“Working with you and the students of CWRU last year was an amazing and memorable experience. The work, commitment, and results were astounding. It was rather surreal for me personally to listen to all our students present Reach Success… They were fantastic! We look forward to working with you all again this year, and hope to bring even more definitive successes as we now know how this wonderful process works!”

William E. Horning, Founder / President, Reach Success, Inc.
What is Collaborative Practice I

Collaborative Practice I (CPI) is an interprofessional, one-year course in which student teams engage with our community partners on mutually beneficial community-based projects while learning teamwork and interprofessional service learning skills.

How Is Collaborative Practice I Structured?

In Collaborative Practice I, health and social work students work in interprofessional teams to complete community-based projects focused on health and well-being. Each student team is matched with local organizations including shelters, community development corporations, clinics, food banks and workforce development sites to complete a project that has been identified by the partner champion as important to their organization’s work and mission. Student teams then work with the community partner over the course of an academic year to complete a deliverable that helps to improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities in Northeast Ohio and beyond.

Highlights of Collaborative Practice I 2021 – 2022

135 Champions
93 Student Teams
535 Students from 8 Professions

Dental Medicine, Genetic Counseling, Medicine, Nursing, Physician Assistant, Psychology, Speech-Language Pathology, Social Work

81 Projects
12, Two-hour Community-Based Project Sessions over 8 Months
11872 Total Project Hours

Collaborative Practice I Showcase
April 20, 2022
93 Teams presenting simultaneously in 24 rooms in the Samson Pavilion for 2 hours
"The best elements of the CBP experience were getting to work in an interprofessional team. This class connected me to people that I wouldn't have met otherwise, and because of it, I now have some new friendships! I also enjoyed getting to see a community organization, because this exposed me to good work that is being done in the Cleveland area that I wouldn't have been aware of otherwise." - CPI Student

Focus of Community Partner Organizations

- Healthcare Access and Quality (23)
- Education Access and Quality (16)
- Neighborhood and Built Environment (16)
- Social and Community Context (15)
- Economic Stability (2)

"[The best elements of the community-based project was] gaining insight from the students as they approached their project. Also, gaining the energy of the students as they learned about our organization and the community." - CPI Champion
Categories of Project Deliverables

- Educational Materials: 42
- Surveys, Screening Tools, Intake Forms: 35
- General Research: 33
- Data Collection and Analysis: 23
- Interviews or Focus Groups: 23
- Recommendations*: 15
- Client or Staff Programming: 12
- Curriculum Plans: 12
- Use of Social Media: 12
- Needs Assessment: 5
- Report: 1

*project development, management, implementation and quality improvement

"Our champions were very knowledgeable and clearly enthusiastic about the work that they do, which was contagious. This was also a great opportunity to learn how to apply our knowledge of health and structural factors in a locally-relevant way." - CPI Student

"I think the best advice I can give is to clarify in the beginning and set expectations with champions and faculty. Do not count yourself out so early because you are capable of doing more than what you think you can. Trust champions and be clear in communicating and articulating your problems. Seek guidance from the faculty in the first few weeks. Ask for the case study samples, so you know what the end result looks like. It looks intimidating in the beginning, but it is beautiful at the end." - CPI Student