

## 2015 Seed Grant Awards

The Global Health Institute awarded four Seed Grants in 2015. This year's grants support research projects that work closely with emergency medicine, contraceptives, palliative care and empowering women.

"The projects that were funded are good representations of the holistic approach that GHI advocates as we strive to improve health around the world."—Tony Goldberg, GHI associate director for research.

Groups received up to \$75,000 to help expand their ideas and give them a leg up on securing more substantial funding. GHI received more than 34 Seed Grant proposals.

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### **MOBILE EMERGENCY GUIDELINES SOLUTION: SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**

**Principal Investigators:** Janis P. Tupesis, MD, FACEP, FAAEM; Mohammed Dalwai, MD, Ph.D Candidate

Our partnership goal is to improve access to clinical support information and educational materials for African healthcare workers through active dissemination of clinical practice guidelines (CPG) through mobile phone technology - such that providers will be able to navigate through local expert instructions. We propose to develop, implement, and disseminate this technological innovation through local, regional, national and international partnership through a process of participatory and user centered design. The goal would be to implement in the South African emergency services infrastructure with goals to adapt to other African countries.

### **PALLIATIVE CARE IN RWANDA**

**Principal Investigators:** James Cleary, MD, FRACP, FChPM; Martha Maurer, BS, MPH; Aaron Gilson, MSW, MSSW, Ph.D; Barbara Hastie, Ph.D.; Mary Skemp Brown, MBA

This project's primary long-term objective is to collaborate with Rwandan government to design expansions of the existing database for medication distribution, to allow submission of data related to opioid prescribing and patient treatment for pain and palliative care.

## **SYSTEM STRENGTHENING AND HUMAN BUILDING TO SCALE UP LONG-ACTING REVERSIBLE CONTRACEPTION IN SOUTHERN ETHIOPIA**

**Principal Investigators:** Cynthia K. Anderson, MD, MPH; Eliza Bennett, MD; Cara King, DO, MS; Heidi Brown, MD; Nicholas Schmuhl, Ph.D; Zenebe Wolde, Millio Teshome, Jennifer Higgins, Ph.D, MPH

UW OB/Gyn has spearheaded a postpartum LARC program in Dane County, bringing free access to immediate postpartum LARC to women below the federal poverty level. We are working with stakeholders statewide to promote Medicaid policy changes surrounding reimbursement, with confidence that efforts will result in statewide dissemination. Expansion of LARC is a priority we share with colleagues in Hawassa, Ethiopia. As envisioned by the "4W" initiative, we will: 1) Assess desirability/feasibility of LARC scale-up in Southern Ethiopia through key informant interviews (physicians, midwives, policy-makers, users); 2) Formalize collaborations with invested partners; 3) Assess existing and promote future infrastructure to provide LARC and manage complications; 4) Enhance existing academic partnerships with Hawassa University through faculty and learner exchange and 5) Adapt UW Residency Program LARC curriculum to Ethiopian context.

## **WOMEN IN ONE HEALTH: EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN RURAL AGRICULTURE**

**Principal Investigators:** Janet Shibley Hyde, Ph.D; Mary Crave, Ph.D; Sophia Friedson-Ridenour, MA, Ph.D Candidate.

The interdisciplinary Women and One Health in Rural Agriculture research project will critically assess the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI), a relatively new tool used in 16 low-income countries. The UW team will recommend new indicators and develop and test a second generation WEAI to 1) broaden the way women's empowerment is conceptualized and measured, and 2) incorporate "One Health" knowledge and practice. This research will create opportunities for future grants, both to further develop and test indicators and tools, and to develop programs that are aligned with the gender lens and the one health lens that will emerge. The overarching goal of this work is to expand the WEAI to foster innovation in agricultural development. Because what is measured naturally becomes a programmatic focus, this research will lead to programs that improve the lives of women, and sustain the health of people, animals and the environment.

For more information on past award recipients, view the [2011 Seed Grant Awards](#).