

Heal Utah Survey Project

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ABSTRACT

Working with the nonprofit Healthy Environment Alliance of Utah (HEAL Utah), in addition to Dr. Ashley Egan and her Biology course, a series of surveys was designed to help assess the information of the respondents, the impact of lobbying, as well as the subsequent trainings provided by the organization.

INTRODUCTION

- HEAL Utah functions as a nonprofit with a focus on lobbying for environmental issues
- HEAL Utah engages in trainings with community members interested in environmental lobbying
- Surveys were made for the various stages of the training/lobbying process
- Research assistants were tasked with providing suggestions and feedback on the surveys created

METHODS

- Students in the Biology 3800 course formed groups to tackle different sections of the survey
- Research assistants review survey drafts of each group
- Each group will combine to make 3 shared surveys
 - Pre-Training
 - Post-Training
 - Post-Lobbying

RESULTS/DISCUSSION

Due to the nature of working with a variety of organizations, given the timeframe we were able to create the three surveys to send over to HEAL Utah.

Pre-Survey

The goals of the Pre-Survey were to:

- Identify the demographic of the respondents
- Assess knowledge of lobbying and legislature
- Determine goals participants have

Post-Training

The goals of the Post-Training were to:

- Assess the efficiency of the training session
- Provide feedback on interacting with HEAL Utah
- Evaluate respondents' favorite aspects of the training

Post-Lobbying

- Understand respondents' motivations for lobbying
- Determine obstacles that prevent respondents from future lobbying
- Identify ideal methods for future lobbying opportunities



CONCLUSIONS

Because of the scope and time demands of the project, explicit data has not been received presently.

Conclusions derived from the initial draft of surveys:

- Frequent feedback leads to optimal survey practices
- It is valuable to obtain open-ended feedback at each step of the survey/data collection process
- Accounting for a variety of backgrounds and demographics allows for the widest reach of respondents
- Understanding the rationale behind motivation for training and lobbying can help
- If HEAL Utah can receive data on what environmental issues are most important to the respondents, HEAL Utah can adjust their organization to prioritize what causes are most important to the community

Future Objectives

The future goals for this project are to:

- Communicate with HEAL Utah to assess the best format for the surveys
- Receive feedback from HEAL Utah to adjust the surveys to their needs
- Obtain data and information from HEAL Utah participants

REFERENCES

HEAL Utah – Healthy Environment Alliance Of Utah. (n.d.). Retrieved April 13, 2023, from <https://www.healutah.org/>

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