



## Improving Health Outcomes, One Neighbor at a Time

Rising health care costs, federal grant claw backs, a slowing economy, proposed cuts to Medicaid and other factors are impacting local health care systems and the populations they serve. States and local governments have seen the curbing of infectious disease prevention and vaccination programs, a reduction in public systems and health care providers, the end of chronic disease management clinics and rural hospital closures. The backlash against science and medical experts is a further challenge to public health efforts.

Your challenge is to take on a health care issue in your (college) state, city or county and produce a program to address it. The issue and its solution can be large – the development of rural health care clinics – or small – say a new program using AI to track health outcomes in one small town or the enlistment of new messengers on disease management. All that matters is you explain how you will pay for it, and, if your plan requires legislative action, your political strategy for getting it done. You must contain your proposal to two pages. No policy experience is necessary – this is a journey of the mind, so be creative!