



## United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Open Pedagogy Fellowship

### "Academic Service Learning: Improving Our Community's Health and Well-Being"

#### SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT

**Introduction:** You are a part of a collegewide effort to increase access to education and empower students through "open pedagogy." Open pedagogy is a "free access" educational practice that places you - the student - at the center of your own learning process in a more engaging, collaborative learning environment. The ultimate purpose of this effort is to achieve greater social justice in our community in which the work can be freely shared with the broader community. This is a renewable assignment that is designed to enable you to become an agent of change in your community through the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For this work, you will integrate the disciplines of **psychology** and **health education** to achieve **SDG #3**, which is to **improve good health and well-being**.

**Instructions:** This is an interdisciplinary service learning assignment in which you will be required to engage in a hands-on experience outside of the classroom. This active learning practice is designed to improve your academic skills, increase community connections, and improve social justice for our community. For this assignment, you will find an organization in which the goals are to improve the health and well-being of community members, such as a mental health facility, food bank, or refugee center. You will need to contact the Service Learning Coordinator on your campus to make sure your desired organization is acceptable. Then, once approved, you will spend approximately once every three weeks (preferably more) volunteering in your chosen organization. While you are there, you will examine the processes of this organization in reaching its goals, and analyze the social and psychological impact that this organization may have on its clients. Ultimately, you will create a 5-minute video describing your experience and providing recommendations on what can be done on a larger scale to continue improving the health and well-being of our community. After the video has been graded, there is a chance that your video may be uploaded on the Internet (with your permission) to show the importance of improving social justice through academics.

**"Academic Service Learning: Improving Our Community's Health and Well-Being"** is licensed by Shinta Hernandez under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)

