

Community SEL 4.2 competency reflection

I created and emailed 2 of my state representatives of Illinois regarding several topics. This was directly after there were rumors of federal funding being withheld from both science and senior services. Although meals on wheels is a small portion of the senior services program, it is and will be a necessity for the vulnerable populations in not only Illinois but in America. I emailed and signed up for regular updates on both topics from both of my state representatives. While I completed this task, the follow up regarding these emails failed to happen because one of the representatives retired but to date, I still receive updates.

Before this competency, I hardly focused on my state representees but because of this task, I now ensure that I read and research any topics that my state emails me to ensure that I am informed. I think every student should do this because it gives them experience with being involved in their community to preserve programs or change programs within their government. I did learn that, while it seems like a simple email, with enough people or through respectful dialog, anyone can initiate change, especially graduate students. This was a simple task, but it had the most impact on me because since I completed this task, I became more involved in my community, state and government.