

NEXUS

Physician Assistants for Global Health Monthly Newsletter

OCTOBER 2014

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PAGH 2014

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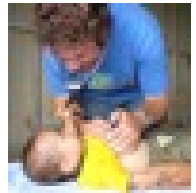
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Giving Back to Our Members


Jacob Hauptman, PA-C, President, PAGH



We at PAGH understand that one of the most significant driving forces for our members is that firm goal of providing crucial medical services to an underserved population. This aspiration could be in the form of one of our members taking their first volunteer trip, returning to previously visited regions, or even starting their own organization to serve a community in need. Regardless of how strong the drive is, without sufficient funds, those goals may never be realized.

PAGH wants to give that small but significant boost that will hopefully lead to our members achieving their altruistic aims. As of October 1st we are accepting applications for our 2014 Fellow Grant which will be awarded at the end of December. There are up to two \$500 grants available which are required to be used to directly facilitate

providing care for underserved populations. The options for the use of this are almost endless and could take the form of covering travel costs, purchasing medical supplies, or even funding an ongoing clinic.

We hope that our members will take the time to spread the word regarding this opportunity to any and all PAs who are interested in pursuing their dreams of providing underserved medical care. An dream which, when accomplished, will change the lives of not only the PA who takes the journey but also all the people they come in contact with along the way. Please consider applying for the 2014 Fellow Grant by completing the application instructions in this edition of the Nexus or by going to our website, www.pasforglobalhealth.com. 

PAGH: Open Positions

Secretary - If you want to get an introduction to PAGH and also lend a tremendous hand, consider joining as our secretary. A 2 year position, the secretary helps by keeping meeting minutes, monitoring the PAGH email account, keeps track of all documents and manages distribution of Nexus.

Web Coordinator - If you have a talent with websites and web design then please consider joining PAGH as the Web Coordinator and creating a strong online presence for PAGH! Stephen Pasquini, PA-C has been working in the background as our web coordinator for almost 2 years now but he is leaving for

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Physician Assistants for Global Health
Local Hands, Global Reach

Online: www.pasforglobalhealth.com / **Email:** pasforglobalhealth@gmail.com

Join us on Facebook: *Physician Assistants for Global Health*



Decreasing Healthcare Disparities: Kuwait Serves up Recipe to Decrease Hypertension

Ismah Jawed, PA-C

Kuwait, a small Arab country with four million people, has taken a giant step to fight hypertension, a major contributing factor of heart disease and a major global health issue disproportionately affecting low- and middle-income countries.

Prompted by a high prevalence of hypertension in its young adults, the Salt and Fat Intake Reduction Taskforce, created by Kuwait's Ministry of Health within its Food and Nutrition Administration, collaborated with the country's largest bakery to cut salt by 20 percent in the nation's most popular bread. Kuwait adults consume 12-15 grams of salt each day.

In 2010, a quarter of the Kuwait population aged 20-49 and half of those over age 50 had hypertension, a condition recently spotlighted during World Health Day as a major contributing factor for heart disease.

If imitated, Kuwait's action could have an impact on low-and middle-income countries, where nearly eighty percent of deaths due to cardiovascular disease occur. Globally, states the World Health Organization (WHO), this public health issue disproportionately affects populations of low- and middle- income countries,

where health systems are weak and education is lacking.

Salt reduction initiatives aid in the prevention and control of high blood pressure. An estimated 2.5 million deaths could be prevented if global salt consumption were reduced to the recommended level of less than 5 grams per day for adults, according to WHO.

In addition to dietary changes, other lifestyle changes need to be addressed with greater public health education, such as tobacco use, alcohol intake, and physical inactivity. WHO recommends creating integrated programs within primary care to decrease the burden and preventing the large cost of cardiovascular disease consequences that push middle- and low- income communities into poverty.

References

- 1) A Global Brief on Hypertension. 2013. World Health Organization
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/79059/1/WHO_DCO_WHD_2013.2_eng.pdf
- 2) Kuwaitis lower blood pressure by reducing salt in bread. (September 2014). World Health Organization.
<http://www.who.int/features/2014/kuwait-blood-pressure/en/>

PAGH: Open Positions (*continued*)

international travel. Your duties will be to manage the already-built website, help keep postings on our website up to date and help expand the offerings to our members.

PAGH Delegate and Alternate Delegate for the 2015 AAPA House of Delegates (HOD) in San Francisco- A fun way to see the inner workings of the AAPA and to contribute to our profession as a whole. As of 2013 PAGH has an individual vote in the HOD, creating a chance for us to cast a vote in the HOD with a global health perspective in mind. If you like any sort of politics than this is the role for you. This will be a voted position with an application and platform statement required by early January 2015 and a request for a vote sent out to our members late January, 2015.



Physician Assistants for Global Health 2014 Fellow Grant Application

General Requirements:

- Current PAGH Fellow Member
- Applicants must be NCCPA certified
- Work of the applicant must be with patient population in underserved area (US or abroad)
- Applicants must submit a written essay answering question #9 of the grant application in 500-1000 words.
- Applicants must have either the organization they will be volunteering with or a PA/NP/MD colleague electronically submit a letter of recommendation for the applicant. The letter of recommendation must include the contact information of the organization or provider who submits it for further contact if necessary.
- Funds must be used directly to facilitate the applicant in providing medical care for the underserved population. Grant recipients must sign a written agreement stating that the amount of the grant is not otherwise provided other means; that they are in fact in financial need of the grant amount; and that any PAGH funds received will be used solely to fund the cost of the trip or provide direct patient care services while on their trip.
- Applicant cannot be a current PAGH board member or other employee or PAGH volunteer involved with financial decision making.
- Grant winners are required to contribute to an article for the PAGH newsletter – Grant candidates are also encouraged to contribute
- All portions of application are due no later than 11:59pm PST on December 15, 2014

Directions for Submission of Grant Application

- Please email this application to pasforglobalhealth@gmail.com. Please put this in the subject line: 2014 Fellow Grant Application, Your Name
- Letter of recommendation will need to be emailed to the same email address, placing in the subject line: 2014 Fellow Grant Recommendation, Your Name
- Questions regarding this Grant or application can be directed to PAGH at the same email.

Candidate Name:

NCCPA ID:

Address:

Cell:

Email:

1. In which underserved areas do you work or wish to work?

2. With which organization do you work with or do you work independently?

Please provide us with contact person who can verify your participation.

3. What patient population do you serve:

4. What disease states:

5. Dates of service:

6. Estimated cost to you to volunteer:

7. Please list any literature that documents the sustainability and efficacy of your organization or project.

8. Who will be sending your letter of recommendation?

9. Essay (500-1000 words): What is your role as a physician assistant to help rectify the global provider deficit and how would this scholarship help you achieve that?



Announcements

Welcome To Our New and Returning Fellow Members!

Jean Covino, Emily Little, Fayrose Abodeshisha, Emily Santobuono, Erin Kelle Dean, Jonathan Benak, Jacob White, Siloe Ministries, Anna Heilig Adams, Joanna Dubinsky, Robin Jewett, MacKenzie Bohlen, Jacqueline Benson, Gloria Haley, Lisa DeWolf, Mindy Mancuello, Matt Byers.

Welcome To Our New and Returning Student Members!

Andrea Banke, Christina Byler, Robert Pipkin, Jordan Barner, Mariam Makar, Richard Duncan, Mickey Kander, Tommy P, Carmisl Van Hoet, Elliott Foss, Heidi Rieck, Rica Haraguchi, Audrey Audrey, Emma Bacharach, Jocelyn Modine.

International Academy of Physician Assistant Educators 7th Annual IAPAE Conference October 12-14, 2014. Arcadia University, Philadelphia, USA

IAPAE's annual conference is stateside this year, and offers two days of a diversity of content, discussion and presentations, with our keynote speakers from The Netherlands, USA and Ethiopia.
Visit iapae.org for more information about the program and registration.

PA INVEST 2014 October 30 - November 1, 2014. Amsterdam www.pa-invest.nl/en/Amsterdam_20_291.html

To celebrate their 10th anniversary the Dutch Association of Physician Assistants (NAPA) is inviting physician assistants and PA educators from around the world to participate in the international congress.

Upcoming Medical Service Trips

International Medical Relief
www.internationalmedicalrelief.org
Uganda: Oct 25 – Nov 1, 2014
Indonesia: Nov 22-30, 2014
Haiti: Dec 27, 2014 – Jan 3, 2015

Flying Samaritans
www.flyingsamaritans.net
Frequent trips originating from California and Arizona to clinics throughout Baja California, Mexico

Seattle King County Disaster Team
www.skcdteam.org

The SKCD Team is always looking for PA volunteers for it's 4 yearly trips to Haiti. Visit www.skcdteam.org and contact any board member to discuss joining a team.



Volunteer Organizations

If you are aware of any trips or organizations that are looking for **PA volunteers**, please contact pasforglobalhealth@gmail.com. Please Note: it is not our desire to promote specific organizations only to connect PAs with opportunities and encourage professional philanthropy. This information is not an endorsement of these organizations.

Africa Cancer Care Inc - International opportunities with an oncology focus. www.africacancercareinc.org

Amazon Promise - Medical trips to portions of the Amazon Basin. www.amazonpromise.org

Benjamin Wellness Center - Opportunities in Gatamaiyu, Kenya. www.benjaminwellness.org

Christian Medical and Dental Assistance - www.cmda.org

Community Coalition For Haiti - need for medical professionals for 1-2 week trips to staff a primary clinic in Jacmel, Haiti. www.cchaiti.org

Exploration Logistics - Places PAs worldwide to serve as medical support for various expeditions. Positions include oil rigs and other industrial projects, etc. www.elgfze.com

FIMRC Global Health Volunteer Program - Opportunities in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Peru, Costa Rica, India, and Uganda. www.fimrc.org

Flying Doctors of America provides medical assistance and hope to as many of the poor and needy as they are able to reach. Medical & dental teams to wherever the current need is. www.fdoamerica.org

Flying Samaritans Mexico - year-round for Baja California, Mexico. www.flyingsamaritans.net

Global Brigades - www.globalbrigades.org

Goabroad.com - Assists different professions with placement internationally. www.goabroad.com

Grounds for Health - Uses PAs in Africa, Mexico, Peru, Nicaragua. www.groundsforhealth.org

Health Horizon International - www.hhidr.org

Heal the Children - Ecuador, Haiti. Contact: jensorooni@gmail.com. www.healththechildren.us

Heart to Heart International - weekly trips to Haiti and Guatemala. www.hearttoheart.org

Holy Rosary International Medical Mission - www.hrimm.org

Hospitals of Hope - Bolivia, Haiti, and Liberia. www.hospitalsofhope.org

ICHA Outreach to fight Cardiovascular Disease - Ghana. www.ichaonline.org

International Medical Relief :Currently recruiting for a trip to Pakistan. Also trips to Asia, Africa, South & Central America, Eastern Europe. www.internationalmedicalrelief.org



Volunteer Organizations

Kenya Relief - www.kenyarelief.org

Lalmba - Lake Victoria in Kenya and in a rain-forest in Ethiopia. Goals are clinical medicine, coupled with public health, and working with local physicians. www.lalmba.org

Many Hands For Haiti - www.mh4h.org

Medical Missions Response - North Africa, Middle East, South/East Asia. www.mmronline.org

Mercy Ships - volunteer opportunities aboard "hospital ships". www.mercyships.org

Mountain Medics International - Cordillera Huayhuash, Peru. www.mountainmedics.org

Nunoa Project - two trips a year to Peru. www.nunoaproject.org

NYC Medics - deployment to disaster zones and humanitarian emergencies. www.nycmedics.org

Omni Med - work focused in Uganda. www.omnimed.org

Operation Smiles: providing surgeries around the world. www.operationsmile.org

Palmetto Medical Initiative - www.palmettomedical.org

Panama Global Connections - www.panamaglobalconnections.com

Peacework Medical Projects - www.peaceworkmedical.com

Physicians for Peace - work in Central/South America, Africa, Asia. www.physiciansforpeace.org

Project HOPE - land-based and ship-based care to regions around the world. www.projecthope.org

Rotations and Courses Internationally - www.gorgas.dom.uab.edu and www.cugh.org

The Carolina Honduras Health Foundation - Limón, Honduras. Active clinic, frequent need for medical volunteers. www.carolinahonduras.org

The Damien House - Leprosy in Guayaquil, Ecuador - <http://thedamienhouse.org/aboutus.html>

Timmy Global Health - looking for volunteers year-round. www.timmyglobalhealth.org

US Doctors For Africa - utilizes PAs for Africa work. www.usdfa.org

Volunteer Kenya / ICODEI - accepting PA volunteers year-round - www.volunteerkenya.org

WellShare International - www.wellshareinternational.org

Help Nexus Improve! Your input can make a difference for future issues of Nexus. We welcome suggestions and submissions for future Book Reviews, Spotlights, or other features. And, of course, any and all comments are welcome. Contact chad.eventide@gmail.com

