Project Purpose and Results

During the fall 2019 semester, the SCIBUS 485 students worked with three community partners, namely, McCullough’s LTC Pharmacy, Environment Safety and Sustainability and Blueline Batteries at Whitewater Innovation Center. The community partners’ research at McCullough’s Pharmacy evaluated more than 120 patients to screen for eligible immunizations through the use of the Wisconsin Immunization Registry. The primary focus of the project was to expand patient access to preventative health services by increasing the number of immunizations provided by an independent pharmacy. This research resulted in a science-business plan which can be used for evidence and support for varying forms of patient care that can be expanded to different age groups and patient populations.

The second project researched the availability of local, healthy and affordable food products, food industry employment and revenues in Whitewater in collaboration with the Whitewater Grocery Cooperative and the University Sustainability Office. The study resulted in cost-effective access to commercial equipment for producers to make value-added products and cold storage for growers to prepare and distribute products. A business plan was created to develop shared use kitchen space either as part of the Whitewater Grocery Cooperative or as a stand-alone entity to operate as an independent business; This community based project afforded engagement with community members, forming a deeper connection to the community of Whitewater, developing a sense of belonging and resulting in deeper understanding of many different perspectives of business and the issues around food systems.

Course Offering Information

The SCIBUS 485 course is offered each fall and spring semester of the academic year which is a capstone course for the ISB majors and students seeking Science-business sustainability certificate. Students will have an opportunity to develop and showcase a real-world science-business project working collaboratively with a community partner and faculty at UWW.