

**2017 Report on Volunteers**  
**HEAL International's Annual General Meeting**  
**June 13, 2018**

**Introduction:** HEAL International is fortunate to have a cadre of volunteers that donate time, expertise and friend-raising abilities to the organization. Some initially had their arms twisted to help out for a fundraiser and find eight years later that they are still connected! Others have unique gifts or skills that help HEAL fill a special need. Whether they are occasional/episodic, online, time contributors (e.g. student interns), groups that volunteer as a unit, advisory council and other high-level volunteers or the board, HEAL International would not be able to achieve our positive outcomes without their contributions.

In honour of our volunteers, we are initiating an annual *Report on Volunteers* and commit to making our volunteers visible, recognized and celebrated. It is here we will profile a few volunteers knowing full well that scores of others will go unnamed.

### **Fundraising Efforts**



We reached our goal of raising 18% more in donations for 2017, in part, through the efforts of **Naomi Maharaj**. Naomi has been the co-coordinator for our annual fundraiser, *Killer Heels for HEAL*, for two years and in 2018 will keep the ball rolling! Her success in raising more than \$15,000 per year stems from her ability to connect with others and share her enthusiasm for what makes HEAL unique and worthy of supporting.

Morning meetings with kids in tow, late night calls and emails, and early morning appearances on TV with CEO/President, Arif Alibhai keep this busy mom of two on the go!

In 2018 Naomi also answered the call to help with communications. It seems her background as a professional librarian has kept her organized, focused and able to successfully juggle many balls at one time.

### **Educational Resources**



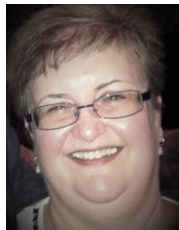
**Lauren Albrecht** has an undergraduate and Master's degree in Education and this, combined with her love of adult learning, stimulated her to take up the call to develop the *Sexual & Reproductive Health Educational Resource* for our Peer Education Kabarole (PEK) program students in Uganda. Along with Harmony McRae, Mariam Jiwani, Naik Arbabzada, Jacqueline Noga, Krisha Quiambo, Paisly Symenuk, Elizabeth Yue and Gerald Karegyeya, they completed a resource that was distributed at the annual PEK training session in summer 2017. These leaders are demonstrating a commitment to global citizenship that defines HEAL's vision for a more inclusive world.

## Man on the Ground



Broken signs that need fixing, errands that need running, and deliveries that need to be made...all were the ways **Fred Deis** helped HEAL function seemingly without glitches! Fred was initially “voluntold” by his wife, Board Chair Kelly, but now is ready with hammer in hand and utility trailer hooked up, to help where it is needed. During his spare time he also is an extra with the Edmonton Opera and a volunteer with a program that fixes and distributes bicycles to those in need.

## Infrastructure Needs



**Sonya Stasiuk** has been a friend and supporter of HEAL for a few years but offered to donate her technical skills and professional knowledge when the need for a data management system was identified. Sonya is working behind the scenes on something that most will never see. The information we will have, all in one place, will go a long way to ensuring HEAL responds to people regularly and in a way they request. We look forward to the day when we can recycle the countless lists we all have knowing this database is accurate and up to date.

Thank you to ALL HEAL volunteers and the commitment you make to this organization. Without you, we would not be able to achieve the outcomes we are experiencing.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kelly Deis, Board Chair

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Patricia Wilson, HEAL Secretary

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