



ABOUT SAFE'S INTERNSHIP AND PRACTICUM PROGRAM

About Safe Mothers, Safe Babies

Safe Mothers, Safe Babies (SAFE) is a nonprofit organization working in Eastern Uganda to improve maternal and child health. We combine community-based participatory action principles that seek to improve health behaviors with health systems interventions. Together, we use these principles to improve our own version of the Three Delays Model (Thaddeus and Maine, 1994), in which we extend it through the first 1,000 days of life. Through this model, we target: (1) Factors that impact the decision to seek care, (2) Factors that impact the time it takes to physically access care, and (3) Factors that impact the provision of timely, evidence-based, high-quality care once a maternal or infant patient has accessed the health care system. We implement this model through methods that place women, men, and youth in the driving seat of change—we truly seek to work WITH people, not for them, to ensure that solutions are appropriate, sustainable, and relevant.

About SAFE's Internship and Practicum Program

SAFE has been taking students to Uganda as interns and practicum students since 2008. As an intern or practicum student, you will live in Uganda for 4-12 weeks and join SAFE's team to work on a maternal or child health project. Past student projects have included tracking emergency maternal referrals between

health facilities and the district hospital; developing and refining an educational curriculum for community groups that focus on maternal health; launching a motorcycle ambulance program; a qualitative research project interviewing women and men about their experiences with maternal and child health; screening health facilities to be recipients of SAFE's solar electric "lighting up life" project; and developing a "SAFE mama kit" business venture with a community group, to name a few.

Our internship program is unique in that we give students a real experience handling the satisfaction and challenges of on-the-ground development work. Past interns have voiced how much they learned and how invaluable it was to their long-term professional development. In turn, students provide a great service to SAFE communities by utilizing their expertise, skills and knowledge to contribute to better maternal and child health.

Commitments

- Time:
 - Pre-departure: 6 week preparatory class online (each week has a 1-1.5 hour class)
 - In-country: 4 week or 6 week stay in Uganda, can extend to 12 weeks depending on project
- Program Fee: Each intern must pay a program fee that covers all project-related expenses in-country, including transportation and accommodation to/from the airport, project-related transportation, communication (internet and phone air time), translation services, food and accommodation, project contributions (this goes to the project(s) you work on), project support (our staff sets up your accommodations, provides translation services, and runs the projects year-round), and emergency/incidental expense.
 - For 2014, these fees were \$1,600 for 6 weeks. These figures may change slightly depending on the exchange rates and our in-country costs, but will be similar.
- Flight, related medical expenses (including *required* trip insurance and vaccines), and visa are the individual intern's responsibility.
- Willingness to work in a multidisciplinary, multicultural team in rural Uganda.
- MUST provide all project materials (i.e. data, curriculum, project report, etc.) developed, gathered, created, etc. as part of the internship back to SAFE, and may not use any of these materials outside of SAFE in any capacity unless given permission by SAFE's President or Vice President.
 - We are very happy to work with you on thesis, dissertations, and other school-related assignments; we are also happy to explore the possibility of publication with you, however we require that you discuss it with us and work with us first.

For more information about what we do, please check out our website at:

www.safemotherssafebabies.org.

Application Procedure: To apply, please send your most recent CV and a cover letter regarding your interests and background to: info@safemotherssafebabies.org.

Potential Projects for summer 2015

Below are several projects we anticipate having available in the summer 2015 (though projects are subject to change slightly depending on current organization needs). Typically interns work with SAFE

staff to identify a project, following their acceptance to the internship/practicum program, after which they will work with SAFE officers to further develop and refine project concepts and materials.

- **Research:**
 - *Voices of Maternal Health:* Intern will develop an in-depth interview and/or focus group discussion guide(s) to facilitate qualitative interviews about maternal health, then oversee the implementation of that guide in-country using organization-employed translators. Component of a larger research grant SAFE is implementing on reducing child mortality in the first 1,000 days. Possibility for thesis and publication.
 - *Third Delay Maternal Referral Tracking:* Intern will track emergency maternal referrals between their place of origin and their intended destination among 4 maternal health facilities, in order to better understand the situation surrounding emergency maternal referral and the Third Delay. Possibility for thesis and publication.
 - *Maternal Health Exit Interviews:* Intern will develop an in-depth interview guide to evaluate women's experiences in partner health facilities during antenatal care, labor, delivery, and postpartum care; then oversee the implementation of that guide in-country using organization-employed translators. Component of a larger research grant SAFE is implementing on reducing child mortality in the first 1,000 days. Possibility for thesis and publication.
 - *Verbal Autopsy:* Intern will develop a methodology for conducting verbal autopsies when women die during labor or experience a stillbirth, or after a child under age 2 dies; then oversee the implementation of that guide in-country using organization-employed translators. Component of a larger research grant SAFE is implementing on reducing child mortality in the first 1,000 days. Possibility for thesis and publication.
- **Programmatic Support:**
 - *Maternal Health Education:* Student will review and edit SAFE's existing maternal and child health education curriculum, then conduct refresher trainings with SAFE community groups. Intern will then watch the community groups' use of curriculum in the community and help to improve the curriculum based on performance. Possibility for thesis (or special project).
 - *Tablet-Based Maternal and Child Health Education:* Intern will film community groups' dramas and/or talks and training provided by local health providers; digitize the films; and put them on organization provided tablets that can be used by women during antenatal care to learn about maternal and child health topics. Should also include monitoring software to evaluate use of videos. Requires a student or a team of students with experience in filming, digitizing, and programming. Possibility for thesis and publication.
 - *Drama Support:* SAFE community groups use drama and songs to educate community members and important maternal and child health topics. Student will work with community groups to improve their acting skills, story lines, and audience engagement techniques, towards the end-goal of improved performances and greater audience reach. A background in drama, acting, theater, or musical performance strongly preferred for this project. Possibility for publication.

- *Community Group Assessment*: Student will work design and conduct needs assessment of SAFE community groups, then work with the group members to develop long-term plans to address deficiencies and promote self-sufficiency.
- *Documentary*: Student will interview, photograph, and film SAFE work and create a documentary. Storylines that are of special interest to SAFE are the provision of maternal health services in health facilities without reliable electricity, emergency maternal referral, and community groups that utilize drama to improve maternal health behavior. Student will develop story line in consultation with SAFE officers, but will have creative license to develop it as he/she sees fits. Would accept a team of students working on project together, and can provide GoPro camera.