

**2018 Report on Volunteers**  
**HEAL International's Annual General Meeting**  
**June 12, 2019**

**Introduction:** HEAL International is fortunate to have a cadre of volunteers that donate time, expertise and fundraising abilities to the organization. Some initially had their arms twisted to help for a fundraiser and find 8 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 established an annual *Report on Volunteers* to ensure our volunteers are visible, recognized and celebrated. This year we give you a glimpse into some of their lives.

### **Enhancing HEAL's Public Face**

Dynamic husband and wife duo, Rob and Lauren Wallace have been a backbone of HEAL for many years.

**Rob Wallace** is a teacher, professional photographer, our webmaster, and HEAL board member. He was first introduced to HEAL through his daughter's participation in *Learning Beyond Borders* (LBB) while she was a student at Old Scona Academic. Rob was her chauffeur to meetings and attended a 2014 LBB fundraiser where he met our board chair. Fast forward 4 months and Rob was enroute to Uganda to see and photograph firsthand the children, families and volunteers who benefit from our support and that of our partners in YES Uganda. In 2017, he returned and the poignant and heart-warming photos you have come to enjoy are, for the most part, his work.



**Lauren Wallace** also learned of HEAL through LBB. She is a quilter extraordinaire having donated some beautiful pieces in the last few years for our fundraiser auction. She is an avid user of social media and between her and Rob, we get a lot of traction from Twitter, Instagram and our Facebook posts. Together they made sure HEAL benefited financially from retweets during ATB Benevity's 2018 drive on *Giving Tuesday*. Lauren was recently recognized by her employer for her volunteer role in HEAL and both she and HEAL International were profiled via posters throughout the organization.

### **Educational Resources**

Dental Hygienists, **Veronica Kantun**, **Helen Massinni** and **Fareen Surani** along with **Salima Thawer** (Assistant Clinical Professor, U of A) and HEAL Board member (and previous hygienist), **Jeanne Annett** helped to write and review the newest addition to our education materials for our Peer Education Kabarole (PEK) program. This Guide

was reviewed by key people in Uganda to ensure it reflected the context within which it would be used before being more broadly shared.

*A Practical Guide to Good Oral Health*, was distributed to PEK leaders and schools during our site visit in February 2019.

These professionals are demonstrating a commitment to global citizenship that defines HEAL's vision for a more inclusive world and resources such as this are making a real difference.

## Financial Accountability



**Sal Karmali** was born in Nairobi, Kenya and has resided in Canada for the past 45 years. Since 1992, he has managed his own public accounting practice. Sal personifies the saying “if you want something done, ask a busy person” as he volunteers his time and expertise with several community groups including HEAL. Sal has donated accounting services to HEAL since 2018 which means more of your donations can go towards programs and other initiatives instead of administration costs.

He currently serves on the United Way Alberta Capital Region's Community Stewardship Committee and is a Regional Reviewer for the Canada Volunteer Awards. We salute Sal and his contributions to making the world a better place.

## Global Citizenship



**Amber Rai** has been a dedicated member of *Learning Beyond Borders* (LBB) program for over five years. LBB is a student program to raise awareness of inequities in education in low-income countries and to raise funds to support the improvement of quality of teaching in rural public schools in Africa. Amber believes strongly that education is the key to unlock the potential in every child so that they can dream of a better future, achieve that dream through education, and serve as inspiration for future generations.

In the past, she served as President of the Old Scona Academic chapter of LBB club (for two years), and currently she is the President of the University of Alberta chapter of the LBB club. LBB organizes events and creates connections within the local Edmonton community to provide primary schools in Uganda (Rugaaga, Kakooga and Kyakayombya Primary Schools) with tools to ensure educational success and provide incentives for students to stay in school. Support from both school chapters has led to dramatic improvements in performance by school students national standardized exams. Amber works with a team to create and organize various events such as food sales, charity sporting tournaments, and art auctions.

Amber was recently selected as a Top 30 under 30 youth by the *Alberta Council for Global Cooperation* for her work with LBB. We are very proud of her and the other youth involved in the LBB clubs.

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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