



Cultural Development in Health, Education, and Finance

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Placement/Project Information

1st Field Placement: Christ Shalom Private School

- I taught 3rd and 4th grade students for one week
- Implemented arts based activities
- Implemented activities about how our communities compare and contrast

Special Studies: To learn about ways in which youth development programs are similar and different in Ghana and Detroit

2nd Field Placement: Evangelical Presbyterian Development & Relief Agency

- Micro financing agency
- Encouraged residents to save money
- Walked in the community as a liaison between banks and the residents and collected money for residents savings account, due to the barrier in getting to the bank

Special Studies: To learn a cultural approach to ways in which people can save money

Outcomes

In the three weeks that I was in Ghana I:

- Taught a 3rd and 4th grade class
- Collaborated with volunteers to develop activities for the students
- Assisted with the implementation of micro financing

Lessons Learned/Skills Developed

I learned about the importance of cultural humility in practice. I was able to go to Ghana with a mindset of learning about their culture and ways in which I will be able to use their traditions in practice in the United States. I plan to incorporate African Centered Practice activities with African American youth in urban communities. I believe that having an understanding of where you come from can help in where you are going.



Hohoe, Volta Region, Ghana

In 1957, Ghana was the first country in Sub-Saharan Africa to gain independence

- Official Language**-English
- Ethnic Language**-Ewe
- Population**- 25 million
- Religion**- 69% Christian, 16% Muslim, 9% Traditions, 1% Other



Cross Cultural Solutions

Cross Cultural Solutions (CCS) is the volunteer organization we worked with for our special studies. CCS has a partnership with the community, and is devoted to addressing the needs of the community. The three major components of CCS are:

- Cultural Immersion
- Positive Impact Through Volunteer Work
- Country Exploration

Community Development Initiatives

- Participating in educational learning activities with young people
- Incorporating arts-based activities in curriculum
- Providing micro financing strategies to promote saving money

Career Connections

- Apply an African Centered Approach when working with communities.
- When working with communities consider the culture as a component towards change.

Acknowledgments

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Placement/Project Information

Field Placement: Hohoe Municipal Hospital

- Help provide care/ education for diabetic patients
- Help provide care for HIV/ AIDS patients
- Help provide care for Malnutrition Patients

Special Studies: To help enhance healthcare in Ghana through education. I also wanted to understand the health disparities within the Ghana population and what are the ways health care providers provide awareness to the patient and community.

Outcomes

During my three weeks in Ghana I:

- Provided limited education to diabetic patients
- Assisted the nurse to organize food and information for malnutrition patients
- Assisted HIV/ AIDS patients with medication and limited education

Lessons Learned

- Acknowledgement of the barriers of global service.
- I learned how culture plays a large role in health behaviors.
- Before starting an intervention, one must understand the culture and how the culture plays a role in the health issue.

Skills Developed

- Navigation through language barriers. I could not speak the language, but found other non verbal ways to communicate.
- Immersing in a difficult culture teaches you cultural humility and appreciation for the different culture.

Advice

- Have an open mind and willingness to learn about the various ways of life, traditions, cultures, etc.
- Be cognizant of your own cultural biases
- Be aware of how individuals in other cultures perceive the culture of your country

Advice by both Phylcia and Aleia