

Western Illinois University
2021 Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Conference

Abstract

Recorded Scholarly Presentation

Major: Liberal Arts and Sciences

Faculty Mentor: Tammy Werner

Policy Brief: After school Assistance Programs for Children in Poverty

Grace Alongi

This presentation discusses a work in progress that I am completing for the Senior Capstone course in the Liberal Arts and Sciences. This project involves creating a policy brief that advocates for a social justice issue. For my project, I am bringing childhood poverty to light. This is a huge issue throughout the United States, especially when it comes to getting an education. The purpose of this research is to ensure that after school programs such as career academies become more relevant for those in need throughout the country. The steps taken to complete this project was beginning my research on different programs that would help these children in poverty succeed and how exactly it would do so. I found many different articles and statistics showing the rate at which those in poverty graduate and compare it to those who are not in poverty. I looked into what these career academies can actually do for students and the success rate for those that took part in these programs. It gets them prepared for their future and teaches them skills that could help them in potential careers. It shows them how to manage their time correctly and provides them with better understanding of their curriculums. It showed a significant number of those that took these programs seriously went on to get better grades and eventually graduate high school and even go on to college.