

Doctors for Global Health

Promoting Health and Human Rights "With Those Who Have No Voice"

From seeds planted in 1995 by a few committed volunteers in El Salvador, Doctors for Global Health (DGH) has grown into a thriving international movement for health and human rights. DGH is comprised of hundreds of health professionals, students, educators, artists, attorneys, engineers and others.

Though many of us are health professionals, our solutions extend far beyond the medical. We volunteer our time and expertise in communities that invite us to join them. We fund and support local projects that build on the energy, creativity and passion of local leaders. We improve the health and well-being of these communities by increasing access to quality health care; developing educational opportunities and avenues for artistic expression; and raising awareness of health and other human rights. We educate and advocate for domestic and foreign policies that promote justice and peace. We accompany communities in fulfilling health and other human rights in El Salvador, Chiapas (Mexico), Nicaragua, Uganda, the US, and around the world.

Every community we accompany has unique strengths and needs, but they all share a common thread: The health inequities they face are symptoms of larger social, economic and political injustices. Malnutrition, poverty, preventable death and violence all violate basic



human rights. As global citizens, we must name and challenge these injustices. DGH volunteers give hundreds of talks and presentations about health and human rights, social justice, and liberation medicine in the US and around the world. The *DGH Reporter* alerts its readers to a wide range of human rights issues.

DGH is also a co-convenor of the People's Health Movement (PHM) USA Circle. PHM aims to draw on and support grassroots movements in their struggles to build long-term and sustainable solutions to health problems. These kinds of activities are an essential part of DGH's mission:

To improve health and foster other human rights with those most in need by accompanying communities, while educating and inspiring others to action.

We accomplish this by: funding and carrying out projects in cooperation with local private non-profit, non-governmental organizations and interested communities that promote health, education and social justice; bearing witness for human rights and against human rights violations; educating and inspiring others by offering opportunities for service, a human rights perspective and world citizen role models. At DGH we build long-term relationships between people and communities around the world to find effective solutions to social justice issues.

Doctors for Global Health is administered by a Volunteer Board of Directors whose members have volunteered with DGH for at least three years and are elected by DGH Voting Members. The Board is assisted by an Advisory Council composed of nearly 200 physicians, students, retired people, engineers, artists, teachers, writers, nurses, public health workers, lawyers, business people, and others. A diverse group of Volunteers provides all of DGH's capabilities and resources. DGH has no paid employees. DGH is incorporated in the state of Georgia as a 501(c)3 non-profit, non-governmental organization. It is not affiliated with any church or religious group. All contributions are tax-deductible.

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I'd Like to Know More

My Name _____

My Address _____

My City, State, Zip _____

My Phone Number _____

My E-mail Address _____

I want to be a member of DGH (see reverse)

Send me the DGH:

Newsletter (biannual) E-mail News Bulletins

I would like DGH to give a presentation at my school/organization/work place about:

DGH Human Rights Liberation Medicine
 Volunteerism _____
Other Subject

Send me information about Volunteering:

In a foreign country In my own community

I would like to donate. I am enclosing a check for:

\$15 \$25 \$50 \$100
 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 \$_____

Doctors for Global Health

Principles of Action



DGH affirms that every human being regardless of race, gender, class, religion, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, culture, age or other attribute, has the right to a life of dignity, equal treatment and social justice.

A. DGH works with those who are among the most poor, the most vulnerable and the stigmatized of the world's population, amplifying their voices that they be heard.

B. DGH's approach is to accompany communities with small, community-oriented health initiatives that also promote human rights, encourage sustainability and respect environmental concerns.

C. DGH sets an example for how medicine should be practiced by promoting Liberation Medicine: "The conscious, conscientious use of health to promote human dignity and social justice."

D. DGH promotes health equity as more basic and fundamental than private, corporate interests. Its mandate is to strive for the optimal health and well-being of all members of the human race regardless of ethnicity, sex, sexual preference, or religion.

E. DGH is committed to advocacy and working for social justice both locally and globally. It encourages its members to take action in their own communities and participate in the accompaniment of communities around the world.

F. DGH pledges to be active in the struggle to expose and confront the pervasive and destructive nature of racism and classism (personal and institutionalized, conscious or unconscious) and all other forms of discrimination, both within DGH and in the world at large.

G. DGH is a volunteer organization that invites and encourages those with a desire to help humanity by providing them with a vehicle to use their unique talents and skills in support of the DGH mission. Special efforts are made to reach out to youth, students of all ages, and people with the wisdom of experience.

H. DGH respects and invites those of all backgrounds and beliefs who agree with its mission and principles to join; proselytizing is contrary to the mission and principles.

I. DGH integrates artistic expression that promotes healing and celebrates all life into its activities. These expressions include literature, music, drama, painting, drawing, sculpture and other art forms.

J. DGH is vigilant to ensure that its projects, programs, affiliations and fund raising efforts don't involve even subtle compromises of its values.

K. DGH participates only in investigations, publications and/or research initiatives that are important to the work of DGH, ethically sound, benefit the involved communities, and are compatible with DGH's mission.

I Want To Be a Member of DGH

(Please fill out the front of this form)

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I agree with the Mission Statement and the Principles of Action of Doctors for Global Health (DGH) and wish to become a member. I understand that as a member I will receive the *DGH Reporter* and e-mail updates about DGH events and volunteer opportunities. Membership is free, but donations are welcome.

Occupation _____

Birth Date _____

Organizational Affiliations _____

Language Abilities and Level: _____

Signature _____

Date _____

DGH respects your privacy and will not release your name or contact information to outside organizations without your consent.