



# COMMUNITY-ACADEMIC SCHOLARS INITIATIVE

## Gain experience. Make an impact.

**Community-Academic Scholars** make a difference in the community through research and collaboration.

We are seeking undergraduate students:

- **Eager to make a difference** in the local community
- **Connected with a faculty member** conducting research in partnership with a local community organization
- **Dedicated to full-time engagement** over the summer to address health disparities, brain health, and/or poverty in Champaign-Urbana

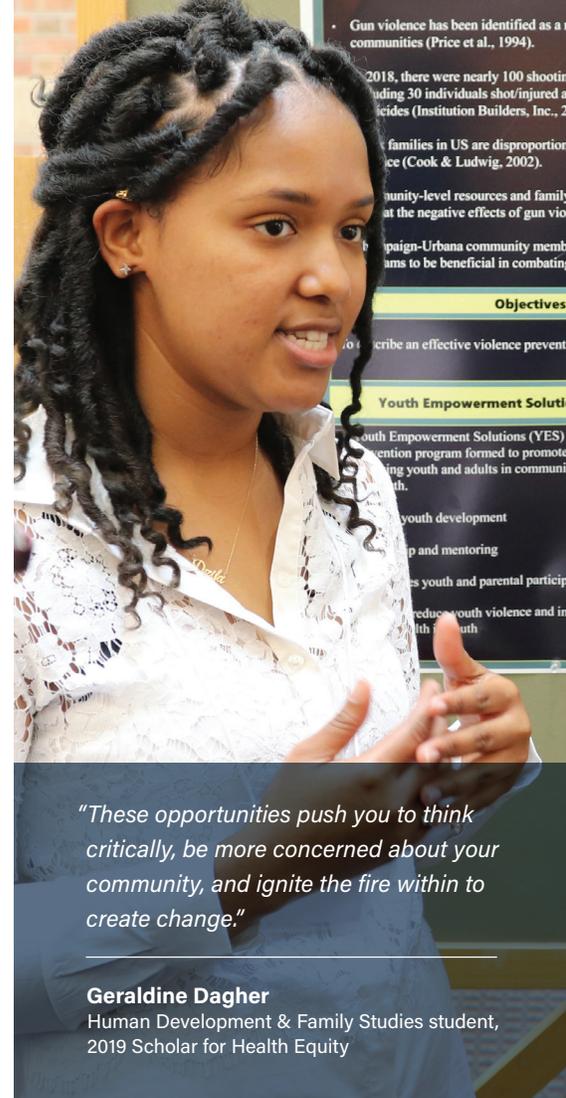
### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Scholars from disciplines across campus work with a faculty mentor and a mentor from a community organization to contribute to a project designed to directly benefit the community members served by the partner organization. This includes research projects, program evaluations, needs assessments, or similar projects.

To augment the summer experience, program leaders host weekly discussions with scholars and invite speakers to provide practical guidance on topics such as conducting research in community settings, the value of team-based science, and presenting research to different audiences. Students then create a poster and showcase their work at the final awards ceremony.

### PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Develop applied research skills for measuring and maximizing impact
- Build cultural and civic skills while becoming a more informed citizen
- Strengthen teamwork/collaboration skills by working with both campus and community partners
- Sharpen professional communication skills by developing a plan for updating faculty and community mentors on weekly progress
- Receive a \$3,000 disbursement for housing/living expenses in Champaign-Urbana
- Witness firsthand how your work makes a difference in the local community



*"These opportunities push you to think critically, be more concerned about your community, and ignite the fire within to create change."*

**Geraldine Dagher**  
Human Development & Family Studies student,  
2019 Scholar for Health Equity

## Apply now for Summer 2020.

Applications must be submitted by **Feb 1, 2020**. Indicate your preference for one of the following programs:

**SCHOLARS for HEALTH EQUITY**

**SCHOLARS for BRAIN HEALTH**

**SCHOLARS for SOLVING POVERTY**

Students will be notified of acceptance by March 2020. For full details and to apply visit [go.illinois.edu/communityscholars](http://go.illinois.edu/communityscholars).

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