

Spring 2015 Volunteer Service Award Recipients



Adesina Oyenuga is volunteering with **Indego Africa** in their New York office before leaving for Rwanda this summer. She will be working with the production team to upgrade and enhance their processes. Adesina will act as a liaison between Indego Africa's Creative Director and the team's new production associate in Rwanda. In addition, she will have the opportunity to work one on one with the artisans providing on-site design and business training, as well as assisting with the social impact study.



Blair McGee is spending 7 months working in two underdeveloped communities near Managua, Nicaragua as a Program Director with **Manna Project International**. Her focus is on community development, and is working on establishing or enhancing English classes, child sponsorship programs, a jewelry cooperative, camp, and an exercise program.



Carissa Chen is spending 13 months working as a Program Director near Managua, Nicaragua with **Manna Project International**. It is the duty of the Program Director to continue and build upon the programs implemented by previous Program Directors. Carissa hopes to focus on building on programs in the creative arts, children's English classes, and women's exercise and nutrition.

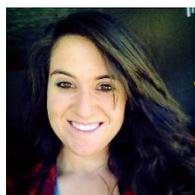


Shanelle D'Alessio will begin her 13 month commitment with **Manna Project International** as a Program Director in Nicaragua in July, 2015. She plans to focus her efforts on healthcare as well as mentoring programs.



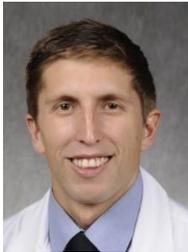
Catharine Althaus is already 9 months into her a 13 month commitment as a Program Director for **Manna Project International** (MPI), working in the Chillos Valley of Ecuador. Through focusing on education, health, and livelihoods, MPI aims to address the challenges facing the communities they serve. Program Directors are responsible for day to day operations, short-term volunteer recruitment, and are involved in financial oversight, grant writing, fundraising, social media, public relations, and donor relations.

Domenique Ciavattone began volunteering with **2Seeds Network** in Bombo Majimoto, Tanzania in September, 2014, and plans to stay through July, 2016. Bombo Majimoto is in a very remote region of the country and the single road in and out is unreliable and essentially impassible during the rainy season. Domenique and her team have been working with the community to find solutions to getting their produce to markets in the city. They have been experimenting with growing smaller/higher priced herbs as heavy crops are difficult to get to market. Working with partners



in the community, they have decided to build greenhouses to better protect against unreliable weather, bugs, and other potential threats.

Greg Klazura is volunteering from early May through June, 2015, with **Global Emergency Care**



Collaborative (GECC) as a Research Assistant at GECC's emergency care facility in Nyakibale Hospital, in a rural section of southwestern Uganda. Greg left on this trip literally days after completing his 1st year of medical school. His principal duties involve collecting patient data as part of GECC's on-going self-evaluation and self-efficacy effort. GECC's innovative program is centered on task shifting. There is an extreme shortage of doctors in rural Uganda, and before GECC, the concept of an emergency room did not exist. The innovative GECC program of training nurses to be Emergency Care Professionals has had a major impact on improving the outcomes of patients.



Emily Huang is a UCLA student who will be spending part of her summer in rural Tanzania working with **Support for International Change** (SIC). As an international SIC volunteer, Emily will be partners with a Tanzanian volunteer and will live with a host family in the community she is assigned to work in. Their primary responsibilities will be to develop HIV/AIDS prevention awareness campaigns, start peer education programs in the community, and encourage community members to get tested.



Grace Eggert attends Barnard College and is a member of Columbia University's **GlobeMed** Chapter. The chapter has partnered with a local grassroots women's rights organization located in Gulu, Uganda. As the region recovers from civil war, the people of Northern Uganda face many challenges, including a widespread HIV epidemic, extreme poverty, and a severe lack of healthcare infrastructure. As a *GlobeMed Grassroots On-site Work* (GROW) Intern, Grace's primary responsibility will be to help the partnership improve healthcare in the community.

Jordan Mulders attends Wayne State University and is a member of its **GlobeMed** chapter. They



have partnered with a healthcare foundation in Kabale, Uganda. The central focus of this partnership is health education and sustainable living within the partner community to break the cycle of disease, poverty, and educational deficits. Jordan, as a member of the *Grassroots Onsite Work* (GROW) Team, a committee within *GlobeMed* chapters, will travel to Kabale and observe the work of their partner organization and follow-up on the efforts that the *GlobeMed* chapter has sponsored over the last several years.



Marina Mai is a member of Washington University at St Louis' **GlobeMed** Chapter. Since 2008, they have been partnering with a Ugandan health NGO which provides reproductive health, youth empowerment, child health and HIV/AIDS services in the districts of Iganga, Mayuge and Luuka. Each year as part of the *Grassroots Onsite Work* (GROW) trip, a team of students works alongside Ugandan staff over the summer to strengthen the partnership, contribute to and help develop programs and organizational infrastructure, and document experiences to share with the GlobeMed chapter.



Niara Lezama is also a member of the Washington University at St Louis **GlobeMed** Chapter's *Grassroots Onsite Work* (GROW) Team which will be traveling to Uganda. Her specific assignment is with the Nutrition Project in Naigobya and with the Youth Resource Center in Iganga. The goal of the Nutrition Project is to teach local citizens about how to eat a balanced diet using local foods, focusing especially on mothers and young children.



Samuel Lovett-Perkins is a *Grassroots Onsite Work* (GROW) Team member with Northeastern University's **GlobeMed** Chapter. Their partner NGO focuses on water and sanitation project in Masaka, Uganda. Initially, the chapter focused on raising funds for the construction of wells, pit latrines, and tippy taps, but the work has evolved over time to further address the needs of the communities being served by educating women led self-help groups about the importance of water sanitation and sustainable agriculture. During their time in Uganda, in addition to observing progress and quantifying impact, the team will go out to surrounding villages and survey communities on a variety of questions pertaining to their quality of life.



Kristen Midura is spending 6 months volunteering with **Green Empowerment** as a support engineer for their partner AsoFenix, a local non-governmental organization in Nicaragua whose work is to build empowerment and resilience in rural communities with renewable energy systems. The project team anticipates that this work in Nicaragua will reduce the food deficit caused by the dry season and droughts and will improve crop yields over rain-fed agriculture by three to four times. The families will be able to grow a diverse array of fruits without having to cut down any more forest. These crops also will be made available in the local markets, expanding the health impact into the surrounding community.



Sue Ron-Gonzales received her 2nd Volunteer Service Award grant to continue work with **Tomorrow's Stars** which she began in 2013, when she started a girls club for students in Elmina, Ghana. This year she will leverage her training as a literacy teacher when she return to Ghana to establish a cross-age tutoring program with club members being trained to tutor younger girls. This program will provide tutoring twice a week during the school year as well as during vacation school.