

The Connection

GlobeMed
at Truman State

Welcome to The Connection! In order to increase communication between our committees we will be posting information and articles from other committees to keep everyone informed. We cannot do this alone however, we need your help! So please, if you have something that you would like to see in our newsletter or an idea for publication, contact the committee chair Tonya Jackson at tmj550@truman.edu!



Health Partnership

Health Partnerships is currently working on two major projects. The first involves entering and analyzing data obtained by a group of students who went on house visits in Haiti last year. A second database is being compiled with information from healthcare workers at Maison de Naissance. Students working on the project at present include Krystal Foster, Josh Privitt, and Lara McKay. The second project underway involves getting a webcam set up and at MN so GlobeMed can have direct communication with the clinic. Students currently working on this project include Amanda Backs and Mary Naeger. Both projects are headed by the Director of Health Partnerships, Chris Dove. Long term goals of Health Partnerships include forming partnerships with health care providers in our community.

Development

Our Development team is doing a great job this semester and is working on several projects. Of course we all know of the Supply Drive coming up this weekend. There are still a few spots open to work, so if you'd like to take an extra shift, talk to Rachel ASAP. This will be very important in giving much needed supplies and money to Maison de Naissance for every day use in the clinic. Also, they are hosting a benefit dinner with members and businesses of the community with the intent of establishing an important donor database that will hopefully be long lasting. This will help raise some funds. They will be doing some campus fundraising with specifics later to come. So as you can see our Development team is really busy and needs all the support we can give them.

Education and Training

The education and training committee is newly headed by junior Justine Torregosa and will be continuing the tradition of being a dynamic committee. They are currently working on organization a "Global Health Week" which will take place March 25-29. The major focus on this week will be "Clinic on the Quad" during which Truman students will get an up close and personal look at a what a health care clinic in Haiti is actually like. The week will feature speakers and discussions, bringing the many facets of Global Health care into focus for both GlobeMed members and Truman Students alike. Other than Global Health Week, the committee intends to continue educating members through weekly presentations and discussions both during general meetings and committee meetings.

→ **Are you possibly considering a career in public health?** There are research opportunities in the field of epidemiology here on campus to help you learn about the tools used by public health officials. These tools include mathematical and statistical modeling and data analysis. Our research team is currently focused on designing models for plausible scenarios of "bird flu" in the city of Kirksville; we then use these models to construct viable plans of action that could save the most lives under the conditions expressed in the models. No prior knowledge of epidemiology is required. However, it would be useful to have experience with differential equations (Calc I) and/or computer programming.

Contact: AJ Caine at alc456@truman.edu

Connecting to Your World

Keeping in touch with our partners can only help MN, so this issue we're connecting you to HMHB.

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies:

The Healthy Mothers – Healthy Babies Foundation is a non-profit organization based out of Shawnee Mission, Kansas. Established in 2004, the organization was co-founded by Dr. Stanley Shaffer and Dr. Betsy Wickstrom.

In late 2003, Dr. Shaffer and Dr. Wickstrom traveled to Haiti on a mission trip. After observing the very minimal and inadequate health care available to pregnant mothers, Dr. Shaffer and Dr. Wickstrom believed that many of the problems associated with Haitian health care could be resolved by providing health care that was standard in the United States many years ago. Upon traveling to the town of Larnage, they were informed of a building that was to be used for a community health clinic, but if no arrangements were made, the building would be returned to the donor. Dr. Wickstrom made the down payment on the building, promising that the clinic, to be known later as Maison de Naissance, would be open in twelve months. After returning to Kansas City, Dr. Shaffer and Dr. Wickstrom started the Healthy Mothers – Healthy Babies Foundation. They began asking local hospitals, pharmaceutical and medical suppliers for donations. Unused medical supplies, too old to be used in hospitals in the United States, were collected for use in the clinic. In addition to supply donations, donors had pledged enough funds to operate Maison de Naissance for the first three years. Exactly one year later, the clinic opened, and two weeks later, the first baby was born. Since the opening of Maison de Naissance, more than 600 children have been delivered and more than 1,000 women have received prenatal care.



Recently, Dr. Wickstrom and the rest of the Healthy Mothers – Healthy Babies Foundation directors have been approached about opening similar prenatal care and delivery clinics in villages in Kenya and the Dominican Republic. While the project in Kenya is a long way off, the Dominican Republic project is scheduled for 2008.

The Healthy Mothers – Healthy Babies Foundation has set forth five guiding principles:

- Excellence of medical care – evidence based interventions, welcoming and compassionate staff, and triage and appropriate referral partnerships
- Accessibility – 24/7 availability, transportation solutions, home visits, and no patient fees
- Cogent use of health information technology – electronic medical records, community health records, personal health record ownership, and quality monitoring and performance improvement
- Community engagement – focus groups, mothers' club, home visits, and school and church activities
- Promotion of local leadership – local ownership and board of advisors, community staff, and training programs

Visit: www.hm-hb.org

www.globemed.truman.edu:

Ed Kuntz has been working with our website quite a bit, making it more interactive and useful for the organization as a whole. Here are some of the new features you should check out!

- Absence excuse form
- Up to date calendar
- A suggestion box for concerns about globemed
- Information about the finances of globemed
- The current minutes

Have questions?

- Ask a committee head for committee information
- For research information contact AJ Caine
- HMHB article by Laura Hilliard
- If you'd like to know more about our website, ask Ed Kuntz