



Pharmacy Student Mission Resources

Prepared by Bill Altland

First, I strongly urge that you carefully read the “Pharmacists Handbook for Short Term Mission Projects” by Dr. Ron Herman. Second, read the paper, “Collaborative partnership for clinical pharmacy services in Kenya” by Pastakie, SD, Schellhase, EM and Jakait, B in *Am J Health Syst Pharm* 2009; 66:1386-90. Virtually every major and many smaller Christian denominations in the US, England and Europe have major commitments to medical evangelism in third-world and developing countries where volunteer pharmacists and student pharmacists might be welcomed as participants. If you will simply Google some phrase like “mission volunteers” you will find far more than you can address. Following are a few examples:

- <http://www.pallotticenter.org/> A Catholic Based program for volunteers
- <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/about/us/mv/> United Methodist Global Ministries Volunteers
- <http://vimtest.macgillicuddy.org/> United Methodist Volunteers in Mission
- <http://www.elca.org/> Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- <http://www.pcusa.org/nvo/summerservice.htm> A service program of the Presbyterian Church
- <http://going.imb.org/> A huge mission endeavor of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. View this site thoroughly.
- <http://www.gabaptist.org/> Mission Board of the Georgia Baptist Convention
- <http://www.ipsf.org/> The International Pharmaceutical Students Federation currently seeking volunteers for a project in Uganda
- <http://www.transitionsabroad.com/> Has a wide variety of volunteer work abroad
- <http://www.vfp.org/> International Volunteers for Peace. No religious connection. \$330 just to get started plus travel and other fees
- <http://www.timmyfoundation.org/> Medical and non-medical volunteers to Guatemala and Ecuador
- www.medicalmission.ca / Based in Canada, Helps with organizing short term medical and dental trips "working with the local church" Suggested by Brooks Harrell.



The following is the names and addresses of former missionaries with whom I worked. It is my belief that everyone would be happy to respond to a request for information or advice. I believe that several have now returned to the US for various reasons and some are no longer serving on the mission field.

- Ralph and Vivian Boyle, recently returned from 25 years of service as educators and church planters in Tanzania (yesuhai@gmail.com). Now living in Oklahoma, Ralph is interested in contact with students and has spoken at colleges of pharmacy.
- Patrick Brunson, former missionary hospital pharmacist and administrator in Tanzania for 10 years (brunson@ardmore.net). Has been a preceptor for students but not able to do that now, but is available for advice to students.
- Brooks and Brenda Harrell, long-term missionaries to Thailand (bbharell@mailcentral.biz). No longer involved in medical missions but involved in building up believers and new churches in northern Thailand. Available to correspond with students interested in Thailand.
- Dr. Anne Hendrick, currently involved in a major way with the Jesus Film Project in East Asia (ahendrick@pobox.com). She was formerly missionary pharmacist now working full-time in evangelizing. She would be glad to correspond with students, especially about the Jesus Film and East Asia.
- Harry and Pam Porter, established homes for AIDS orphans in northern Uganda and the Sudan (tentmakersonthego@hotmail.com). Harry is a pharmacist and Pam is a pharmacy tech. Involved now with Community Health Evangelism in Jinga, Uganda. Interested in corresponding with students and well as helping coordinate short term medical missions teams.
- Dr. Charles Sands, Dean, McWhorter School of Pharmacy at Samford University, who has done significant work in China and Korea and has placed pharmacy students on rotations in those countries(ccsands@samford.edu). He "would be delighted to correspond with pharmacy students."
- Ray & Sylvia Skinner, served as Director of Pharmacy Services for the government of the Solomon Islands. They are now residing in Western Australia (rayskinner@ymail.com). Ray encourages students and pharmacists to think about visiting and serving in the SI's (Solomon Islands) and will correspond with students who might be interested. Ray is a great resource for creative itineraries for traveling to the SI's.



- Dr. Christine Birnie, former chairlady of the CPFI Committee on International Outreach, who has organized numerous mission trips for groups of students of pharmacy (cbirnie@sjfc.edu). She is also chair for the Pharmacy Issues Group for the Global Health Missions Conference (GHMC). Contact Christine for more information on this conference or establishing a mission rotation. (Note: the GHMC is a great place to make mission contacts and become equipped for mission work. The conference is held annually every November in Louisville, KY)
- Dr. Ronald Herman, has served as Chairman of the Missions Committee of CPFI, and he has conducted numerous trips with students and pharmacists to underserved areas of the world (Ronald-A-Herman@uiowa.edu).
- Bill and Sarah Altland are both pharmacists currently in Alaska www.whaletailpharmacy.com (bsaltland@hotmail.com). Bill and Sarah have served as long term missionaries in Congo and Haiti, and short term medical mission team member (Bill) to China and Brazil. They would be more than happy to correspond with any students.
- Keith Allhands, is/has been very active with CPFI (kwa@dch.org). Keith will work with Colleges of Pharmacy through CPFI as well as with CMDA's Global Health Outreach to help get educational credits for students who wish to participate on medical missions rotations.

One final suggestion: Join CPFI, attend annual seminars where you will meet and enjoy chatting with current and former missionaries and their families.