

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES



GlobeMed at UCLA

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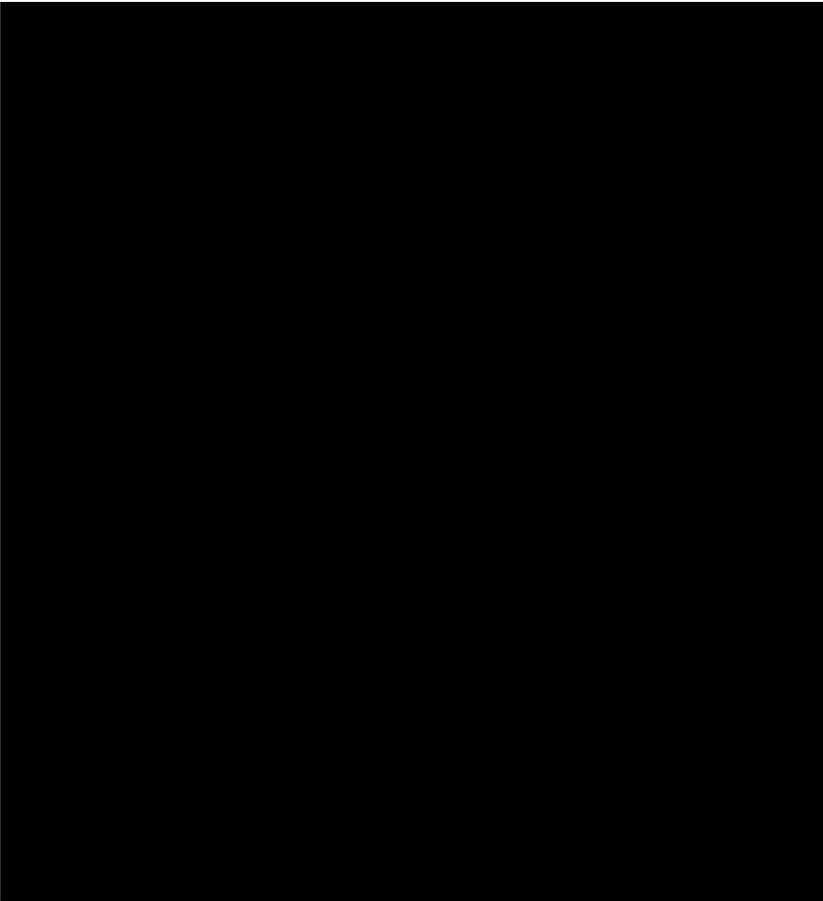
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About GlobeMed

GlobeMed at UCLA is a national, student-run, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that strengthens the movement for global health equity by partnering passionate university students with motivated grassroots leaders to sustainably improve the health of impoverished people around the world. Through our direct partnership with the Mpoma Community HIV/AIDS Initiative in South-Central Uganda, we target the root causes of poverty and poor health, disrupting the cycle between the two. Direct partnership allows us to work *with* rather than *for* the people in need, breaking down the barriers that separate ‘us’ from ‘them’ so that we can target the community’s needs and concerns to make sustainable change. Through our local fundraisers, education, and advocacy events, we also aim to increase awareness of global health and social justice issues at UCLA and in the greater Los Angeles area. For more information, you may visit our website at www.globemedat UCLA.wordpress.com, contact Clara Lengacher at [REDACTED], or contact our chapter advisor Brittany Zelch at [REDACTED]. Pamela Cysner, [REDACTED] can confirm our status as a formal organization.



¹ This money is used to maintain the water source on the grounds of Johnson Nkosi Primary School, which we work with directly through our partnership with Mpoma

² We wire money to Mpoma biannually to fund their project while our members are not present

³ We use this money to match the funds raised by each village water user committee. We match 9:1 the first year, 3:1 the second year, and 1:1 the third year to ensure the fund is robust enough in the early years to address any problems that may arise with a water source

Philanthropy through Partnership

GlobeMed's unique partnership model allows student members to work closely with our partner organization, the Mpoma Community HIV/AIDS Initiative, to create sustainable change in several villages in south-central Uganda. At the beginning of our partnership, we established a W.A.S.H. (Water Access, Sanitation, and Hygiene) Project to improve water systems in the Nama sub-county, where Mpoma is located. More recently, we have started a second project bringing reusable sanitary pads to the girls attending Johnson Nkosi Primary School, Mpoma's partner school, with the aim of decreasing the dropout rate of girls after they start their period.

Employing a multifaceted framework, the W.A.S.H. project encompasses the building and maintenance of accessible water sources, evaluation and education of best practices for water handling and hygiene, and community buy-in through local supervision of village water sources. The first aspect of this multidimensional project entails surveying villages and replacing or repairing of water sources in those with the greatest need. In communities where water sources are nonfunctional, or where villagers must make multiple trips over long distances to access water, creating new water access points and rebuilding deteriorated wells offers a substantial and measurable increase in quality of life. Since the inception of this project, we have funded the replacement and/or repair of 12 water sources in the most vulnerable villages. The second aspect of this project includes working with communities and local leaders to elect Water User Committees, groups that preside over village water sources and establish savings funds to ensure the long-term maintenance of water access points. All 12 water sources have elected Water User Committees and started saving funds by collecting a small, monthly household fee determined by villagers and committee members. By contributing to their local funds, community members make a commitment to the future of their water source and lessen their dependence on outside donors. If any issues arise with the water source, the Water User Committee can access this fund for repair. For Example, the Katoogo Health Centre consulted Mpoma and used their fund to fix their borehole last year. GlobeMed at UCLA subsidizes these saving funds by matching the small villager contributions for the first three years after each Water User Committee is formed. By matching 9:1 the first year, 3:1 the second year, and 1:1 the third year, we incur only a small cost while ensuring a robust fund is available if needed. Finally, through collaboration with Mpoma, we have developed a curriculum for teaching villagers about sanitation and hygiene practices with the aim of preventing the spread of waterborne diseases. The Mpoma team carries out this W.A.S.H. training and collects relevant efficacy data at these meetings.

Within the past year, we have identified another need within our partner's community: sanitary hygiene resources and education for young girls. Many girls drop out of school after starting their period due to stigma and lack of menstruation management resources. In the summer of 2016, we worked with Mpoma to develop a sustainable way to provide resources to the girls attending Johnson Nkosi and began a reusable sanitary pad project. Working with the school, we taught the female students how to make reusable sanitary pads out of old cloth. We then built a washing and drying structure on the school grounds for the girls to privately clean and hang their pads after use. To avoid the spread of disease, each girl has been given her own washing bucket and hanging station. By providing a consistent and reusable resource for these young girls, as well as further reproductive education in the classroom, we have created a sustainable way for them to remain in school throughout their development. Throughout the next year, we will reassess this project and identify further ways to improve its sustainability.

To extend our work to local in addition to national communities, we network with local non-profit organizations to contribute to volunteer projects and learn about creative ways these

organizations are tackling issues in the LA area. This February, we volunteered with LA Kitchen, a local organization that trains formerly incarcerated or homeless individuals in the culinary arts to help them reenter the job market. They use donated food that would otherwise be discarded to address the issue of food waste, and the meals their students make are used to feed local community members, addressing the issue of hunger. Volunteering in their kitchen allowed us to connect with their students and their partners, learn about their multifaceted approach to aid, and contribute to projects within our own community. A first-year member even commented in a reflection blog post he wrote about the experience, “seeing that local organizations are fighting the same fight gives me confidence that we are doing the right thing.”

Fundraising

Our organization holds multiple fundraisers throughout the academic year to reach our \$11,000 commitment to Mpoma. Every quarter, we hold at least two small bake sales from local bakeries such as 85 Degrees, transporting the baked goods to campus and selling them to students on their way to and from class. This generates approximately \$380 per quarter. At the end of Fall quarter, we hold two annual holiday sales: a sock sale where students pre-order holiday socks and have them delivered, and an “ugly” Christmas sweater sale where students purchase sweaters both online and on campus. Together, these holiday fundraisers raised over \$817 this year. During Winter quarter, we hold our largest annual event – a Valentine’s Day themed carnival called Achy Breaky Heart. We partner with another student organization on campus to fundraise and raise awareness for both of our groups’ projects. We network with local businesses who donate food and raffle prizes, and we provide entertainment with student performers including acapella groups, comedians, and musicians. During the event, we also host a date auction where volunteers are auctioned off with a donated date item, such as a dinner for two from Trader Joes. Each year, this event brings in about \$1,000 for our organization.

In addition, we challenge our members to raise money for Mpoma through an Individual Giving campaign. Each member pledges to raise \$100 throughout the year, and they meet this commitment by teaming up to run small fundraisers or reaching out to friends and family. This allows them another opportunity to practice philanthropy first hand, while at the same time spreading awareness for our cause within their personal and campus community.

Local and International Impact

GlobeMed aims to increase awareness of philanthropy, as well as global health and social justice issues, through both our chapter meetings and our on-campus advocacy events. Each week, a portion of our meeting is dedicated to educating our members on current issues through ghU discussions. These interactive presentations are prepared by our members and aim to inform students about current problems while challenging them to analyze the current solutions and think of their own. We have also modified these presentations to give to other student organizations in hopes of sparking a broader campus conversation about global health. This year, we also organized an on-campus exhibition on the World Day of Social Justice. We built an inequality sign by painting an equal sign on a board and creating a slash through it by attaching different items representing solutions to global health problems (condoms for reproductive rights, pencils for education, rainbow flags for LGBTQ rights, etc.). GlobeMed members asked students to take a single item off the board on their way to class, then gave them information about the issue their item represented and organizations working to address it. By the end of the day, all the items had been removed and all that remained was an equal sign, showing the role many organizations, including our own, play in promoting global health equality.

Further, we aim to instill awareness in all our fundraising activities. For example, when students ordered socks during the holidays, included in their delivery was a fact sheet about water access and GlobeMed's work to improve it. In addition, during Achy Breaky Heart, we educate attendees about our cause and our partner, showing videos of our work in Uganda. By instilling education in our chapter meetings, campus events, and fundraisers, we hope to increase awareness of global health and social justice, as well as motivate students to get involved.

With our partnership model, our impact extends past our campus and reaches the members of the communities Mpoma benefits. In Uganda, our W.A.S.H. Project has directly benefited community members in 11 villages, two more than last year, securing sustainable water sources and decreasing the amount of time that families spend collecting water. Since the beginning of our project in 2013, we have funded the repair or replacement of 12 water sources and directly impacted 6,100 people throughout south-central Uganda. Moreover, by establishing Water User Committees in these villages, we have created a sustainable solution to prevent donor dependency and promote community ownership of water sources. While in its early stages, our sanitary pad project currently benefits 60 young girls at Johnson Nkosi Primary school, with projections to reach 300, giving them the resources and agency to continue their education throughout their development.

Encouraging Student Involvement

GlobeMed's partnership model encourages student involvement in all aspects of our organization. All our meetings, campaigns, and outreach events are planned and run by our 45 student members, providing ample opportunity for students to create sustainable global health change. By expanding our outreach on campus, both in person and through social media, we encourage other students to participate in our events as well. Each event, such as volunteering at LA Kitchen, is another opportunity for members to engage with local community members about social justice issues and raise awareness about health disparities.

Additionally, three to four of our student members travel to Uganda each summer for six weeks as part of our GROW (Grassroots On-Site Work) Internship. These students apply in the Fall and are chosen by the co-presidents and GROW coordinator to fund, plan, and complete the internship during the summer. GROW interns ensure that our project is running smoothly, identify areas for improvement and expansion, and collaborate to determine whether the needs of the community are still being met. During the school year, we maintain communication with our partner through bi-weekly Skype calls with the manager of Mpoma. While run by the GROW team, these Skype calls are open to any GlobeMed members and they may also submit questions for the Mpoma team, strengthening the bond between our members and our partner.

Implementing Generous U Funds

GlobeMed at UCLA is committed to raising \$11,000, with a goal of \$14,000, to fund the creation of new wells and/or repairs in 11 vulnerable villages in the Nama sub-county and on the grounds of Johnson Nkosi Primary School. With the \$10,000 from Generous U, we would be able to build more water sources, each costing \$760, and continue matching the Water User Committee funds. Ideally, the Generous U funds will also be used to improve the sustainability of the sanitary pad project by purchasing an incinerator for the safe disposal of pads and buying more materials for reusable pad construction. Additionally, these funds would allow us to visit villages more frequently, increasing communication and partnership. Overall, the funds from Generous U would cover much of our budget and enable us to sustainably increase the standard of living in our partner's community.