This student interned at The Chateau at River’s Edge, an assisted living facility. The facility is beautiful and the residents are well cared for, and admittedly the residents have many activities available to them. The one thing missing from the facility however is the friendly face of a young child. Many of the residents are retired from professional careers e.g., college professors, elementary school teacher, writers, or nurses and others were stay home moms, artists or entrepreneurs. These seniors have wisdom and knowledge to share and given the opportunity could make a difference in a child’s life. With busy lifestyles and families living thousands of miles apart many children have very little, if any, contact with their elderly relatives. So this student selected an Intergenerational (IG) program as her project. The goal of this program is to link the residents at the Chateau with children from nearby churches. The IG program would take place at the Chateau with the children visiting the residents engaging in dialogue, arts and crafts, music, storytelling, show & tell, and refreshments. This student hopes this program will build a bridge between the cohorts. Additionally research on IG programs show there are many benefits to both the seniors volunteers and the children. Seniors show improvement in their cognitive, social and physical skills, and children show improved social behavior and increased knowledge towards aging and the elderly.

The Nintendo Wii is a motion controlled video game system that is being introduced in many retirement communities and senior centers to help keep older adults active. The purpose of this project was to play the Nintendo Wii with individuals who live at the University Retirement Community at Davis in skilled nursing care who have mild cognitive impairment. The University Retirement Community at Davis is the only one in Yolo County to be a fully accrediting continuing care retirement community. Their mission statement is “providing continuing care quality service and diverse opportunities that enhance the lives of our residents.” Playing the Nintendo Wii provides an opportunity that diversifies residents’ leisure activities. The goal of this project was to observe the positive effects socially and/or physically the Nintendo Wii had on the residents. The student found no significant evidence that the Nintendo Wii increase in physical activity.
Sacramento Hospice Consortium (SHC) is a valuable program in that it provides consolidated information on all of the major hospice programs in the Sacramento Area and is a great community promoter and educator about hospice services. My project involves asking specific, local private and public organizations to become partners with SHC through mutual web reference. Some of the major aspects of the project that I have been working on and learning from include researching the factors that help define the best organizations to approach; identifying and using all of the major resources to find the prospective entities; creating and delivering different versions of the proposition, in regards to length and content, for more efficient and successful way to communicate the information via phone, e-mail and in person. And last, but not least, successfully communicate different parts of the project to the designated parties, which include the internship supervisors and representatives, school supervisor, and the chosen community organizations.

Senior centers have been forced to focus more intently on identifying the most successful programs in which to invest scarce resources since funds are limited. The Hart Senior Center has loss some of its funding, so it is challenged on how to best use its staff and programs to serve its growing population. The purpose of this project was to determine: 1) the resources that are available to aging people; 2) the effectiveness of the aging peoples’ participation in the Hart Senior Center; 3) what the aging people want; and 4) what the aging people need. This research is the result of interest in learning how aging people rely on social support as a protective factor to people’s vulnerability on the effects of loneliness on health. This research is also the result of interest in enhancing performance assessment of the Center. A convenience sampling method was used and aging participants were surveyed with a qualitative questionnaire. The results show that the aging people want a place where they can socialize, receive information and assistance from other agencies, and receive free, nutritious meals. The results of this project strengthen understanding of what services seniors at the Hart Center want and will aid the Center in determining which programs they can provide with their limited funds.
Developing an undergraduate class involves necessary skills to create and deliver education to a college student body. An incredible amount of time is necessary for the continual preparation in and outside the classroom. In the classroom a teacher needs to manage her time and present interesting, up-to-date lectures, facilitate discussion with the students, and maintain energy while leading a three hour class. Outside the classroom a teacher needs to review new chapter and lecture, integrate current information, develop assignments and exam questions, and read and grade the student’s work. The results of this experience demonstrates that teaching a college class is more than standing in front of students and lecturing for three hours. The ability to successfully teach a class is highly dependent upon a dedicated teacher who can manage her time well, remain focused for extended periods of time, and is passionate about her work.

By the year 2030, America may have over one million centenarians. The issue of delivering quality nursing home care to the elderly population is becoming critical and greatly dependent on the frontline nursing staff. Since 1997, there has been a national "culture change" movement that has identified consistent assignment as a cornerstone practice of its advocacy. The review of the literature examines staff assignment and its correlation for improving quality indicators in nursing home care. Regulatory bodies require nursing homes to report certain objectively measurable data to aid rating the quality of care. The purpose of this study is to examine a nursing home that uses consistent assignment compared with a rotating assignment nursing home and its effect on staff turnover, resident restraint use and frequency of pressure ulcers. Data obtained from the Medicare and OSHPD websites is used for examining the two nursing homes selected. The data presented lower percentages overall for the nursing home using consistent assignment protocols, which can translate into improved Medicare quality rating. This study, due to the small sample size and with the absence of raw data did not draw any statistical correlation between consistent assignment and improved nursing home care among the three quality indicators examined.
This paper examines the implementation of the Culture Change philosophy in two of the Eskaton Senior Residential Facilities in the Sacramento and Gold Country area. While the concept of a person-centered care module has been used for many years, the formulation of Culture Change, formalized care theory that places a clear emphasis on patient preferences and stakeholder views, is relatively new in the senior residential care field. In this paper, previously published data and research on Culture Change is compared to data gathered by qualitative interviews and quantitative surveys completed by employees in many different positions at the Eskaton facilities. The data shows that the vast majority of the employees want to provide individualized care for the residents and have positive responses to most of the Culture Change concepts. The results also show that despite having positive responses to the concepts and tenets of Culture Change, there is little understanding of the formal philosophy of Culture Change. In short, the majority of employees at Eskaton are working within the Culture Change format, they just don't know it.