



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



Global Affairs
Canada

Affaires mondiales
Canada

Global Health Youth Champions

Frequently Asked Questions

What is it? The aim of the Global Health Youth Champions group is to orient, train, and mentor Canadian youth to become champions in global health.

How did it start? In 2016, the University of Calgary Cumming School of Medicine received funding from Global Affairs Canada to implement the “Mama na Mtoto (MnM)” initiative, a large project that aims to improve maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) in Tanzania. A portion of the funding has been dedicated towards engaging the Canadian public about MNCH issues and what our country is doing to address them abroad. In an effort to specifically engage Canadian youth, the MnM team launched the Global Health Youth Champions in the Fall of 2017.

What are the benefits of joining? We hope to offer Youth Champions several learning and professional development opportunities related to global health. This may include exclusive speaker presentations, training and skills development workshops, and networking opportunities with leaders in global health. We can also offer certificates and letters of recommendation to add to your CVs/resumes. It is free to join, and funding for the group is available until 2020, so take advantage of this exciting opportunity while you still can!

Who can join the group? Any Canadian youth who have an interest in global health and/or are relatively junior in their global health career. We use a broad definition of “youth”, ranging from high school students, post-secondary students, to young adults who are already working.

I am interested in many global health topics outside of MNCH... can I still join? Yes! We recognize that global health is an interdisciplinary field with crosscutting issues. We also want group activities to be driven by the interests of Youth Champions. Let us know what type of opportunities and topic areas you want to be engaged in, and we will try to make them happen.

What are the time commitments and expectations? We hope to offer engaging global health opportunities at least monthly, but recognize that Youth Champions may be busy with other commitments. Therefore, you may choose to be involved in as little or as many activities as you wish, keeping in mind that the more activities you participate in, the more global health knowledge and mentorship you will gain.

Are there opportunities to be involved further? If you are keen to gain more hands-on experience with public engagement activities, you can volunteer with the MnM Public Engagement Team. This team works regularly to facilitate media campaigns, workshops/talks, study tours, and other activities with the aim of engaging the Canadian public about MNCH.

How can I sign up? Please contact Hannah at hf.mercader@ucalgary.ca if you are interested in joining the Global Health Youth Champions and/or the MnM Public Engagement Team. You can also join our Facebook group “[MnM Global Health Youth Champions](#)” to stay updated on global health opportunities. Don’t forget to fill out the [Demographic Survey](#) so that we can learn more about your interests and what you want to see in the group.