



**SUPPORTING GLOBAL HEALTH EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION**

**ALEXA WILD – HEALTH BUILDERS – RWANDA, 2023**

Master of Science in Global Health Equity

DR. RACHEL THOMPSON GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY FUND

Alexa completed her internship with Health Builders in Rwanda. The mission of Health Builders is to strengthen the management of health facilities, improve clinical care, and build healthcare infrastructure so every person has access to high quality healthcare, allowing them to live a dignified, healthy, and prosperous life.

During her internship, Alexa created a digital campaign to build support and sustainability for the Youth Friendly Corners which provides confidential sexual reproductive health services to adolescents. Youth peer educators are trained and educated on adolescent sexual reproductive health, drug and substance abuse, and gender-based violence and provide support to individuals who access the Youth Friendly Corners. Health Builders has a goal of expanding the availability of the Youth Friendly Corners to additional districts in Rwanda.

“This internship allowed me to zoom out my understanding of different systems and structures. There is so much we can accomplish together if we come from a place of understanding and really wanting to learn about someone else.”

Alexa worked with the Health Builders team to develop an interview guide and identify key informants to conduct interviews with. Together they interviewed a youth peer educator, a nurse, and a teen mom who had previously accessed the Youth Friendly Corner. These interviews provided perspective on the importance of the spaces and informed the digital campaign that will be leveraged to expand the spaces to new communities.

Key learning takeaways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased understanding and collaboration with people of diverse backgrounds and cultures</li> <li>• Built effective techniques to maintain long-term partnerships</li> <li>• Developed an interview guide and interviewed key informants on the importance of Youth Friendly Corners</li> </ul>
Next Steps	Alexa will continue collaborating with Health Builders and will use what she learned during her internship to further her work in adolescent sexual reproductive health issues through her thesis work.



Sunset on Lake Miravi after a day trip to Bugesera Lake Hotel



Emily and Alexa outside the Rwamagana District Hospital



Mural at a Youth Friendly Corner inside a Health Center. It reminds young women to not get attached to men who give them money or gifts, the different types of birth control methods you can use, and the possible result if you do not use a form of contraception