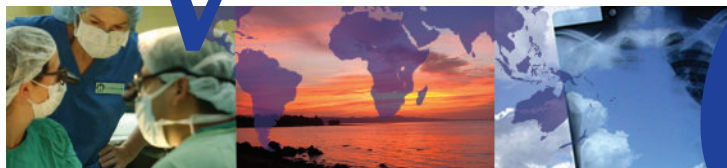


# The Volunteer Connection



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**Health Volunteers Overseas** ♦ *Transforming Lives Through Education*

## Growing & Expanding in a Digital World

The last few years have been filled with challenges, but they have also been a time of growth. Changing circumstances around the world required us, along with everyone else, to be flexible and adapt to this new landscape. With teamwork and ingenuity, Health Volunteers Overseas was able not only to maintain educational programming, but also to continue to grow and flourish in our new environment. We have used this opportunity to expand our use of technology and our reach around the globe. We have opened new projects and specialty areas, developed and launched a virtual learning platform, and found ways to provide more easily accessible resources. As HVO looks forward to 2023, we are eager to leverage this growth and lessons learned in recent years to strengthen our partnerships and increase our impact.

### Remote Education Interface

HVO embraced the changing needs of our partners by designing and implementing our virtual learning platform, the Remote Education Interface (REI), in 2021. This digital platform provides a streamlined, centralized location for partners and volunteers to engage in training and to access resources. Each REI site is custom designed with input from our project directors and partners abroad to ensure that it meets the particular needs of each site. HVO staff can customize an REI site for individual projects in order to meet the unique educational needs and technological capacities of the target learners. We currently have nineteen active REI sites and thirteen still under development.



Vietnamese oncology students attend a virtual lecture with Dr. Jo Anne Zujewski.

HVO's REI sites have rapidly evolved despite their recent adoption. At the start, each was designed to support a single project with resources available to a single partner. Now, a volunteer's presentation can be accessed across multiple teams and institutions around the world, increasing the number of practitioners benefiting from a single volunteer's efforts. The opportunity to conduct case conferences and lectures with health professionals from different locations also serves to expand the professional networks and facilitate the exchange of ideas and knowledge among learners.

*continued on page 3*

## News & Events

### LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

---



*There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots; the other, wings.*

*--Hodding Carter*

Dear Friends,

As I make preparations to retire from 36 years with HVO, I have often thought of this quote. Whether it is raising a family, launching a business, or starting a non-profit, so much time, energy, commitment, and love is involved, for a very long time, to develop firm foundations and cement values. Yet, there comes a point when it is time for the child or the business to move to the next stage on their own. While bittersweet, it is also an exciting time to see what happens next and what new directions will be taken.

It has been such an incredible journey to watch HVO develop from a small group of volunteers to the well-respected organization that it is today. Our volunteers are as committed as ever; our model expanded to encompass a variety of training styles and opportunities; and our reputation is grounded in solid, consistent values of equity, partnership, and life-long learning.

It is now time for me to step back and allow HVO to soar. I am excited for HVO's future and look forward to a new generation taking the organization further on its journey of providing training and education to ensure that one day, all people will have access to high-quality health care delivered by local health professionals.

Many thanks to all who have shared this journey with me, and best wishes to those who will take the baton for the next segment of the trip.

Sincerely,

*Nancy*

Nancy A. Kelly, MHS  
Executive Director

---

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## Growing & Expanding in a Digital World

*continued from page 1*

The REI has also adapted to support multiple education initiatives at one institution. For example, HVO developed an REI to support the education of oral health professionals at Dhulikhel Dental School in Kathmandu, Nepal. The REI facilitates case consultations between residents and faculty at Dhulikhel Dental School and the University of Minnesota. Soon, faculty and residents at Augusta University will be joining the team. The same REI also supports lectures for the dentistry and dental assistant programs at Dhulikhel.

With such success and support from the HVO community, we plan to continue improving our REIs and maximize their utility and accessibility. HVO's international partners and learners have made it clear they are excited to move forward with a hybrid education model, embracing the opportunity for increased education and support through virtual engagement. At the same time, we all remain eager to resume in-person assignments and have missed the enriched sense of connection and community this facilitates.

### New Projects



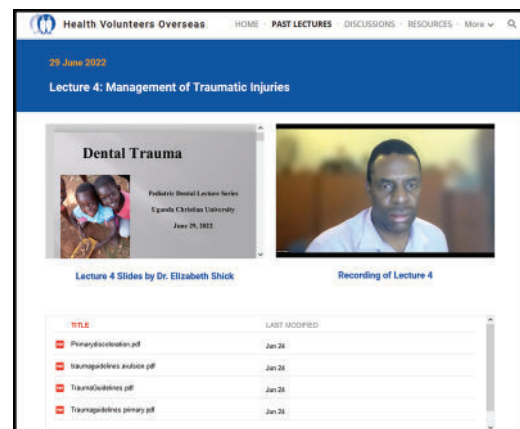
Dr. Barry Silbaugh and staff at Holy Innocents Hospital in Uganda participate in a discussion for the hospital administrator training project.

Even with much of the world shut down, HVO continued to open new projects and expand teaching opportunities, opening forty-one new virtual projects and establishing five new international partnerships since the beginning of the pandemic. Some of these, like the hospital administrator training project in Uganda and the virtual lectures to be delivered in French and Arabic to providers in Mauritania, are entirely new program areas and countries for HVO. In addition, HVO volunteers will complete five in-person site assessments in 2022, continuing our period of robust growth as we return to in-person volunteering and shift to a hybrid program model.

Of the forty-one new projects, here are a few highlights:

### Oral Health, Uganda

An entirely new partnership, this project began as e-learning in May 2022 in collaboration with Uganda Christian University Dental School in Mukono. The first training was a six session seminar series, presented over the summer by six volunteers, each on a different topic in the field of pediatric dentistry. Topics included restorative dentistry, pulp therapy, and management of traumatic dental injuries. The seminar series was offered to fourth year dental students enrolled in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery program as an elective course. After each session, student and faculty participants had the opportunity to ask questions, leading to informative dialogue and engagement. HVO is planning a site visit in December to assess further educational needs and the potential to evolve into hybrid programming, supporting both in-person and virtual volunteers.



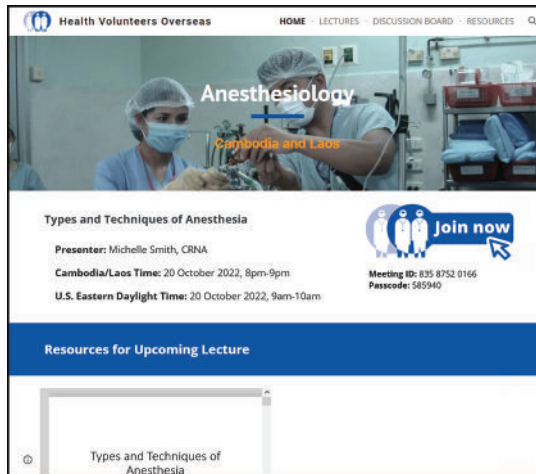
HVO's Uganda oral health REI

*continued on page 4*

## Growing & Expanding in a Digital World

*continued from page 3*

### Anesthesia, Cambodia and Laos



HVO's Cambodia and Laos anesthesia project REI

HVO launched a lecture series in anesthesia to support the professional development of young anesthesia providers from three HVO partner institutions in Cambodia and Laos. For this project, lectures are pre-recorded by volunteers and made available on the REI. Participants from each hospital have the chance to learn together, connect, and share knowledge. Two of the HVO volunteer lecturers for this project were senior nurse anesthetists from Ankor Hospital for Children who are eager to develop their skills as educators and help educate the young professionals entering the field of anesthesia. Looking to the future, HVO is exploring the potential to expand the next series of lectures to include other hospitals in the region, further expanding the reach and impact of this project.

### Internal Medicine, Costa Rica

HVO's internal medicine project in Costa Rica was an active site pre-pandemic, receiving many in-person volunteers annually to mentor faculty and provide training to residents. In February 2022, HVO launched a virtual component to this project and has provided twenty-three lectures to date on topics related to cardiology, endocrinology, infectious disease, nephrology, and neurology. Each HVO volunteer has provided three to four lectures, helping build rapport and deepen understanding of the current educational needs of the learners. The virtual education has been so successful that HVO's partners in Costa Rica are eager to continue online lectures, even as in-person assignments are reinitiated.

*continued on page 7*



Photo courtesy of Dr. Jose Alonso Acuña Feoli

## News & Events

IN MEMORIAM

### Remembering Lawrence Gordon, MD



The HVO community will miss Dr. Lawrence Gordon, a valued member and dedicated volunteer since 1989. Dr. Gordon made many trips to the orthopaedic project in Uganda during his tenure, working closely with Dr. Rodney Belcher in revitalizing the Department of Orthopaedics and transforming the orthopaedic program at Mulago Hospital in Kampala.

He spearheaded the creation of a residency curriculum that has been used to train over one hundred orthopaedic surgeons not only in Uganda, but also in Kenya, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cameroon, and Ghana. His curriculum remains in use at Makerere University in Kampala and at other teaching facilities. Dr. Gordon helped shape the trajectory of orthopaedic education all over Africa, and he was recognized for his contributions in 2012 with the

HVO Golden Apple Award. Dr. Gordon was a resident of Honolulu, Hawaii and graduated from Stanford Medical School in 1953. We extend our condolences to Dr. Gordon's family and friends.



A planned gift ensures that HVO will be able to continue to make important educational strides in the improvement of health care in resource-scarce countries.

When you write or review your will, please consider leaving HVO a charitable bequest as an investment in HVO's future. To discuss making a bequest in your will or other charitable aspects of your estate planning, please contact Nancy Kelly at [giving@hvousa.org](mailto:giving@hvousa.org).

If you have already made a charitable bequest, please let us know. We would like the opportunity to express our gratitude and will honor all requests to remain anonymous.

Thank you to the following people who have made this commitment:

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Alfred Scherzer, MD, MS,  
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The Estate of Karen Pitts  
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Dr. Robert & Ann Volz

## News & Events

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### David E. Frost, DDS, MS Honored with Humanitarian Award from AAOMS



Photo courtesy of Dr. David Frost

David Frost was honored recently at the opening ceremonies of the annual meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. The AAOMS Humanitarian Award “recognizes fellows and members who have donated substantial time and effort with their local community or on a global basis, resulting in an improvement in the quality of life for the public.”

For 35 years, Dr. Frost has shared his knowledge and skills through volunteer assignments in Nepal, India, Chile, Peru, Cuba, and Vietnam, many of which were through HVO. He also served as the civilian National Consultant for oral and maxillofacial surgery for the US Air Force Dental Corps for ten years.

Committed to service, Dr. Frost has held multiple positions on OMS Foundation committees, and served as Chair in 2009 and 2010, and is a past President of the Southeastern Society of OMS. Over a period of seven years he served as an examiner, director, and President of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. At HVO, Dr. Frost served on the Oral Health Steering Committee for many years, and chaired the committee 2020-2023. He was Chair of HVO’s Board of Directors from 2003-2009.

Dr. Frost’s dedication and service have been recognized throughout his career, first by the US Air Force, with its Commendation Medal in 1983 and the Meritorious Service Medal in 1986. In 2008, he was awarded the AAOMS Presidential Achievement Award and, in 2015, he received the highest OMS Foundation recognition, The Torch Award, as well as their Gerald E. Hansen Outstanding Service Award. In 2016, the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons honored him with the Frank DiPlacido Humanitarian Award, which is presented only when the Board deems appropriate, to members who distinguished themselves through humanitarian efforts.

HVO was proud to honor Dr. Frost’s commitment with the Golden Apple Award in 2014.

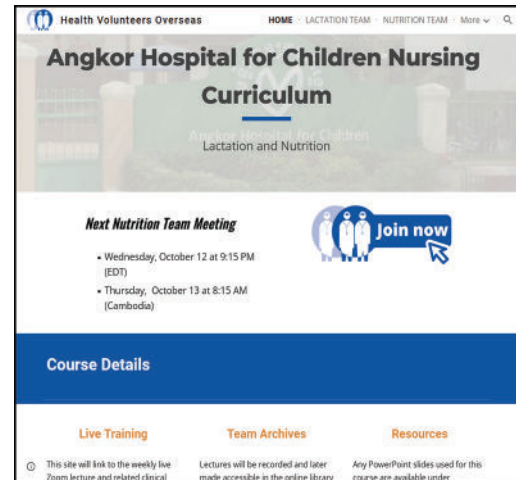
Congratulations on this latest acknowledgement of many years of dedicated service!

# Growing & Expanding in a Digital World

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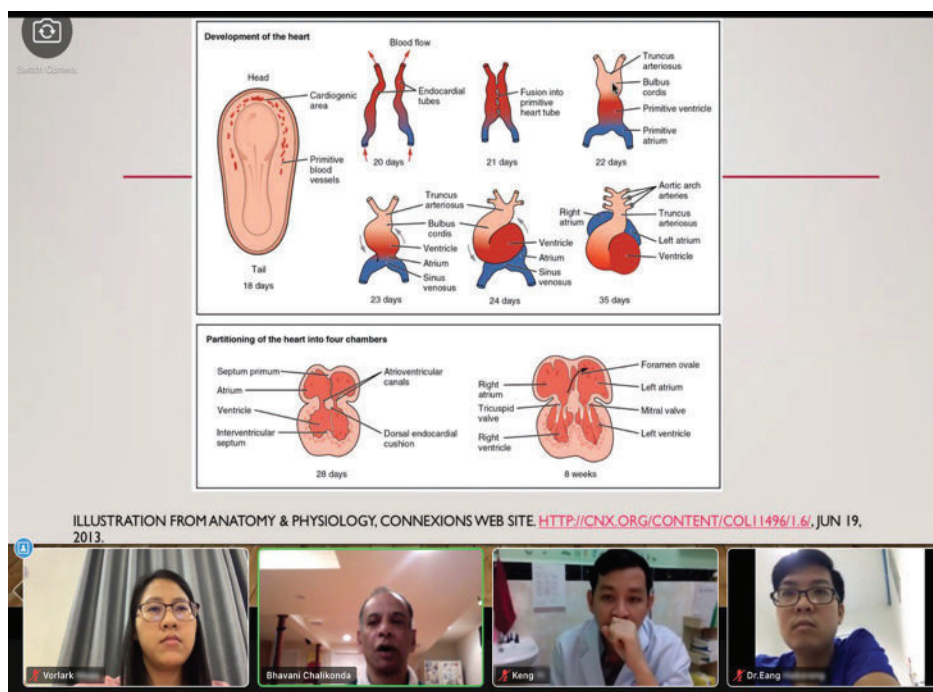
## Nutrition and Lactation, Cambodia

A new area of instruction for HVO, nutrition and lactation lectures began in 2021 in partnership with Angkor Hospital for Children (AHC) after a request from local nurses for support. A team of volunteers meet online weekly with the nutrition nurses from AHC to provide a short lecture and consultation on complex cases. Volunteers have been able to provide valuable guidance, improving outcomes for patients and providing further education to staff members who are largely self-taught. HVO's original team of seven nutrition and lactation volunteer experts has been growing as new volunteers from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics have begun joining lectures and discussions. A small group of volunteers is currently working to prepare a formal curriculum to guide future education, and plans to recruit a clinical nutrition expert for an in-person assignment in 2023 are underway.



HVO's Nursing Cambodia REI for Angkor Hospital for Children

These are just a few of our many new initiatives. There is so much to look forward to in the coming months, and a lot of work ahead. We intend to continue expanding our program offerings and developing our REIs, reaching as many new learners as possible. We are excited to share more news with you as projects develop. Stay current by following us on social media, subscribing to our monthly e-newsletter, and visiting our website.



Bhutanese students attend a virtual pediatrics lecture with Dr. Bhavani Chalikonda.



# HAPPY RETIREMENT

First I want to congratulate you on the decision to move into a new phase of your life. I hope it will be full of joy and curiosity and a sense of pride in what you've accomplished at HVO. You are also to be congratulated on your enormous achievements in bringing health and health care training to so many parts of the world. Your work has far reaching, long lasting, and exponential benefits for so many people, not least to those of us who have been fortunate to serve as HVO volunteers. You really have made the world a better place in so many ways.

- Anne Marie Tietjen, PhD

Congratulations on your retirement. Your dedication and leadership are an inspiration to all and a model for the future of the organization. We wish you well in the next phase of your life!

- Robert Stein, MD

Congratulations on your spectacular 36 year career. I would enjoy knowing just how many individual lives you have touched, someone should try to figure that out. Thank you for all your support and guidance over the years.

- Isador Lieberman, MD, MBA, FRCSC



It has taken me a few days to let this sink in! You have been the heart and soul and brains of HVO and it is hard to imagine it without you!! I share the bittersweet feelings with you as I am so happy for you that you are entering this new phase and will get to travel (just for the fun of it!) and read and take time for yourself! Yet of course you will be so greatly missed by so many and I personally will dearly miss having you as my truly fearless leader.

- Linda Wolff , MPT



# Nancy



Congratulations! You have done an incredible job of creating, shaping, guiding, and now letting go of HVO! You are right that it is well positioned, like a child now grown who has his credentials in place and his head glued on straight! Good work!!

- Connie Evashwick, ScD, CAE, CPH

Awwww! I am so excited to have had privilege of knowing and working with you over the years....you have done a yeoman's job and are leaving behind big shoes to be filled. I wish you nothing but the very best... enjoy your adventures all over the world. I invite you to make a trip to Ghana. I will gleefully welcome you here. Thank you for your friendship, for dedicating most part of your life to ensuring global health equity. I will miss you so much, Nancy.

- Robert Sowa, PT

Congratulations! You have been the face of HVO for so long and will be truly missed. The press release says a lot but does not convey that your effectiveness was also due to the trust you conveyed. All volunteers and partners know you have their best interests at heart. Among my favorite quotes is one of Maya Angelou's, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." You make people feel empowered, competent and supported, allowing volunteers to do great things. Thank you!!!

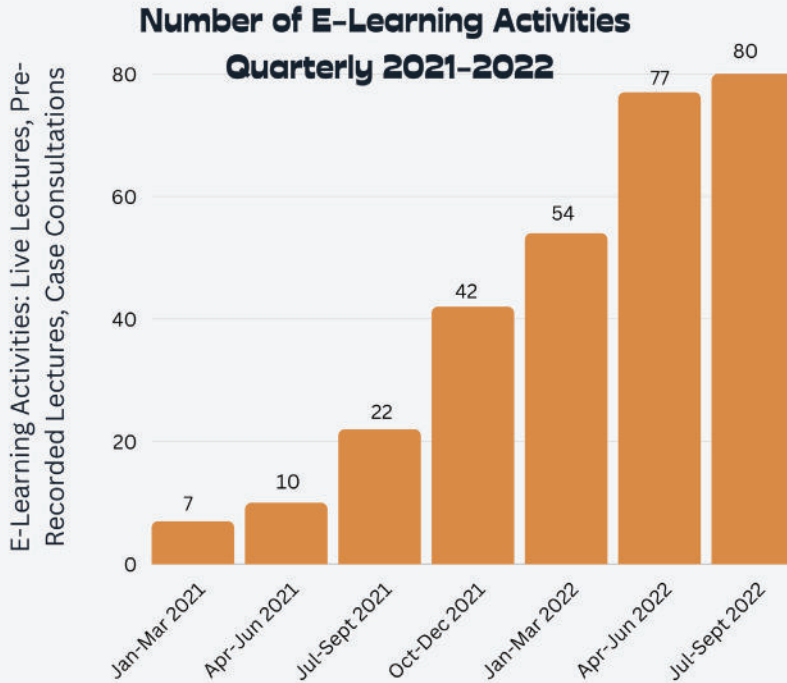
- Elizabeth Downes, DNP, MPH, MSN

Congratulations for the great job you did over the entire period you managed HVO. You did a very commendable job and that's why HVO can be proud of its success story. I hope you have Malawi on your list of countries you will visit and volunteer. Thank you again Nancy!

- Cyril Goddia, MD



# HVO: 36 YEARS OF...



"HVO made it possible for an e-learning platform, and we are benefiting greatly in this difficult time."  
On-Site Coordinator  
2021

## Capacity Building

**3,100**

average number of health care professionals trained by HVO per year.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

**243**

scholarships awarded from 2011-2022 to our colleagues abroad to participate in virtual or in-person professional development opportunities.

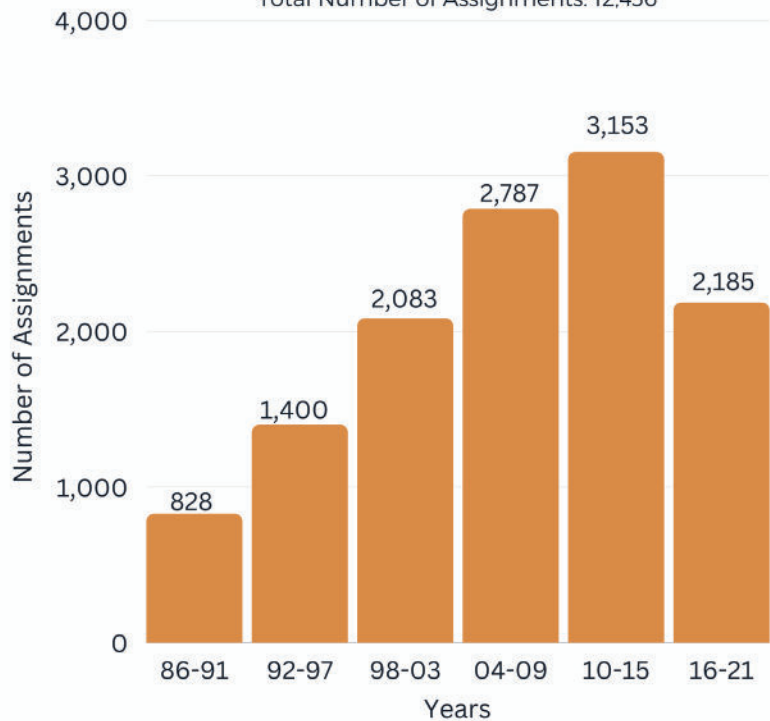
### SUSTAINABLE IMPROVEMENTS

**86%**

on-site coordinators feel their partnership with HVO has led to sustainable improvements.

### Volunteer Assignments

Total Number of Assignments: 12,436

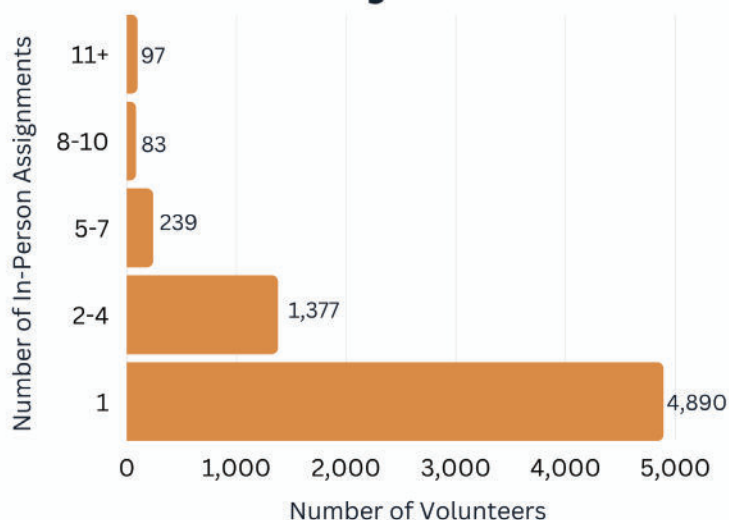




# Volunteerism

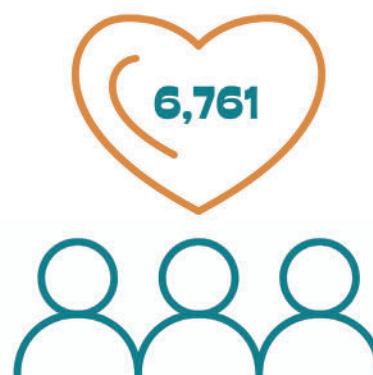


**Repeat Volunteers:  
In-Person Assignments 1986-2021**



"HVO's work changes the lives of both the learners and the volunteers. This is very important and should not go unnoticed." HVO Volunteer, 2021

**Number of In-Person and  
Virtual Volunteers 1986-2021**



**205,846**

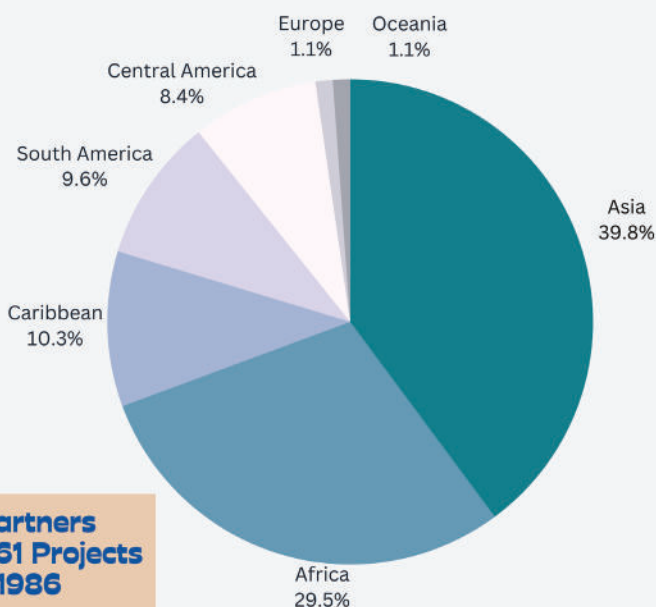
DAYS OF EDUCATION PROVIDED BY  
VOLUNTEERS FROM 1987-2021



# Partnerships

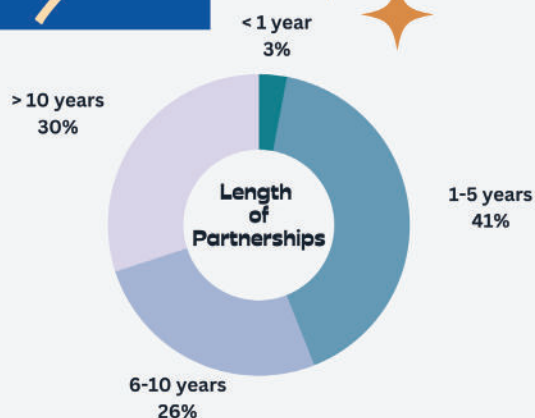


**Location of Our Projects**



**243 Partners  
and 261 Projects  
Since 1986**

**Length of Partnerships**



**Partners with the Most  
Volunteer Assignments**

ST. JUDE HOSPITAL, ST. LUCIA 1986-present	901
JIGME DORJI WANGCHUCK NATIONAL REFERRAL HOSPITAL, BHUTAN 1991-present	888
MULAGO HOSPITAL, UGANDA 1990-present	797

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Photo courtesy of Dr. Suzanne Abkowitz Crawford

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In memory of  
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William Billingham, DDS

In memory of Rita Feinberg  
Andrew Culbertson



Photo courtesy of Dr. Roy Korn

In memory of  
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Photo courtesy of Dr. Richard Henker

#### The Nancy Kelly Leadership Fund

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*This list reflects donations received by  
September 28, 2022.*



**Health Volunteers Overseas**  
*Transforming Lives Through Education*

## The Nancy Kelly Leadership Fund

*At the end of 2022, Nancy Kelly will retire after more than 36 years of service as executive director. In gratitude for her service, the Board has established the Nancy Kelly Leadership Fund. The goal is to raise \$500,000 for this fund which will be used to support HVO and the creation of new partnerships, projects, and scholarship opportunities. We invite you to contribute to this fund and thank you for your support!*

*Pledge Information (check all that apply):*

I will make a **one-time donation** of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (enclosed).

I would like to make a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ via a **recurring payment\*** to be deducted from the account I've indicated below.

I will begin my payments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(amount) (start date)*

These will be made (*check one*):  annually  semi-annually  quarterly  monthly

Please send information on including HVO in my estate plans.

*Method of Payment (check one):*

Check (*for recurring payment, please enclose a voided check*)

Stock (*details for stock transfer will be sent to your email address provided below*)

VISA  MasterCard  Discover  American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*A record of each donation will appear on your bank or credit card statement. You can increase, decrease, or suspend your pledge at any time by contacting HVO by phone or mail. All donations provided to HVO originating as ACH transactions comply with U.S. law.

*Personal Information:*

Signature (**required**): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(please print)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Tele: \_\_\_\_\_

*Include a message for Nancy:*

*Please return this form to:*

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**Health Volunteers Overseas** is dedicated to improving the availability and quality of health care through the education, training and professional development of the health workforce in resource-scarce countries. HVO designs and implements clinical training and education programs in child health, primary care, trauma and rehabilitation, essential surgical care, oral health, blood disorders and cancer, infectious disease, wound management, and nursing education.

*The Volunteer Connection*, HVO's biannual newsletter, is available by mail or electronically for those who prefer. Subscriptions are free to HVO members and donors. Previous issues are available on the HVO website under "HVO News." The newsletter is produced by the communications staff at HVO.

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