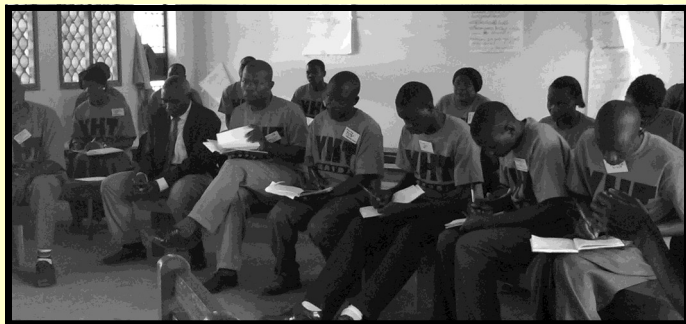


How to Volunteer

🌐 We are looking for volunteers and would love to hear from you. Call us at 617-332-9614 or e-mail ejoneil@omnimed.org



Program Logistics

- **Location:** We work in the Mukono District of Uganda, one hour east of the capital city, Kampala.
- **Eligibility:** Health care providers, providers-in-training, medical students and non-health professionals willing to complete our training program.
- **Requirements:** We require our volunteers to complete a comprehensive online training course that provides: an orientation to Mukono; full preparation to train VHTs, health and safety issues, and a broad-based understanding of global health inequality.
- **Program Length:** Most volunteers will remain in country for one month, with longer terms welcomed and encouraged.
- **Cost:** For a typical one month stay, cost breakdown is as follows: Airfare-\$1400; Program & VHT Training Fee-\$1500; Room & Board, Medical/trip Insurance-\$325. Omni Med is a Volunteers for Prosperity (VfPServ) Partner, so most volunteers will be eligible for federal matching grants of \$1000, making typical all-inclusive cost of \$2225. Training & program fees may change pending negotiations with PEPFAR in fall 2010.

Save a Life Today

🌐 Even the smallest donation helps us **change the lives** of people in need. Here is what a donation can do:

\$60

● Train one village health worker to provide basic primary and preventative care to 25-30 households.

\$300

● Train five village health workers to provide basic primary and preventative care to 125-150 households.

\$500

● Train eight VHTs or purchase training manuals, and support our VHT supervisors.



🌐 Omni Med is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Please make a **tax-deductible** contribution online at www.omnimed.org or send to Omni Med/ 81 Wyman Street #1, Waban MA 02468. Or call at 617-332-9614. Thank you

Community Empowerment In Health



Uganda



Our Partners:

- ◆ Uganda Ministry of Health
- ◆ United States Peace Corps
- ◆ Brookings Institution
- ◆ Center for Social Development at Washington University
- ◆ Caritas Christi & St Elizabeth's Medical Center, Boston
- ◆ USAID VfPServ

Omni Med

81 Wyman St #1
Waban, MA 02468
www.omnimed.org
617-332-9614

Program Overview

Since March 2008, Omni Med has founded and run **Community Empowerment in Health**, training village health teams (VHTs) in the Mukono District of Uganda. These teams are comprised of local volunteers who provide valuable primary and preventative health care to the local population.



During our training course, we prepare the VHTs to implement preventative and curative strategies such as:

- **Malaria Prevention and treatment** through bed net usage and prompt treatment and referral
- **Prevention, screening, and referral for HIV/AIDS**
- **Promotion of sexual and reproductive health**, with reduced birthrates, and reduced sexually transmitted diseases
- **Better prenatal care and safer deliveries**
- **Increased rates of immunization**
- **Clean water initiatives, basic sanitation and hand-washing** leading to less diarrheal illness
- Our training also covers community mobilization, and techniques that train adults to spread health-related knowledge widely throughout rural areas.

Health in Uganda

Some statistics about the state of health and health care in Uganda:

- Only about 42% of the rural population of Uganda has access to a **health facility**
- **Mortality and morbidity** rates in the country are among the highest globally
- **Birth rates** are the world's 3rd highest at 6.7 children per women
- The average **life expectancy** is only 52.72 years—the 4th lowest in the world.
- Easily **preventable diseases** such as malaria, HIV, diarrhea, and malnutrition ravage the population under five years old
- The **infant mortality rate** is the 33rd highest in the world.

In response to this growing crisis, the Ugandan Ministry of Health (MOH) created a program in 2002 entitled **Village Health Teams (VHTs)**, designed to bring basic preventative care to rural villages, where morbidity and mortality is highest.

This **locally-based model** was found to be very effective; the MOH found a decreasing number of malaria cases with increasing rates of immunization in children across the district. Our program model follows the original VHT program and rests on many of the same **local structures of governance**.

The **United States Peace Corps** partners with us and the **Ministry of Health** in this program. Peace Corps Volunteers help coordinate the trainings, home visits, VHT meetings, and work closely with our volunteers to ensure maximum impact and long-term sustainability.

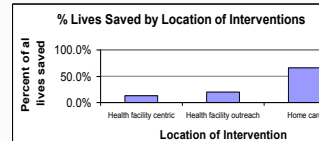
Omni Med's Model

Our program injects new life, motivation, and funding into a Uganda Ministry of Health program that has already been proven effective.

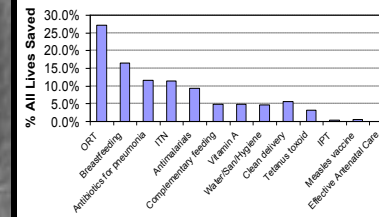
Our volunteers help Ugandan health workers train 25-30 locally elected VHTs from surrounding villages in a week-long course. We then accompany the VHTs on home visits to facilitate transfer of the most powerful preventive health tool in existence: knowledge. The most effective health measures are also the most basic and are applied *in the home*. That's where we focus our work. In 2008, USAID surveyed 22 program models and found this striking data, proving that good health comes from empowering locals.

Where & how are lives saved?

ORT use, breastfeeding, and antibiotics for pneumonia (often given in community settings) are the 3 most highly effective interventions....accounting for over 1/2 the estimated impact.



% Lives Saved by Specific Activity (denominator = all lives saved)



About 2/3 of estimated impact is through community-level interventions....

Partnered with the Center for Social Development at Washington University, we are conducting a **prospective, randomized trial** to measure the impact of our work, estimating # of lives saved. Accountability, efficacy, and impact assessment matter in this program.