Service & Scholarship
Designing and Facilitating Service projects using a cohort model

Rebecca Ward
The Ohio State University
Eminence Fellows Program
A little bit about Eminence...

- Young program (5 years)
- Full Cost of Attendance Scholarship
- ~20–25 in each class
- Full 4-year program
- Living Community 1st year
- High Expectations
  - Academic Achievement, Honors Thesis
  - Service
  - Program Engagement
2 Primary Objectives:

- Give back to the University as well as the community
- Work as a team to research issues and develop project

Make sustainable for 4+ years
CLASS INITIATIVES /
PROJECTS
Mission

- To empower individuals and improve the health of those living in the Columbus community by connecting them with resources that address social determinants of health.
- To cultivate interdisciplinary student leadership through volunteer immersion experiences in the Columbus community.
Class of 2018 (Seniors)

Education and Outreach
Community Involvement
Business Partnerships
Mission

- Help *prepare* ex-offenders to find steady and meaningful employment, to *connect them with sustainable opportunities*, and to empower them to overcome personal barriers.

- *Build small business partnerships*, helping job seekers and employers equally.
Class of 2019 (Juniors)

Ohio State’s First Food Co-op
Mission & Goal

- Reduce food insecurity by...
  - Making produce more affordable
  - Bridging transportation obstacles
  - Providing educational opportunities to learn more about food preparation and nutrition
Why the Cohort Model?

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

~African Proverb
Benefits to the Cohort Model

As a team, they will coalesce around an idea/topic/issue

- Strengthen the sense of community
- Tap into serious brainpower
- Social entrepreneurship opportunity
Benefits to the Cohort Model

- Potential to make even bigger impact
- Learn valuable compromise and collaboration skills
- Real application of leadership
Some Hurdles

- Level of Commitment – tough to get 100% buy-in
- Time – requires patience
- Organization – Formal? Informal?
Successes & Awards

- Recognitions
  - Excellence in Community Service Programming
  - Citizenship Award

- Research
Discussion