Project Academy for Seniors

Overview:
Although many of us think that when you reach the status of a senior citizen your thoughts are just on retiring from society. Many seniors want to be engaged with learning and making their community a better place while having fun.
These citizens have a wealth of knowledge that can be applied to solving world problems while have fun and improving on their skills in thinking (creative, critical, questioning and meta-cognitive reflection), problem solving, and organization skills relating to wise aging. These activities can be connected to younger students to support a generational bonding of sharing life experiences.

Mission:
The mission of this program is to provide a positive and fun activity to senior citizens that will make the world a better place and create a learning environment for them as well. It will provide an opportunity to work with the community by providing younger members of their community to share their experiences with.
The goal of this program is to provide an activity that seniors can effect change in our society by solving problems and passing on their life skills to the younger generation.

Culture of the organization:
A critical focus will be on establishing a community with a defined culture and team operational norms

Key values are: respect, empathy, kindness, curiosity, innovation, persisting, flexibility, continuous learning, humor, taking responsible risk, commitment, and buy-in.

Benefits:
The following are expected benefits of this program:

• 	Become a part of a community that fosters relationships and giving back to the community

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- Sharing activities with a younger community of students
- Work in a team and understand the values and culture within it
- Clearly articulate the nature of the design process & problem solving
- See the "World" as a place of excitement and inspiration
- Use assessment strategy and feedback as learning tools
- Develop a clearer sense of thinking skills in our society

Program process:

The program process will have seniors chose their world problem, form a community, and do a problem-solving process using project based learning technique. It will follow the following process: **Design Process**

Example of problems

Design Process	Example of problems
Implementation Design Process: *Areas of discussion …can be tailored to local needs such as the local community food needs.* See the problem/Bug Frame it Research/Requirements List possible solutions Pick a few Select Test Reflection Present solution **Make the world/community a better place**	The course will be done with hands on learning using methods from **WPI/engineeringlens.org** ⚫ **Feed the World** ⚫ **Heal the World** ⚫ **Clean the World** ⚫ **Power the World** ⚫ **Respect the World** ⚫ **Connect the World** ⚫ **Entertain the World** ⚫ **Sports of the World** ⚫ **Music of the World** ⚫ **Record the World …activites** ⚫ **Dance of the World**

- Other possible problems that could be worked on are the Grand Challenge for engineering determined by the National Academy of Engineering.
- Social issues that mainly occur in middle-school www.verywell.com

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