

Spring 2018 Volunteer Service Awardees



Heather Kryzak is volunteering with **Advocates Abroad** for 10 weeks during the summer of 2018 as an Advocate in the Field in Greece. As an Advocate, she helps run legal aid clinics, educates refugees on their legal rights, prepares refugees and asylum seekers for their asylum interviews, and assists in family reunification applications and appeals. Advocates Abroad works on the islands of Chios, Samos, Lesbos, and Leros, as well as in Athens.



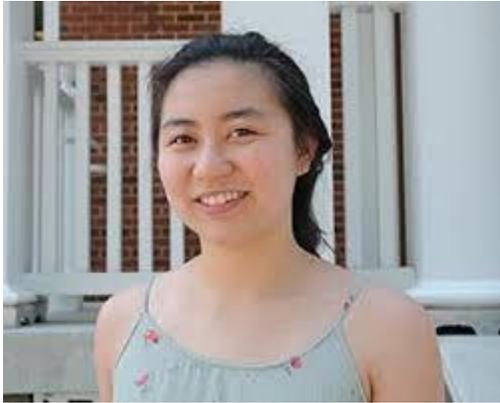
Kailey Stutzky is volunteering in the Dominican Republic with **Building Bridges of Hope**. As a recent RN graduate, Kailey is working in mobile medical clinics along the border of the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Her goal is to start implementing a permanent medical clinic up in the mountain in an area called Calimete. In 2015 and 2016, she helped complete a study in this area about the factors that contribute to malnutrition in children. The study found that the malnutrition rate in this area was around 25%. Not only will this clinic provide immediate medical attention, but will focus on being proactive. In addition, this is an area where

many adults suffer from high blood pressure. By being more present in these communities, the clinic will be able to provide health education and make it easier to obtain refills when patients' medication runs out. Kailey has committed to stay a minimum of 6 months but hopes to be able to extend her stay for a year.



Kieryn Ota is volunteering with Duke University's **Duke Engineers for International Development (DEID)**. Kieryn is part of a 7 person team traveling to Uganda to construct a vehicular bridge outside of Kanyegaramire, a village in the Mwenge North County of the Kyenjojo District. The current bridge is a narrow, unstable foot bridge which floods twice a year for three to four months at a time, limiting the travel options for villagers. People sometimes pay to be carried across the flooded bridge. This difficult journey impedes the ability of farmers to transport and sell their crops in markets. The new bridge will be able to support the weight of trucks and will not flood during the rainy season, thus boosting

economic activity, improving safety, and increasing access to the maternity clinic that was built in 2017 by DEID.



Anvy Tran is volunteering in Vietnam with the **Pacific Links Foundation (PLF)**, working in counter-trafficking initiatives. PLF's multi-pronged, grassroots counter-trafficking initiatives include: (1) prevention services for at-risk youths living in trafficking hotspots, (2) reintegration services for trafficking survivors, and (3) partnerships for long-term solutions to prevent trafficking in school-based, factory-based, and community-based settings. As a program specialist, Anvy will spend a year in Vietnam working with staff

to develop the team's English language ability, hosting donor visits, and providing editorial support for outreach/PR communications. Moreover, she will participate in program implementation, workshops, conferences, and trainings.



Nate Bohm-Levine is volunteering in Mexico with **Partners In Health**. In May 2017, Nate began a year-long commitment to volunteer in Chiapas, Mexico with **Compañeros En Salud (CES)** a Mexican non-governmental organization partnered with Partners in Health. As a volunteer research assistant for two projects, one studying the implementation of the mental health program in order to improve it, and another project studying the relationship between gender and violence in

one of the local communities. As part of these efforts, he is working to improve monitoring, evaluation, and quality improvement systems for the mental health program.



Elizabeth Prosser is volunteering with **Yspaniola** in the Dominican Republic. Yspaniola is an education-focused nonprofit organization that works with youths in the Dominican Republic. They are based in Batey Libertad, a marginalized community in the region of Esperanza in the Dominican Republic. Elizabeth will be volunteering for one year, from August of 2018 to August of 2019, serving as their Operations and Development Fellow. In this role, she will be working on programming for in-class teaching,

other learning experiences, and American university service trips to the Dominican Republic. She will also aid in Yspaniola's fundraising and have the opportunity to develop a project of her own design.



Lisa Hall and Steve Meicke – Lisa, a water resource engineer, and Steve, a mechanical engineer, both quit their jobs to spend a year volunteering with **Green Empowerment** in Nicaragua. The plan was for Lisa, along with Nicaraguan engineers in the communities of El Cua, El Bote, and San Jose de Bocay, to work on small-scale community-based water delivery systems. Steve was supposed to be working in the same communities, focusing on renewable energy projects, such as feasibility studies for

new small hydro installations, making improvements to the local electricity distribution system, and investigating the feasibility of adding a large-scale solar PV generating system to the electrical grid. That was the plan, but the civil unrest in Nicaragua caused them to change their plans at the last minute. Instead they have gone to Bolivia and are working to strengthen Green Empowerment's partnerships with local NGOs. They are still hoping to work with their Nicaraguan partners remotely.