

5-29-25 Detailed Meeting Notes (AI Generated)

Driving Work Forward Meeting

Leslie welcomed attendees to the meeting and expressed gratitude for their participation. She mentioned that the purpose of the gathering was to continue driving work forward, with credit given to Don from Providence for the initiative.

Sonoma County Internship Program Development

Leslie discussed the development of a countywide internship program in Sonoma County, aiming to provide a 40+ hour internship experience for students in CTE pathways in spring 2026. Various participants shared updates on how they are working with high school students, including Mariah's comprehensive health pathways program, Andrea's Kaiser Permanente internship and volunteer programs, and Providence's volunteer program at Petaluma and Santa Rosa Memorial. Cheryl highlighted a medical assisting program at Sonoma Valley Community Health Center, which is successfully training bilingual, bicultural students to meet local healthcare needs. Gandhi praised Sonoma County's extensive efforts in serving high school students and encouraged continued collaboration.

Healthcare Internship Framework Development

The group discussed creating a framework for high school internships in healthcare settings, with Brandon presenting a Google Doc containing 60 activities categorized into six areas. Participants were asked to vote on their top three preferences per category. The goal is to develop a standardized internship experience across different healthcare settings that would be applicable to students regardless of their specific location.

Internship Categories and Healthcare Concerns

The group discussed concerns about internship categories, particularly around clinical versus non-clinical experiences. Gandhi expressed a preference for internships to focus on medical and environmental topics rather than being the main focus, while Mariah highlighted their program's success in training students for HIPAA-compliant patient interactions. The discussion also covered union representation concerns in healthcare settings, with Andrea and Annemarie emphasizing the need for careful messaging and consideration of staff implications when implementing intern programs.

Medical Internship Program Category Prioritization

The team discussed and prioritized categories for a medical internship program, with Category 5 receiving the most votes. The group agreed to create a mock 10-week internship program using AI-generated notes from the discussion. The team cast their votes on the categories' importance for an internship experience.

Challenges in Healthcare Career Pitching

The group discussed the challenges of pitching healthcare administration careers and the importance of presenting a realistic view of the field. Annemarie and Leslie stressed the need to help students identify both their passions and their limitations, encouraging them to explore careers that align with their strengths and interests.

Spring 2026 Internship Hosting Discussion

Leslie led a discussion about hosting spring 2026 internships, seeking commitments from participants. Several expressed made verbal commitments to host interns in Spring 2026, while others wanted to continue discussions internally at their organizations before committing. Brandon highlighted that participating in this particular effort provides unique benefits to employers, emphasizing CTE Foundation's and Sonoma County Office of Education's efforts to create a countywide application process and committing to fully screening internship applicants before placements.