

Spring 2019 Volunteer Service Awardees



Leena Sabagh was awarded a \$2500 Volunteer Service Award as a volunteer this summer with **Advocates Abroad** in Chios, Greece. As a legal field advocate, she will be providing legal aid to asylum seekers and refugees who are fleeing violence and persecution across the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. Her main duty will be to aid asylum seekers on preparing for their asylum interviews. For the interview preparation, she will be collecting information, evidence, documents and conducting interviews with the clients in order to establish a strong case for their asylum.



Sylvie Stoloff was awarded a \$1000 Volunteer Service Award and will be spending a year in Mexico City volunteering with **Ashoka**. **Harvard University** is acting as her fiscal sponsor. Sylvie will be assisting with two major projects at Ashoka. The first involves helping to plan and direct Ashoka's Leadership Academy Bootcamp for Emerging Innovators. Her second task is to assist with impact evaluations of the various projects supported by Ashoka, ultimately creating an Emerging Insights report that details current trends and best practices in the Latin American social entrepreneurship space.



Kailey Stutzky was awarded a \$1000 Volunteer Service Award for her work with **Building Bridges of Hope** in the Dominican Republic. This is the 2nd Volunteer Service Award that Kailey has received. She is a registered nurse and has spent more than a year with Building Bridges of Hope and is currently their medical coordinator. Her work is varied, for example, Mondays consist of a children's nutrition Program in El Llano. Tuesdays through Thursdays, they have mobile medical clinics on the mountain, where they have doctor consultations, a mobile pharmacy, and a children nutrition program. Days when she has extra time, she goes to visit the elderly who are homebound. She has also been working on fundraising for the construction of the permanent medical clinic in an area called Rosa La Piedra.



Caleb Davis is volunteering with **Caminos de Agua** for approximately 5 months in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico. He was awarded a \$1000 Volunteer Service Award. Caminos de Agua's technology team focuses on developing healthy-water solutions that broadly fit into two categories: groundwater treatment and rainwater harvesting. The primary focus of the technology team in the upcoming months will be to continue the development of arsenic sorbent filtration devices using locally

available, low-cost materials. Caleb's primary responsibility will be to assist in the development of this product.



Maria McDonough is spending 6 months in Bocas Town, Bocas Del Toro, Panama volunteering with **Lacrosse the Nations!** She was awarded a \$1000 Volunteer Service Award grant. This new organization utilizes the sport as a conduit for grassroots development, helping to change the lives of youths via camps, afterschool programs, in-school PE classes, etc. As a long-term volunteer for a this newly piloted program (their flagship location is Nicaragua), Maria will be responsible for wearing many hats under the label of Program

Director. Part of her days will be spent planning and coaching youth lacrosse programs and developing Life Skills Curriculum. The other part will be filled with assisting with fundraising, marketing, doing community outreach, managing logistics for the volunteer groups, and taking charge of the measuring and evaluation processes.

This Spring 3 volunteers with **Manna Project International** in the Los Chillos Valley, Ecuador



were each awarded \$1000 Volunteer Service Awards. **Kelly Teshima-McCormick** and **Gaby Hochu** each were also awarded 2018 Volunteer Service Awards and have been in Ecuador since July 2018, planning to return to the US in August 2019.

Kate Clendenen has been volunteering since January 2019 and will also be returning home in August. As Program Directors they



help run the day-to-day operations. For example, teach English to both children and adults, run



libraries, teach nutrition and cooking classes. They also work in partnership with a local shelter for adolescent mothers who are victims of sexual abuse. Program Directors are given a degree of autonomy which enables them to propose and design programs with match their interests and skills. Finally, each of the Program Directors are responsible for evaluating and tracking metrics or each of the programs they are involved with.

Victoria Lichtman is spending 6 weeks this summer in the Mbarara District, Western Uganda volunteering with **The University of Michigan Global Interprofessional Experience in Uganda**. She received a \$1000 Volunteer Service Award grant. Global Interprofessional Experience in Uganda is part of a project that connects American social work, nursing, and



medical students in civic community projects in rural southwestern Uganda for six weeks. Students are placed in three or four rural Ugandan communities and participate in additional training on leadership and management at the regional Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST). The aim of the project is two-fold: serve as a rotation for Ugandan health professional and to promote improved health outcomes and treatment-seeking behavior for individuals and families in the rural and remote areas of Uganda.

Victoria is the only social work student selected for this project and will be joining a cohort of seven U-M nursing students and three U-M faculty members (from the School of Nursing and the School of Social Work). After her time in Uganda, she will be expected to report on her findings on current and developing community health interventions in the village communities where she was placed and on the role of social work in Uganda as a discipline and a professional practice.