



International Internship Opportunities in Madriz, Nicaragua

Grounds for Health, a nonprofit based in Waterbury, Vermont, works with coffee-growing communities to establish sustainable cervical cancer prevention programs. Grounds for Health is offering two internships at its project sites in Nicaragua for the Summer and Fall of 2012. As part of the Grounds for Health team, the interns provide support for all aspects of our current program. For more information about Grounds for Health, please go online to www.groundsforhealth.org.

Requirements/Qualifications

- Strong academic background in international health, development and/or related field
- Interest in international public health with a focus on women's health and/or community organizing and development
- Ability to work independently
- Superior organizational skills
- Prior international experience preferred
- Prior experience in education, project management and/or primary health care delivery preferred
- Latin America: Conversational fluency in Spanish is required

Scope

Under the direction of the Nicaragua focal persons and Executive Director of Grounds for Health, Vermont, work closely with the GFH in-country Clinical Coordinator and co-op coordinators in Madriz and Esteli, Nicaragua to support project partners in strengthening the existing cervical cancer prevention program in Madriz, Nicaragua and coordinating start-up of the Master Training Program in Esteli, Nicaragua. Local partners include four coffee co-ops, Prodecoop, UCA San Juan, UCPCO and Corcason; and municipal health authorities.

Key Focus Areas / Activities

Community Health Promoter (CHP) outreach and training:

CHPs need to be identified, trained and supported to strengthen our work at the community level. Activities will be undertaken in close collaboration with co-op coordinators and include:

- Assist co-op and clinical coordinator in establishing and training a group of CHPs in the region
- Travel with co-op coordinators and the Grounds for Health clinical coordinator to accompany CHPs in community sensitization efforts
- Support CHPs to sensitize the community and identify women who match the Grounds for Health criteria for cervical cancer screening
- Collaborate with the co-op coordinators and CHPs to manage patient information and follow-up

Monitoring and evaluation support:

- Work with GFH Program Coordinator and co-op partners to develop/refine interview guides and conduct interviews with community women, promoters, providers, and co-op partners and write “stories” to document project-related changes.
- Accompany the clinical coordinator on monitoring and supervision visits to Grounds for Health-trained local providers
- Assist in assessing the tools used for supervision visits, providing feedback and suggestions in terms of what is useful and what might need to be modified
- Assist in analysis of the data to identify trends and areas in need

Coordinate meetings and facilitate communication among partners (including with VT office):

- Assist with coordination of meetings and work-planning among co-op partners and local health authorities and dissemination of meetings notes to ensure all partners are aligned and informed of project activities
- Accompany co-op coordinators at cooperatives’ meetings of delegates to assist in explaining project and continue to build understanding and acceptance
- Write and maintain a log to track the significant happenings of the week including questions, issues and successes. This will be emailed to the Nicaragua focal persons at weekly intervals.
- Conduct regular phone calls with the Nicaragua focal persons in Waterbury, VT

Logistic support for the Grounds for Health trainings, campaigns and community visits:

- Support the clinical coordinator and partner co-ops in selecting a site for the clinical training activities
- Support the clinical coordinator and partner co-ops in selecting the site(s) for the didactic and health promoter training activities
- Assist in making arrangements for hotels and meals for the volunteer team
- Assist in making arrangements for meals for didactic and clinical training activities
- Assist with coordinating ground transportation as needed.

Administrative and technical support for in-country staff:

- Provide basic technical support for in-country staff (computers, software, Skype, etc.)
- Provide administrative assistance for in-country staff (e.g. arranging meetings, helping with report writing, organizing transportation, etc.)

Length of term

3 to 4 months of on the ground work at our partner site(s), with a preparation period before departure including at least one visit to Vermont to work with the GFH staff.

Compensation

Stipend available for qualified applicants.

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for an internship please submit the following items to info@groundsforhealth.org:

- Cover Letter: indicating your specific area(s) of interest and expertise, what you hope to gain from the internship, your availability and schedule.
- Resume
- Writing Sample: one in Spanish, and one in English, each no more than 2-3 pages in length that demonstrates analytic skills
- Three References: please include at least one academic and one professional reference

Deadline for the Summer Position is April 30, 2012.

Deadline for the Fall Position is June 30, 2012.

**Grounds for Health
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www.groundsforhealth.org**