment programs are more likely to view careers in science as attainable goals and more likely to choose STEM majors in college.*²
- 👋 *Hands-on learning opportunities provide motivation for long-term STEM engagement.*³
- 👋 **PhysioCamp provides STEM enrichment tools and long-term mentorship programs with health science professionals to set students on a path of success.**

Now What?

HANDS-On Health Education

Future Plans for Early PhysioCamp Engagement:

- 👋 **Host** PhysioCamp events targeted for ages 5-13, beginning with expanding Operation Sunshine's partnership.
- 👋 **Adapt** and expand curriculum for additional hands-on learning experiences with young participants.
- 👋 **Nurture** positive, long-term relationships to encourage future STEM engagement.
- 👋 **Discover** new volunteers and community partners.
- 👋 **Seek** opportunities to expand in underserved and rural areas through virtual and in-person programs.

Young children exposed to hands-on STEM education are more likely to pursue careers in medicine.



References:
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 2. Ihrig, L. M., Lane, E., Duhita, M., & Assouline, S. G. (2018). STEM excellence and leadership program: Increasing the level of STEM challenge and engagement for high-achieving students in economically disadvantaged rural communities. *Journal for the Education of the Gifted*, 41(1), 24-42. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0162353217745158>
 3. Julià, C., & Antolí, J. O. (2019). Impact of implementing a long-term STEM-based active learning course on students' motivation. *International Journal of Technology and Design Education*, 29(2), 303-327. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10798-018-9441-8>

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