HVO’s Mission

Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO) improves the availability and quality of health care through the education, training and professional development of the health workforce in resource-scarce countries.

HVO is a private, nonprofit volunteer organization founded in 1986.
HVO’s Vision

We envision a world where all people have access to high quality health care delivered by local health professionals.
The Global Health Workforce Crisis

- global shortages of health workers
- skill imbalances
- uneven distribution of providers
- poor work environment
- weak knowledge base
The Global Health Workforce Crisis

Estimated deficit of health care workers in 2013: 17.4 million

Largest deficits:
- South-East Asia (6.9 million)
- Africa (4.2 million)

By 2030, shortage estimated to exceed 18 million
The Global Health Workforce Crisis

“With the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, we have seen how inaction and chronic underinvestment can compromise human health, and also lead to serious economic and social setbacks. **Investing in health workers is one part of the broader objective of strengthening health systems and social protection and essentially constitutes the first line of defense against international health crises.** Complementing monitoring and crisis response mechanisms, health workers are the cornerstone of a resilient health system. We need these ‘Everyday Heroes’ to meet these needs and expectations.”

- *Working for health and growth: investing in the health workforce*
HVO - A Snapshot

- More than 11,900 volunteer assignments completed since 1986
- 90+ projects in 21 countries
- 3,200+ health professionals trained, mentored, and educated by HVO volunteers annually
- 400+ volunteer assignments annually
- 15 program areas that encompass dozens of health care specialties and address numerous global health challenges
- $103.3 million in professional services donated by our volunteers since 1986
- $35 million in educational materials donated since 1986
HVO - A Snapshot

More than 90 HVO projects are hosted on 4 continents

- Costa Rica
- Honduras
- Nicaragua
- Haiti
- St. Lucia
- Guyana
- Peru
- Ghana
- Malawi
- Rwanda
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- China
- India
- Laos
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Vietnam
HVO Programs

- Primary care and child health
- Oral health
- Nursing education
- Trauma and rehabilitation
- Essential surgical care
- Blood disorders and cancer
- Infectious diseases
- Wound management
HVO Programs

- Anesthesia
- Dermatology
- Hand Surgery
- Hand Therapy
- Hematology
- Internal Medicine
- Nursing Education
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Oncology
- Oral Health
  - Dentistry
  - Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
- Orthopaedics
- Other Projects:
  - Emergency Medicine
  - Pharmacy
  - Mental Health
  - Residency Training
- Pediatrics
- Physical Therapy
- Wound and Lymphedema
HVO Sponsors

- American Academy of Dermatology
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing
- American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
- American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists
- American College of Physicians

- American Dental Association
- American Foundation for Surgery of the Hand
- American Physical Therapy Association
- American Society of Clinical Oncology
- American Society of Hematology
- Association for the Advancement of Wound Care
- British Society for Haematology
- Society of Gynecologic Oncology
HVO Impact

- Introduction of more effective therapies
- Fewer infections
- Better pain management
- Fewer avoidable deaths
- Better quality of life for present & future patients
HVO Impact

- Expanding access to health care
- Developing national leaders in health care
- Building educational infrastructure
- Forging global linkages
- Improving global health through education
HVO Volunteers

- Serve 4 weeks on average
- Cover their own travel & living costs
  - $2,900 average per assignment
- 40% of placements annually are repeat volunteers
Why Volunteer?

- You can leave a legacy of better skills and knowledge, as well as more effective health care
- Your knowledge and skills are needed!
Skills of an Effective Volunteer

- Good listener
- Flexible
- Creative
- Patient
- Culturally sensitive
- Sense of humor
- Committed to sharing knowledge & skills
Providing education, training & opportunity for thousands of health workers...
... who will provide care now & for years to come.
Ways to Support HVO

- Become a member
- Give a cash or stock donation
- Include HVO in your estate plans
- Workplace Giving (United Way/CFC)

82.2% of all HVO spending goes directly to HVO’s teaching & training programs.

*This data is from the HVO 2018 IRS 990 Form.
Get started!

- Visit www.hvousa.org/volunteer
- Call us @ (202) 296-0928

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