FLi Sci — Theory of Change

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Many academics come from wealthy backgrounds, and currently there are very few resources to actively position low-income students to become researchers

INPUTS

ACTIVITIES

OUTPUTS

SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

Financial Resources



Creation of an 4-6 month research fellowship program that teaches FLi students the intricacies navigating a scientific career through hands-on and interactive activities

20-40 high school students each year are trained and ready to actively pursue future scientific opportunities in research

Significantly number of applicants from FLi backgrounds earn admission to STEM doctoral programs AND successfully finish their program

Science Experts



Public repository via AirTable of profiles of scientists that pledge to serve as a resource and support FLi students

More transparency on which academic professionals identify as FLi or allies in support of FLi students

Network of STEM professionals actively recruiting and supporting FLi students; accessible via website for students to contact and connect beyond FLi Sci programming

High-quality Curriculum



Open-access asynchronous syllabi students and instructors may use to acquire vital scientific research training (e.g., how to program experiments, analyzing data using R or Python)

Constant access of scientific curriculum for students to leverage if no opportunities exist

FLi students develop integral research abilities that position them for success in earning scientific positions at the college and/or graduate level

Community Partnerships



Partnership with organizations and high schools that currently serve FLi students (e.g., TRIO Upward Bound programs) to target and collaborate with students

Academic institutions identifies high-need students that match FLi Sci's values to guarantee sufficient number of students to support each year of programming

Maximize distribution of resources and mutually support organizations respective success and reducing redundancy

Assumptions

- FLi students will actively engage in science programs if provided
- High school students are qualified for research experiences
- Exposure is sufficient and necessary to get students interested in science
- STEM professionals are eager to support FLi students at the high school level

IMPACT

Substantially increase the number of scientists that come from first-generation or low-income backgrounds