Supporting Families Impacted by Incarceration

The US has more than 2.3 million people in prisons and jails. And eight of the states with the highest incarceration rates are in the South. In fact, Georgia leads the nation in the number of people under the supervision of the criminal justice system. And here’s what we know: For every person who is incarcerated, an entire family is impacted. Children often do poorer in school and have behavioral problems, and loved ones often suffer from depression and other health issues.

Therefore, in April 2018, GHA joined approximately 175 federal and state officials, formerly incarcerated individuals, and family members affected by incarceration to get a broader perspective on the impact of incarceration on children and families in our region and to begin collaboration for a regional plan to advance policies, programs, and practices that strengthen families impacted by incarceration. This event, entitled Stay Connected. Stay Strong! Supporting families impacted by incarceration, was hosted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Region IV area (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina).

During the event, GHA hosted a luncheon/listening session to further understand the experiences of attendees and start the conversation about how to confront the health-related issues arising from incarceration. Working with a colleague from Morehouse School of Medicine, GHA’s Director of Programs Jenelle Williams also co-facilitated a session later in the day to provide a framework for service agencies to maximize the impact of their work through collective engagement.

Sharon Hicks, the Regional Health Administrator for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health within HHS, expressed her agency’s gratitude for GHA’s commitment to addressing issues affecting the health of families in the southeast US, the region her office covers, and noted that her agency could not have pulled off this event without GHA’s assistance. GHA continues to work alongside other partners in developing a strategic regional plan to mitigate the negative public health impact of incarceration on families in the region.

Dr. Imani Ma’at shares insights during the listening session.

GHA board members Carol Osner Johnson and Stan Moor serve lunch at the HHS event.
GHA Board of Directors Welcomes Julie Staggs as Chair

On July 1, 2018, Ms. Julie Staggs assumed the position of chair of GHA’s board of directors. An Associate Client Partner and Higher Education Lead at Korn Ferry, Julie is a skilled facilitator and speaker specializing in organizational change and culture, strategic planning, executive communications and coaching, and adult education. She brings a wealth of consulting experience and a passion for education to her tenure on the board at GHA.

Julie received her bachelor’s degree from Converse College in music theory and religion. She holds an executive MBA, with a concentration in leadership, from the University of Georgia and is a candidate for a doctorate of education in higher education management at the University of Georgia’s Institute for Higher Education. In addition to her work on GHA’s board, Julie serves as a trustee at Converse College and sits on the board of LEAD, an organization that strives to address higher education access and career preparation through cross-sector collaborations and global partnerships. Welcome, Julie!

GHA Staff and Board of Directors Thank Dr. Barry Smith for 11 Years of Service as Chair

In March 2007, Dr. Barry Smith conducted his first GHA board meeting as chair. For the next 11 years, Barry steadfastly navigated GHA through significant organizational milestones, including the celebration of GHA’s 40th Anniversary, a successful executive transition, the restructuring of GHA’s programs in Haiti, and the expansion of GHA’s programs in China.

GHA is grateful to Barry for his dedication to GHA and its mission and appreciates his continued service on the board.

GHA Thrilled to Announce Directors Elected in FY18

The GHA Board of Directors has recently elected four new members of the board: Julie Staggs, Irfan Merchant, Kaysaree Moodley, and Carol Osner Johnson. This slate of board members brings a diversity of opinion and experience that stands to bolster GHA’s abilities to carry out its mission. Julie brings with her significant experience in organizational capacity building and management, as well as adult education. Irfan brings with him decades of leadership in information technology and experience carrying out projects of significant impact as Chairman of the Volunteer Committee for the Southeast Region of the Aga Khan Foundation, USA. Kaysaree brings with her significant experience in business development and leadership in both the US and South Africa and a commitment to investing in transformative work in her community through advocacy and servant leadership. Carol holds a Masters of Divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary and brings with her a strong tradition of faith-based, hands-on community service supporting children and adults in need. We are delighted to welcome our newly elected directors to the GHA family.
GHA Heads to Southern Africa

GHA’s CEO Wendy Jolley-Kabi and Director of Programs Jenelle Williams visited Lesotho and South Africa this year to meet with partners invested in addressing critical health issues affecting women, children, and adolescents in Southern Africa. Wendy and Jenelle met with government officials, the UNICEF Representative to Lesotho, and leaders from 11 local non-governmental organizations and faith-based organizations serving women, children, and youth.

Additionally, Dr. Mirfin Mpundu, Director of The Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network (EPN) which is based in Kenya, joined Wendy and Jenelle in Lesotho for an evaluative site visit to the Christian Health Association of Lesotho (CHAL). Wendy, Jenelle and Mirfin visited health centers, hospitals and schools of nursing operated by CHAL members and conducted meetings with the leadership team of CHAL. Together, CHAL, GHA, and EPN identified opportunities to work together in strengthening CHAL’s leadership and governance capacity and drug supply chain. GHA also identified specific projects to further explore with individual CHAL member churches.

While in South Africa, Jenelle provided technical assistance to the leadership team of Youth Lab, a local nonprofit organization hosting the Eighth Africa Conference on Sexual Health and Rights: Advancing the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Women and Girls in Africa.

GHA staff is now collaborating with organizations in Southern Africa to develop program plans and begin raising funds for next steps. Stay tuned for ways you can help support this exciting work!

Long-term Champions of GHA Selected as Directors Emeriti

GHA is thrilled to announce several new members emeriti to our board of directors. This year, the GHA board has recognized the long-term, dedicated service of Nancy Brooks Jones; Richard N. Hubert, Esq.; and Betty Letzig to the organization through inviting them to serve as Directors Emeriti.

Nancy Brooks Jones has carried on her family’s legacy of supporting the work of GHA; in fact, her father, D.W. Brooks, was a founding board member. In 2006 Nancy was elected to the board and served in a number of capacities including vice chair of the board and chair of the nominating committee.

Richard N. Hubert, Esq. was elected in 2006 as a director as well. During his tenure on the board, Richard served as treasurer and assisted with fund-raising efforts.

Betty Letzig is a founding board member, instrumental in the organization’s creation and early successes. She served in a variety of roles on the board before stepping down as a director in 1988.

We are excited to welcome these three champions of GHA back to the board as Directors Emeriti.
Robin C. Davis Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Robin C. Davis, MN, RN, President Emerita of GHA, received the 2018 Christian International Health Champion award presented by Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH). This award honors an individual who has dedicated their life to global health from a Christian perspective and has made significant contributions to the field.

In addition to her tireless work over her tenure at GHA, Robin was instrumental in the founding of CCIH and served as CCIH’s first Board President from 1992-1996. CCIH, a diverse network of over 170 organizations and 450 individuals from across five continents, works to mobilize and empower members to promote global health and wholeness from a Christian perspective.

“During the formative years of CCIH, it was clear that international health professionals, rooted by their faith, wanted and needed an organization that would provide opportunities to connect, grow and serve in fellowship with others,” Robin explained. “Working in international health can be very rewarding and also demanding at the same time. Therefore, working with partners who share a common vision and mission in the world lightens our load and increases our overall impact. Today, CCIH continues to grow as a forum and a vital connecting point for members and those we serve to promote better health for all.”

Robin was nominated for the 2018 Christian International Health Champion award by Wendy Jolley-Kabi, GHA’s President and CEO. “Robin’s greatest contribution to global health has been her distinct commitment to bringing together government, civil society, faith and other partners around the world so that they could find common ground to address the health needs within their communities,” Wendy explained. “Throughout her career, Robin has bridged the divide that too often exists between the church and other stakeholders in the community health arena.”

To find out more about the award, please visit www.ccih.org/ccih-champions/.

GHA Participates in Healthy Aging Summit

GHA’s Jenelle Williams attended the Healthy Aging Summit 2018 in Washington, DC, an event which explored ways to keep Americans healthy as they transition into older adulthood by focusing on prevention strategies that encourage healthy lifestyles, planning for aging, and improving the use of preventive services.

Following the summit, Jenelle provided technical expertise and assistance to the US HSS Office of the Regional Health Administrator and the agency leads from 8 southeastern states as they strategized, discussed and developed multi-level action plans to address needs of aging populations.
ACHAP: Capacity Building for Major Faith-Based Primary Health Care Providers in Sub-Saharan Africa

In July, GHA hosted and facilitated a capacity building session for the Africa Christian Health Associations Platform (ACHAP), an advocacy and networking platform for Christian health associations and church health networks from across Africa. ACHAP supports church-related health associations and organizations to work and advocate for health for all in Africa, guided by equity, justice and human dignity.

At the event, GHA’s Jenelle Williams presented on the current global health financing landscape and emerging health issues and then facilitated critical conversations pertaining to member organizations and the ACHAP Secretariat. GHA will continue to work with ACHAP to build its organizational capacity and prepare for the Biennial ACHAP Conference in 2019.

As always, GHA looks for ways to maximize our resources. Therefore, this event was held in conjunction with the annual Christian Connections for International Health annual conference in Baltimore, MD.

Want to donate something tangible to help GHA? Consider the following:

- Two large, lightweight, sturdy rolling suitcases
- One carry-on size, lightweight and sturdy rolling suitcase
- Two very large duffle bags
- A portable power bank
- A1 copy paper (8 1/2” x 11”)
Human Trafficking Response Champions: Building the Capacity of Our Local School Systems

Since 2005, the FBI has identified Atlanta as one of 14 cities having the highest incidence of children used in prostitution. Since 2007, there have been 4,340 calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline from Georgia, and Georgia minors continue to be at risk. In early 2018, GHA partnered with the U.S. Department for Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Region 4, and the Organizational Development Resource Group to develop train the trainer trainings targeting school personnel from Atlanta Public Schools (APS) and DeKalb Country Public Schools. This interactive human trafficking awareness and capacity building training program was designed to build awareness of major aspects of human trafficking, including sexual exploitation, forced labor, and domestic servitude.

In October, 35 Human Trafficking Response Champions at APS were celebrated for training other personnel at their schools, including teachers who are frequently the frontline in the fight against human trafficking. In addition, trainings developed and lessons learned from the APS Champions are informing the U.S. HHS Administration on Children and Families’ Office on Trafficking Persons National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center’s nationwide training for school personnel.

GHA continues working with APS to support the human trafficking response champions and to develop trainings and capacity building activities for youth and families in Atlanta.

NEWS FLASH: GHA Working to Affect Global Policy Using Community-Level Experience

GHA’s Director of Programs, Jenelle Williams, is now a member of the UNICEF Nutrition/Community Health working group to develop UNICEF international minimum quality standards and indicators for community engagement. In undertaking this work, GHA aims to add to and inform the development and implementation of these standards which UNICEF will use to establish global public goods and platforms that will support implementation of high quality and evidence-based community engagement at country level. This work is key to GHA’s core values of ensuring (i) that communities - especially those at the greatest risk - are participants in the deliberations, consultations, decision-making, design, implementation and measurement of initiatives and systems that affect them and (ii) that communities are empowered so that they might take ownership and action on the issues facing them.
GLOBAL HEALTH ACTION UPDATE

Introducing the GHA Legacy Circle
Become a Part of Something Much Bigger

Become a member of the GHA Legacy Circle by including GHA in your estate planning or by making a planned gift. Through the GHA Legacy Circle, you can make a lasting impact on the world!

For 46 years, GHA has empowered people around the world with the skills and tools to chart a new course for their own lives, to improve the livelihood of their families, and to meet the health needs of their larger communities. By including GHA in your estate or planned giving, your own personal legacy can include empowering others to realize their dreams of a healthier, happier life.

Including GHA in your will, designating GHA as a beneficiary of your assets, or investing in a gift annuity to benefit GHA is a terrific way to play a significant role in GHA’s critical work empowering healthier communities and creating lasting change for generations to come.

If you would like to receive more information about becoming a member of the GHA Legacy Circle and/or ways you can support GHA in your planned giving, contact Wendy Jolley-Kabi at 404-728-0480 or wjolley-kabi@globalhealthaction.org.

If you have already included GHA in your estate plan, please let us know and become a member of the GHA Legacy Circle today.

Birth Kits: Helping Newborns Survive in Haiti

In Haiti – where two-thirds of deliveries occur at home – GHA trains traditional birth attendants and equips them with birthing kits to promote clean & safe deliveries in rural Haiti. We need your help to supply these life-saving kits!

GHA appreciates the support of The Wellesley College Alumnae club of Atlanta (and their children!) who

**Items Needed for Birth Kits**

- Thin absorbent underpads (e.g., chux pad)
- Small bars of soap (hotel-sized)
- Razor blades (individually wrapped)
- Cotton string
- 4” x 4” sterile gauze pads
- Alcohol pads
- Gallon-size zip-lock bags
- Sandwich-size zip-lock bags
- Money to ship the kits to Haiti

*If you are interested in hosting a clean birth kits packing event, please contact us at gha@globalhealthaction.org.*

*If you would like to purchase items for birth kits, you can shop online at http://a.co/ghpBPCa and have the items delivered directly to GHA.*
GHA Family Honors Others Through Gifts to GHA

Members of the GHA family have, from time to time, elected to recognize the special feelings they have for friends, family, or loved ones through a donation to GHA in their honor or memory. Here is a list of all those who have donated in FY17 and FY18 in the honor or memory of another:

- **In memory of Dr. Linton Bishop**
  June Bishop

- **In honor of Sallie and Joel Chasteen**
  G. Niles Bolton

- **In memory of Sara and Melvin Chasteen**
  Daniel Chasteen

- **In honor of Kathleen Eidson**
  Susan and Mike Perry

- **In memory of Maggie G**
  Jane Mulaik

- **In memory of Rev. Dr. Julia Gary**
  Robin C. and Wheatley Davis
  Kathleen Eidson
  Cheryl Gutterres
  Lea Ann and Jim Hudson
  Lucille Huggins
  Jennie and Tom Hyman
  Wendy Jolley-Kabi and Tespo Kabi
  Betty Letzig

- **In memory of Betty Guffin**
  Lori Anders
  June Bishop

- **In memory of Bishop Bevel “Bev” Jones**
  Robin C. and Wheatley Davis

- **In honor of Jean-Marie Jordan**
  Sarah Jordan

- **In honor of the Koinonia Class at Decatur First United Methodist Church**
  Sara Putzell

- **In honor of Betty Letzig**
  Vera Baumann

- **In honor of Dr. Helen McSwain**
  Janice Johnston

- **In honor of Felix Moore**
  Bebe Meaders

- **In honor of Mary Ellen Myers**
  Elizabeth Rice

- **In honor of Barbara and Melvin Prellberg**
  Kay Shaw

- **In memory of Virginia Proctor**
  Fellowship Class at Decatur First United Methodist Church

- **In memory of Reba Y. Rice**
  William Rice

- **In honor of Sylvia Sultenfuss**
  Dr. Roberta D. Cann
  Mary Ellen and Jeff Pendergrass

GHA also thanks Leapfrog for its generous support in 2018.

Participants in the national health program for left-behind children in China celebrate a classmate’s birthday.