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International Service Learning Through Microfinance: Enhancing Global Perspectives While Empowering Women

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Presentation at the 13th Annual Midwest SoTL Conference, IU-South Bend.

Abstract:

This presentation will illustrate how a microfinance project in Mexico is providing international service learning opportunities in online courses and outside the classroom. It will also demonstrate the power of academic and community partnerships in support of service learning and consider how to create meaningful learning experiences with a global perspective when travel may not be feasible. It will highlight the mentoring that takes place when a faculty member and a student work together to prepare grant proposals, participate in community events, give presentations and navigate cultural and language barriers to effectively advocate for a cause that they are both passionate about.

Description:

Describes the Calnali Microfinance Project and the partnership of the Rotary Clubs of Indianapolis, Indiana, Cottleville/Weldon Spring, Missouri, and Huehuetla, Mexico; Pro Mujer; IUPUI BiCCHEC Signature Center; Friends of Hidalgo; and the IUPUI Center for Service and Learning.

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