### Observation

Score Sheet – Worth 3 Points, scored by HSTA Teacher

* *Observation states the project’s problem clearly.*
* *Observation includes why this project is important to the community and me.*
* *Observation includes a short summary of the project, including project type: prevalence, intervention, human experiment, or non-human experiment*

Tips

Before you begin any project, it is important to understand the community in which the project will be delivered. Anything you do requires you to be familiar with the people, the history, and the issues that face the community. Before you start any HSTA project, take the time to understand the community as a whole and then look at the different problems that are present.

There are many reasons to do research on a particular issue:

* When you want to alert the community about an issue that needs attention.
* When it’s important in order to further the public interest.
* When you want to impact a specific issue in your community.

To incorporate community and design, a true community-based project incorporates community members and/or community stakeholders in every phase of the project. The guidelines below are to help you incorporate these stakeholders into your project.

1. The observation/ statement of problem should come from a true community issue.
   1. Whether it starts with a statistic or just a concern by members of the community, it needs to reflect something that is tied to the community.
   2. Talk to people in your community and find out what issues they see as important and build your project from there.
2. Where did your idea come from? Did it come from:
   1. Data
   2. A community issue that you have observed
   3. A conversation or meeting you had with a community member/stakeholder
   4. Healthy People 2020
   5. A priority area from the WV Bureau of Public Health
   6. An interest you have
3. What information do you know about the problem you are trying to address?
   1. Talk to community members/stakeholders about the problem
   2. Look at data from WV BPH or Healthy People 2020
   3. Gather information from as many sources as possible
4. Make sure your problem is clearly stated
   1. What is a problem facing your community? Make sure it is a real issue in the community
   2. Back up the problem with statistics and facts
   3. Why is this a problem?
5. Explain how the problem will be addressed in the community
   1. Tell what your project will do to deal with this problem
   2. Give a brief description of your project and how it will involve the community
6. Explain how this project idea will improve the community
   1. Tell how your project will make a positive impact on your community
   2. Tell how you will share your research findings with your community