Memorial Day is the traditional beginning of the summer season. Schools begin their summer break leaving many teachers, students, and recent grads time to pursue their passions and try potential careers “on for size.” It is also a time for the Foundation’s Advisory Council to review applications for Spring Volunteer Service Awards. These awards were designed to help with expenses incurred by volunteers traveling to and working in the developing world. Since the first group of awardees in 2010, the Foundation has assisted 116 volunteers raise the funds they need to spend a couple of months or for some, more than a year working. Eleven more awards were just given to individuals whose work takes them to Nepal, Uganda, Kenya, Nicaragua, Ecuador, and Mexico. We look forward to reporting on their accomplishments in the coming months.
2016 Volunteer Service Award Recipient Selected as a 2017 Fellow!

**Tiffany Brown – Yspaniola, Inc**

“Upon learning that I would be spending the next year living and working in the Dominican Republic, I didn't truly know what to expect. The Dominican Republic that I'd seen in postcards, with its picturesque beaches and impressive historical structures I'd heard of, or the Dominican Republic as a tropical haven filled with endless palm trees, coconuts, and bachata music. However, before embarking on this adventure, I was fully aware that I would have a very different experience than that of the average foreigner coming to spend time in the Caribbean island nation…

I'd agreed to work with Yspaniola, a small non-profit organization situated in the heart of Batey Libertad, a marginalized community with limited access to many basic civil and educational services from the government. My main responsibility within Yspaniola will be to oversee and direct the educational programming in the form of the community’s Learning Center, which provides Spanish literacy instruction and support to children aged 4-17.” So began Tiffany’s first update.

After spending nearly a year volunteering with Yspaniola, Inc., Tiffany was offered the opportunity to stay on for an additional year and has been selected as an *AllPeopleBeHappy* Fellow. Her new title at the Center is Director of Curriculum Development and Teacher Support. She is continuing her work of developing the primary and secondary education curriculum, and then through training workshops...
all her goals, she will work herself out of a job around this time next year.

Project Grants

We are pleased to award the Kossoye Development Project (KDP) our 9th $10,000 project grant for their on-going sustainable agriculture efforts in Ethiopia. What began as an attempt to address malnutrition by encouraging families to plant home gardens in one community, has grown exponentially over the years. In 2016 KDP distributed sets of seeds (5 grams each of carrot, chard, cabbage, and kale) to 74,000 families living in 6 districts of the North Gondar Region. In June 2016, three regional universities outside the North Gondar Region (in Debra Markos, Debra Tabor, and Bahir Dar) asked for help in establishing horticulture education programs. In 2017 KDP is planning to distribute 100,000 seed sets, including in three new
In addition to providing support to long-time partners, the Foundation is always looking for new organizations. We are proud to announce our newest partner to receive a project grant, Saha Global. Saha Global’s mission is to get the cleanest water to the poorest people. They currently work in remote, rural communities in northern Ghana where people are forced to drink from fecally contaminated, stagnant ponds. In each village, they setup entrepreneurial women with chlorinating businesses that provide clean water that all can afford. The $10,000 Project Grant will support the opening of 6 new water businesses. These businesses will provide clean water to approximately 2,400 people in the next year. Our funds will also support 5 years of monitoring and support for these businesses. With the grant Saha Global is also developing a new model for the proliferation of these water businesses. Instead of relying on foreign volunteers to do the selection, training and monitoring, they will be transitioning to a model where Ghanaian teams perform these tasks. Ultimately it will be significantly less expensive to replicate the
More about the Foundation’s work

Another sign of the season is the availability of the Foundation’s 2016 Annual Report. We hope you will enjoy reading more about what your philanthropic investments have accomplished: AllPeopleBeHappy 2016 Annual Report.