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Massachusetts General Hospital and Seed Global Health Partner to Support Health Professionals Training the Next Generation of Physicians, Nurses and Midwives in Resource-Limited Settings in Africa

GHSP Volunteers Eligible to be Massachusetts General Hospital Fellows in Global Clinical Education

BOSTON, MA, November 26, 2014 – Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Seed Global Health (Seed) announced today that all Global Health Service Partnership (GHSP) Volunteers will be eligible to become Massachusetts General Hospital Fellows in Global Clinical Education. The academic designation is being offered in recognition of GHSP Volunteers' service, teaching, and clinical care through their year of service with the GHSP program in resource-limited countries abroad. This new designation highlights the joint commitment of MGH and Seed towards supporting health professionals who dedicate their time and talent to help train the next generation of doctors and nurses and increase health delivery capacity in countries where there is a critical need.

The World Health Organization estimates that in 83 countries around the world there is a dire shortage of 7.2 million doctors, nurses, and midwives. Seed, a non-profit organization closely partnered with the MGH Center for Global Health, aims to help alleviate this global shortage through supporting medical and nursing education. Seed's flagship initiative is the GHSP program, a unique public-private partnership with the Peace Corps and President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). In collaboration with ministries of health and education, and local training institutions, the GHSP program places US volunteers at medical and nursing schools in Malawi, Tanzania, and Uganda to serve for a year as educators working alongside local faculty. Seed offers volunteer educators up to \$30,000 in debt repayment to ensure that financial obligations (such as medical/nursing school debt, etc.) are not barriers to service.

"I am incredibly appreciative for Mass General's ongoing support and for offering this title to our GHSP health professionals," said Dr. Vanessa Kerry, CEO of Seed, Associate Director for Partnerships and Global Initiatives at the Center for Global Health, and critical care physician in the Department of Medicine at MGH. "This fellowship position is not only critical to supporting the career path of our doctors, nurses, and midwives, it will also help us recruit the most qualified health professionals to serve in the program."

Dr. David Bangsberg, Director of the Center for Global Health, echoed Dr. Kerry's comments: "We are proud of our partnership with Seed and the US government to build clinical leadership at partner institutions abroad. The deep commitment of the GHSP volunteers to improve the health of people around the globe is admirable and commendable."

In its inaugural year (2013-2014), the GHSP program's 30 volunteers served at 11 training institutions across Malawi, Tanzania, and Uganda. These educators taught over 2,800 medical and nursing trainees and 85 courses over the course of 32,000 work hours. This year, the program expanded to send 42 GHSP doctors and nurses at 13 training institutions in the same partner countries.

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The Center for Global Health improves the health of the most vulnerable in our global community by leveraging the Massachusetts General Hospital 200-year legacy of innovation in medical care, education, and scientific discovery. Drawing on a tradition of excellence in subspecialty medical education and cutting-edge clinical research, the Center for Global Health promotes integrated and multidisciplinary medicine to strengthen health systems with partners in resource-limited settings.

Visit [www. http://mghcgh.org/](http://mghcgh.org/) for more information.

Seed Global Health's mission is to help alleviate the shortage of health care professionals and help build sustainable health systems in countries where there is a critical need. To achieve this mission, Seed Global Health works through a unique public-private partnership with the Peace Corps and the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), supporting doctors and nurses as faculty in medical and nursing schools in Africa. GHSP volunteers educate and mentor local medical and nursing trainees and faculty at partner country institutions in Malawi, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Visit www.seedglobalhealth.org for more information.