

Product Proposal

Introduction and Statement of Purpose

For my final product this year, I will formulate a project plan for a medical mission trip that many physicians from Dallas go on. A group of surgeons from Baylor Scott & White travel to Peru once a year to perform open heart surgeries in a city near Lima on people that normally are not able to access advanced medical care. While the trip to Peru has been successful in the past, it lacks a solid executive plan to help formulate a standard process for the visit. By pursuing this project, I will aid the Baylor Scott & White community greatly by providing a foundation for which future international mission trips can be based upon. Additionally, this process will be a major learning experience for me by supplying me with hands on learning in the field of healthcare administration. With the help of my mentor and her team, I hope to construct a successful and comprehensible plan for the upcoming trip to Peru.

Review of Skills and Research

There are several different subjects that I will have to research in order to successfully finalize my project. Some of the topics include: how other international nonprofit organizations are structuring their philanthropic trips, ways to track vendor donations of supplies and/or equipment, financial aid, customs, and safety. I will also need to interview some of the physicians that have been on or organized this expedition to get some first hand testimonies as to what the trip entails. Additionally, I will need to research the environment of the area in which the surgeries will take place. Anything from the potential patient population and nearby hospitals to crime rate and the current state of government will need to be thoroughly researched and understood to ensure that there are no unknown risks surrounding the event. Furthermore, I will consider conducting cold calls with employees of established global nonprofit organizations to find out more about how they successfully structure their medical mission trips.

Utilization of Higher Level Thinking

I will utilize higher level thinking throughout the course of this project to analyze, construct, and execute my plan. This idea is very extensive and will require lots of detailed research and analysis. I will have to take into account location, screens and vaccinations prior to the trip, volunteers, patient demographics, inventory, financing, customs, government regulations, and the possible services provided just to name a few. Finally, after researching the many different characteristics of this trip, I will need to figure out a budget development (cost per person) as well as the overall cost of such a trip. Throughout this project, I will be very thorough in my evaluation of project management, international healthcare, and the processes required to successfully plan

a medical mission trip - which will, in the end, help change and save the lives of so many people.

Methodology

To set on the journey to bring my project to completion, I will first need to research the requirements for existing medical mission trips, the demographic of the area, and what type of medical procedures are most needed. Then, I will need to formulate a list of questions to ask professionals experienced in this area of international altruistic medicine. After I have completed that, I will need to conduct as much research I can through digital platforms, physical texts, and interviews with real life professionals. Through the constant implementation of limitless research, I will be able to educate myself on the numerous aspects that surround the planning for an event like this. After deciding upon the initial foundation of my project plan, I will need to discern the amount of equipment and materials required, the amount of volunteers needed, the main services provided, vaccines and screening, prerequisites, projected number of patients, funding, and logistics of the trip. With each step, I will build another layer of the planning until I have constructed a successful and complete plan.

Materials

Considering the format of my final product will be electronic or in the form of a paper business plan, most of my materials will be in the form of applications on my computer to help me with following through with my project. If I am given the opportunity to interview professionals about this project, they will be a great additional source of information. Also, I am sure that I will gain more materials through my mentor (such as books, pamphlets, or data) that will aid me in the construction of my facility.

Conclusions

By undertaking this daunting task, I hope to gain hands on experience in the area of project management as well as familiarize myself with the requirements for planning an expedition such as the one to Peru. I will be able to execute all the information I will have gathered through research and through my mentor and apply it to this project. By the end of this journey, I hope to have constructed an effective and comprehensible plan that can be implemented numerous times in the future. Not only will this opportunity give me a unique experience and exposure to an area of healthcare administration, I will also be able to push my mind and creativity to the limits and expand my intellectual ability in preparation for the professional world. Throughout the many steps required for the completion of my product, there will be many obstacles and unknown concepts, but with persistent research and a passion to aid those in need

around the world, I, with the help of my mentor and her team, will be able to successfully tackle this exciting and extremely beneficial project.

Timeline

February:

- Research nonprofit organizations and their successful international medical mission trips
- Research the location and environment of the city at where the surgeries will take place, customs, and advised safety precautions
- Prepare possible interview questions for professionals that have experience in this area
- Show progress to Ms. Huff and her team and make any edits she/they suggest

March:

- Edit past work
- Interview professionals
- Construct a plan for the proposed services provided, an organized way to keep inventory, and research any requirements prior to the visit to Peru
- Estimate the number of volunteers needed along with the projected patient outcome
- Show progress to Ms. Huff and her team and make any edits she/they suggest

April

- Edit past work
- Complete the evaluation of necessities for the trip and elements necessary during the course of the visit.
- Develop presentation for the product as well as whatever tangible props needed for the display
- Finalized rough draft sent out to other Baylor professionals involved with the mission (?)
- Show progress to Ms. Huff and her team and make any edits she/they suggest

May

- Finalize the presentation and make whatever changes suggested by Ms. Huff