

Brain Health Initiative Brain Health Scholar Description

This competitive program is open to high school (16 years or older) student leaders who participate in a youth program, attend a school or a school within a school district (other by special consideration) that are collaborating with the Brain Health Initiative. An authorized representative of a district/school/youth program will nominate identified student leader(s). The qualified candidate(s) should have interest in science, medicine and/or health and well-being. The position is anticipated to require less than 20 hours of work total throughout the spring and summer 2021. Brain Health Scholars have the right to refuse the nomination and may withdraw from participation at any time during the initiative.

The Brain Health Scholars will work with the Brain Health Initiative in its effort to promote and protect brain health, fight brain illness, and improve performance for all ages throughout the Suncoast region. Specifically, the Brain Health Scholars will help carry out the research agenda for the [BHI Community Brain Health Prioritization Survey](#) in the cities of Sarasota and Bradenton, Florida to better understand the brain health and well-being concerns, values, and attitudes of both youth and adults from the Sarasota/Lakewood Ranch/Bradenton area. This will be accomplished through a survey of issues in each community that leaders and citizens find to be important. The Brain Health Scholar will receive a certificate documenting their hours of service working on the project, and a separate certificate of participation on Brain Health Initiative/Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School letterhead for the contribution to the research survey.

The Brain Health Scholars will work remotely, so must have reliable access to the internet. Their duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

Complete confidentiality agreement.

- Attend webinars, labs, and presentations on the science of brain health and research methods.
- Complete the BHI youth stakeholder prioritization survey. In doing so, the research assistant will contribute a youth perspective on the brain health risk and protective factors in Sarasota and/or Bradenton, Florida, share his/her perspective of how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the community, and help to shape the research that is conducted in the community.
- Assist in analyzing and presenting the results, including discussion on next steps
- Assist in creating communications and recruitment for youth related to the survey and Brain Health Scholar program.
- Assist with press releases regarding the BH Scholar program.
- Assist in identifying/recruiting youth leaders to complete the final BHI survey.
- Serve as Brain Health Champions in schools and at community events.
- Manage and respond to project related email.
- Receive support in the college admissions process through letters of introduction and personal outreach by BHI faculty to the scholars' top college choices.

About the Brain Health Initiative (www.brainhealthinitiative.org)

The Brain Health Initiative (BHI) is a cutting-edge, new approach to protecting brain health and fighting brain illness across the lifespan. The BHI is a collaborative effort with Massachusetts General Hospital, a Harvard Medical School Teaching Hospital, to build brain healthy communities through education, research, innovation and action, with a specific focus on *brain health promotion, prevention, early detection, evidence-based intervention, and performance optimization*. The BHI is creating a culture that promotes brain health protective factors and decreases risk factors, thereby improving brain health and optimizing brain performance outcomes for the Florida Suncoast region and beyond. Join the brain health movement, because brain health matters, and lifestyle makes a difference.



Parent Informed Consent Form

I, the undersigned, certify that I am the parent or legal guardian _____ (name of the child) and that I have the right to make decisions for my child that affect his/her well-being.

I give permission for my child, _____ to participate as a Brain Health Scholar for the project, *Community Brain Health Stakeholder Prioritization Survey*. I have read the description of the position and understand the expectations for my child's participation. I understand that my child's right to withdraw from participating or refuse to participate will be respected and that his/her responses and identity will be kept confidential.

I voluntarily consent for my child to participate.

I do not consent for my child to participate.

____ (please initial) I give permission for my child's photo, video, or any work they produce, to be published on the BHI website and for use in community media or scientific publication.

Parent Signature

Date

Print Full Name

Phone/Email Contact

If parents are separated, or divorced and share joint custody, please provide additional signature:

Parent Signature

Date

Print Full Name

Phone/Email Contact

Please return this completed consent form to
Kim Miele via email: kmiele@brainhealthinitiative.org