WHAT CAN ONE PERSON DO?
ONE PERSON CAN CURE MANY

ONE PERSON CAN TEACH MANY

ONE PERSON CAN MAKE THE WORLD A HEALTHIER PLACE
We live in one, increasingly interdependent world.

Whether it is HIV, drug-resistant tuberculosis, or any of the other diseases that destabilize large parts of the world, the global impact of unchecked, preventable disease on poverty, conflict, migration and the environment becomes clearer every day.

On this interconnected planet, no society can turn away from its neighbor’s problems. Increasingly, when part of the world is sick, the whole world suffers.

Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) believes that improving global health is a cornerstone to strengthening societies, promoting economic development and human rights, and creating a more stable and just world. Central to that commitment is BWH’s unique program to train the next generation of global health leaders, the Doris and Howard Hiatt Residency in Global Health Equity (GHE).

Brigham and Women’s has always inspired extraordinary accomplishments from its medical residents. In 1987, a few visionaries, including BWH-trained physicians Paul Farmer and Jim Yong Kim and a single Boston-based donor, founded Partners In Health (PIH). PIH’s simple yet revolutionary mission is to provide health care to the world’s poorest people; address the root causes of disease; and widely share lessons learned, so that others benefit.

Twenty years later, PIH is a global model for action and Drs. Farmer and Kim are recognized pioneers. Now, they are building on their commitment to a healthier world by directing BWH’s Hiatt Residency in Global Health Equity—a unique physician training program that combines the exceptional education available from one of the world’s best teaching hospitals with practical, hands-on instruction in delivering health care in low resource settings.

Dr. Howard Hiatt, a Founder and Associate Chief of BWH’s Division of Social Medicine and Health Inequalities, has been described as a physician who “has left indelible, transformative footprints across the entire landscape of health care, from molecular biology to global health equity.” Through their efforts over many decades, he and his wife, Doris Hiatt, have enriched the lives of thousands of students. As Dr. Hiatt notes, “By making global health a priority, Brigham and Women’s Hospital has announced that medical care for all people independent of social status, income, and geography is part of its mission. The fact that there are BWH doctors working in the poorest corners of the world is a powerful statement that goes far beyond simply saying ‘We care.’”
All doctors complete a period of intense training—known as a residency—in their chosen medical specialty. The BWH Global Health Equity residency is specifically designed to provide young doctors with the tailored skills and knowledge they need to practice in poor settings. This comprehensive four-year program includes specialized training in internal medicine; coursework in research methods, public policy and global health advocacy; and extensive experience at field sites in impoverished countries. This intensive field work gives each graduate sophisticated training in direct patient care, research and health program management in some of the poorest places in the world, mentored by leading Brigham and Women’s global health physicians.

Only a few years after its founding, GHE is now one of the most sought-after residencies in the world, attracting some of the best young minds in medicine to global health.

The impact of GHE, however, goes far beyond the six outstanding physicians accepted into the program each year. The cornerstone of this residency is the fact that every GHE resident goes on to train hundreds more physicians and other health workers, creating a virtuous cycle of learning, training and healing, and multiplying the value of every dollar invested to support GHE.

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“After I’d spent a month with Paul Farmer, altruism began to seem plausible, even normal.”

tracy Kidder, in his New Yorker profile of Dr. Farmer, “the Good Doctor”
Jim Yong Kim grew up in a family of theologians. As a young man, Kim was inspired by the words of his childhood idol, Martin Luther King Jr., whose doctrine of shared ethical responsibility shaped Kim forever. Trained as a physician and medical anthropologist, Kim co-founded Partners In Health and went on to lead the global movement to reduce HIV treatment costs, and to provide that treatment to more than one million people in poor countries as director of HIV/AIDS at the World Health Organization (WHO). With Paul Farmer, Kim has also led efforts to develop and implement effective and affordable treatment strategies for emerging strains of drug-resistant tuberculosis in the poorest parts of the world. Today, Kim is Chief of the Division of Social Medicine and Health Inequalities at BWH and oversees the Global Health Equity Residency program.

most inspirational instructor. He made you believe you could change the world." a former student of Dr. Jim Yong Kim

Paul Farmer Their own limited means didn’t stop Paul Farmer’s parents from continually encouraging him to develop his mind and prioritize generosity to others. As founding director of Partners In Health and medical director of the Clinique Bon Saveur in rural Haiti, Farmer has forever expanded the idea of what can be achieved with limited resources and unlimited will. From his first trips to Haiti as a young medical student, Farmer has refused to accept the concept of “untreatable health problems,” working instead to develop practical models of providing quality medical care in some of the world’s poorest surroundings. Today, Farmer is Associate Chief of the Brigham and Women’s Hospital Division of Social Medicine and Health Inequalities and oversees the Global Health Equity Residency program. He continues as the medical director of the Clinique Bon Saveur, and spends the bulk of his time in field operations in countries such as Haiti and Rwanda, where a number of GHE residents also serve.

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“The Global Health Equity Residency is a guaranteed investment in the future. Every time a top-flight resident becomes part of GHE, she or he becomes part of the process of building a better future. And we know the results will be measured in lives saved.”  

Jim Yong Kim, MD, PhD
Profile: David Walton, MD
2007 Hiatt Global Health Equity Residency Graduate

Dr. David Walton was one of the first graduates of the Brigham and Women’s Doris and Howard Hiatt Residency in Global Health Equity.

It’s not uncommon to find the words “lost to follow-up” on a hospital chart in the United States. It means a patient did not return for care, for reasons unknown. Dr. Walton, one of the first graduates of the Hiatt Residency in Global Health Equity, explains why he never writes those words on a chart at the Clinique Bon Saveur in Haiti’s impoverished Central Plateau.

“When a patient doesn’t come in, we go find them,” he says. Often, that means walking to the patient’s home – a trip that might well involve hiking one of the many mountains that surround the clinic.

It’s a role that he sees as central to the clinic’s success because, as he explains, “Here, we are more than doctors. To provide care that will really make a difference, each of us has to be doctor, nurse, counselor and social worker.”

The terrain is different in Haiti, both geographically and in terms of the challenges encountered and the tools available to overcome them. Equipment is basic. Personal contact is key. The kind of lessons Dr. Walton learned here are the focus of the Global Health Equity Residency.

Dr. Walton started his career in global health during his first year of medical school, when he served as research assistant for Dr. Paul Farmer at Partners In Health’s clinics in Haiti. Today, as a member of the Brigham and Women’s faculty, Dr. Walton still spends more than half of his time in Haiti, where he works with other BWH doctors and Haitian colleagues to build on the clinics’ efforts to bring better care and treatment to Haitian patients.

Dr. Walton feels changed by his GHE experience. “I don’t see how people can live in this world and ignore what’s around them,” he says. Most importantly, he believes his work, and that of other GHE trainees, is helping. “It is an incredible privilege,” he adds, “to be able to work in Haiti.”
ONE INVESTMENT CAN BEAR A THOUSAND DIVIDENDS

This is a unique moment in global health. There is new scientific knowledge about how to prevent and treat the diseases that devastate poor regions of the world; new understanding of the links between lack of health care, poverty, insecurity, and hopelessness; and new commitment by governments and funders to make health a global priority.

A better world based in better health is within reach. But we are not there yet. There are still not enough physicians and health workers trained and ready to develop the needed programs, build the staff and facilities, unlock the funding and make a lasting change in human lives.

One person can make an enormous difference in this effort. Just as a single Global Health Equity resident can train hundreds of caregivers and save thousands of lives, a small number of committed donors can play an equally important role by making this work possible.

You can be a vitally important partner in transforming the health of impoverished nations, even if you never set foot in a foreign clinic.
Brigham and Women’s Hospital believes in the GHE vision and is committed to covering much of the program’s cost—but there are some costs the hospital is unable to cover. Government funding that pays for other residency programs is not available for this work. Foundation funding that supports global health efforts does not support essential training. The Hiatt Global Health Equity Residency depends on your support.

Each dollar invested in this program grows exponentially. Over the course of a lifetime, the impact of each GHE resident will extend far beyond the patients he or she cares for directly—to whole communities and countries. Every GHE resident will ultimately teach hundreds of health professionals at home and abroad; run health programs benefiting thousands; and contribute to new medical research and health policies that will benefit millions.

GHE residents are carefully selected and nurtured to succeed in this extremely challenging environment. We do not look for applicants with a passing interest in doing good, but seek those few individuals whose talent, dedication and faith can catalyze change on a major scale.

The same applies to our donors. The Global Health Equity Residency seeks a small group of forward-minded benefactors interested in making a proven, high-impact investment in a healthier, safer, better world.
WE SHARE ONE WORLD

We are at a crossroads. Our choices: ignore the growing burden of preventable disease and hope that it never impacts our society or our families. Or take constructive action to improve health, save lives, and help secure a better future for all.

BWH physicians have developed innovative solutions and an effective model of action that involves some of the most talented and dedicated young doctors, and some of the most accomplished faculty and mentors anywhere in the world.

We need your partnership to achieve that promise.

A small number of visionary donors can ensure that this virtuous cycle continues and grows. We would be pleased to provide you with more information on opportunities to support the Doris and Howard Hiatt Global Health Equity Residency, and how your gifts can have a lasting impact.

“Never underestimate the power of a few committed people to change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Meade