

AllPeopleBeHappy foundation

2012 Volunteer Service Award Grant Recipients



Molly Ortiz will be participating in **Ghana ACT's** education program, teaching English, Math, Science and Computer Skills at McColin's Primary School in Fiave, Ho, Ghana. Her personal mission is to make a difference in the lives of youth through education and coaching, and to be an advocate for the rights of those with disabilities. Additionally, together her friend and team mate at Washington and Lee University, she will be using her passion for athletics and experience coaching to implement a new children's health and fitness program, titled Athletes ACT. They will take all possible measures to ensure that McColin's Primary School is equipped with the necessary resources to sustain Athletes ACT beyond the two months that they will be there.



This summer, **Michelle DeChant** will work as a research assistant with **Global Emergency Care Collaborative** at Nyakibale Hospital in Uganda. She will assist research teams with on-going projects as well as develop and implement her own research project bringing together her interests in emergency medicine and women's health especially as related to partner violence in East Africa. Michelle spent a year after graduating from college in a refugee camp in Zambia working for an organization called FORGE to establish health care and educational programs for Congolese refugees. These experiences peaked her interest in the complexities of delivering care in areas with limited resources.



Chloe Guss has worked at **Indego Africa** in New York as an unpaid intern since September 2011 in sales, marketing, and product development. During that time she has expanded Indego Africa's retail and media markets by introducing new products to the retail line. She has also facilitated collaborations between new and existing retail outlets and our artisan partners in Rwanda, displaying an astute sense of the women's traditional skills and the potential for the Western market. As a result of her background in design and merchandising, as well as her extraordinary networking skills, Chloe has also created new products that fully leverage the limited raw materials available to our Rwandan partners. For that reason, Indego Africa has requested that Chloe travel to Rwanda for at least three months to apply her design skills to the further development of new products, expand new markets, and increase the efficiency of production.



This summer **Janna Elwell** will be working with **Greenheart Travel, a division of the Center for Cultural Interchange** in Malloco, Chile. The specific project is with a community-based organization that gives abandoned, psychologically and physically abused children an opportunity to rebuild their lives by developing self-esteem, love and trust in people. Volunteers have the opportunity to provide not only assistance of basic needs but also the necessary support and tools to face their future with hope and love and dignity. Janna's job as a volunteer will be to work directly with the children in the center by organizing games, recreational activities, arts and crafts and academic tutoring sessions. She will also tutor children in English.

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Armani Hawes will be volunteering with **Greenheart Travel**, a division of the **Center for Cultural Interchange** in Cumbaya Ecuador. As a volunteer, she will assist local doctors and nurses with public health campaigns, give adult education classes, and work with children at the elementary school in this small town just outside of Quito. Her time will be dedicated to improving early childhood education, helping adults gain vital job skills, and improving health and hygiene throughout the community. In her 12 weeks there, she will be working side by side with local doctors, nurses, school teachers, and students to make a positive difference in Ecuador.



Paola Pardo began her volunteer assignment in March 2012, as a student leader for **Global Student Embassy's** youth leadership program. She will be in Tanzania for 3 months helping local students in the Morogoro, Kilakala, and Mzumbe Secondary Schools, in the development of ongoing agricultural and nature projects, and the implementation of new agricultural growth in the community. Her goal is to support and help create gardens for growing vegetables and starches, which will in turn will allow our students to learn the agricultural cycle first hand.



Michael Austin will travel to Ethiopia, where he will work with **Kossoye Development Program** during its June Great Gardeners Workshops in the towns of Gondar and Dabat. During his time there he will help to establish a demonstration garden in Dabat, work in the communities of Kossoye and Shenkor Mesk, and encourage students at the University of Gondar to become more involved in the project. Upon returning to the United States, he will run a similar program with Ethiopian-American students through the Summer Youth Enrichment Program at Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services in Columbus, Ohio. Michael hopes that by describing his experiences in Ethiopia he will help his students in America reconnect with their cultural heritage. More importantly, it will help to model proper nutrition and healthy lifestyles for both populations.



In February 2012, **Philip Issa** began his 1st 4 month volunteer assignment a Fellow with **Kiva**. He hopes to continue with Kiva through at least 2 four month assignments. Kiva Fellows are assigned to work with a host Microfinance Institution (MFI) to expand its base of clients and funding, improve its services, and implement the practices necessary to fulfill its social purpose in its community. Philip is currently living in in Ramallah, Palestine. He has three overarching responsibilities as a Kiva Fellow. The first is to improve the social performance of his host MFIs. Second is to conduct Borrower Verifications. A third responsibility is to blog to document his time in the field. We can look forward to blog postings linked to *AllPeopleBeHappy*. Since Kiva is unable to administer the funds from the Volunteer Service Award grant, Friends of Langley Meeting House have graciously agreed to act as Philips fiscal sponsor.

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Christopher Kuo, Megan Kelly, and Cynthia Lee will be volunteering with **Support for International Change** to support its mission to limit the impact of HIV/AIDS in underserved communities and to train future leaders in global health and development. These students have spent months preparing for this assignment, and will spend additional time in Tanzania, along with other international volunteers and Tanzanian college students undergoing intensive training before moving in with their host families in rural communities near Arusha. During their time in their home villages they will teach about reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention in both formal and informal settings, encourage residents to participate in HIV/AIDS testing opportunities, and help reduce the stigma and enhance the acceptance of community members living with HIV/AIDS

