If you find yourself depressed by all of the bad news that we seem to be bombarded with on a daily basis, we wanted to remind you that there are a lot of good things being accomplished by incredible people and organizations around the world.

**Volunteer Service Awards**

Most of the nine 2011 *AllPeopleBeHappy* Volunteer Service Award recipients are currently in the field and we look forward to passing along more about their accomplishments and impressions in the coming months, but for now we want to introduce you to this year’s winners:

In the winter of 2010/2011, **Robert Fredrickson** participated in an *Amizade* program to build a library and computer center in Ghana. He suggested that the addition of a digital projector, screen, and accompanying laptop would enhance training opportunities and could also be used to bring income to the center during non-business hours since there are no movie theaters in the area. He will return this summer to turn his idea into a reality.

**Nicole Kennerly** is working with *Ghana Act* which runs a traveling eye clinic that takes outreach trips to visit local villages that have little or no access to healthcare. On these trips, rural communities have free access to eye care, including general eye health, vision, and preventable blindness.

**Alex Blake** has been working in Uganda since March 2011, with *Global Emergency Care Collaborative*, to establish and pilot a training program that lays the groundwork for an informal system of pre-hospital emergency medical services in rural communities.

**Molly Oshun**, will be volunteering as a project leader for *Global Student Embassy*’s 6-week sustainable agriculture and youth leadership program in Ecuador.

**Crissy Vicendese** has been working as an unpaid intern with *Indego Africa* in New York for over a year. This summer she is spending approximately 3 months in Rwanda working to further the development of new products and quality control.
systems at partner cooperatives.

**Clark Alves, Elaine Andres, Michelle Boros, and Nicole Vanessa Teran** will be volunteering with **Support for International Change** to support its mission to limit the impact of HIV/AIDS in underserved communities and to train future leaders in global health and development. These students have spent months preparing for this assignment, and will spend additional time in Tanzania, along with other international volunteers and Tanzanian college students undergoing intensive training before moving in with their host families in rural communities near Arusha. During their time in their home villages they will teach about reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention in both formal and informal settings, encourage residents to participate in HIV/AIDS testing opportunities, and help reduce the stigma and enhance the acceptance of community members living with HIV/AIDS.

**Grant Renewal**

**Global Emergency Care Collaborative (GECC)** has made some tremendous strides in their efforts to bring emergency medicine practices to Uganda. At Nyakible Hospital the mortality rate for children under 5 is 2.9%, well under the national average in Uganda of 12.8%. Though that number is still higher than one would like to see, the significant reduction is a clear indicator that the emergency care practices are having an impact. The 2nd class of Emergency Nurse Practitioners will soon be completing their 1st year of training. During 2011, the training program has shifted from a one year didactic program to a more formalized two year program with a Junior and Senior class, a “learning year” and a “teaching year” to allow for more clear roles and responsibilities, and for more formalized transition to other hospitals for clinical work at the end of the course. GECC has established relationships with Uganda’s Ministry of Health as well as at Mbabara University in an effort to develop a certification program and to expand the program throughout Uganda. GECC will use the *AllPeopleBeHappy* 2011 grant to continue to grow and improve their efforts.