



Quick Facts:

Developing Community Leaders

- A maximum of 250 students are covered in any given year, including those who are continuing their studies and those who are new.
- The scholarship program provides on average \$1.25 million in scholarship support each year.
- Students must be clearly related to Global Ministries' mission partnerships, which means they must be from church, ecumenical, or grassroots partner institutions.
- International students come from partners in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean. National students are from communities of color within the United States.
- Although the scholarship program receives far fewer female applicants than male applicants, the scholarship recipients each year are about half-and-half along the gender line. We highly encourage women from around the world to apply, in order that they might break the cycle of female oppression through the pursuit of education and their subsequent work.
- About half of the students whom we fund are in graduate-level studies and half are in undergraduate-level programs.

Student Highlights:

- We are coordinating with UMCOR Health in supporting **Rev. Arlindo Romao** of Mozambique, who is in his second year of a master of public health program at Africa University in Zimbabwe. Arlindo has been the clinical psychologist at Chicuque Rural Hospital in Mozambique and will return to be the director of Public Health. Arlindo began his ministry as a pastor and district superintendant, while he was getting a bachelor's degree in clinical psychology. Appointed later to serve at Chicuque, he saw the urgent need to address issues of hygiene, nutrition, and combating diseases that kill but are preventable.
- **Andrew Mambu** of Liberia, who is on the nursing staff at **Ganta Mission Hospital**, is in his second year of a master's program in nursing education at Stella Maris Polytechnic in Monrovia. Our partners there suggest that there's a great need to prioritize the training of hospital administrators and nursing educators, because there are not nearly enough of these personnel, and positions are filled now by non-Liberians.
- **Mary Grace Galapon**, a deaconess in the Philippines, will be preparing for her master's degree in social work at Silliman University in Dumaguete City. She is deeply concerned with the healing of families, for as a small child she had to labor in exchange for food and clothing as a housemaid in the home of relatives. In the midst of family breakdown, her survival came because, despite the conditions in which she lived, she was allowed to go to church, and it was there that she found hope.



She fervently believes that the church should work harder to find relevant ways to address the factors that threaten the whole being of a person, especially by equipping church workers with the skills to create a real impact. "Social work is where I see myself...in a new perspective of carrying out Christian Mission," she shares.

- **Efrain Zavala** is pursuing an M.Div. degree in counseling at Drew University in New Jersey. Efrain is especially concerned with two issues: the need for resources in the church and society to build healthy families, and how to narrow the gap of understanding between the church and the growing Hispanic/Latino population in the US. Efrain currently is the layperson assigned for Hispanic mission in Somerton, Arizona, and is a member of the Desert Southwest Conference. As a practitioner in the field of behavioral health, he has witnessed the struggle of entire families dealing with poverty, domestic violence, sexuality, substance abuse, and dependence. Efrain's goal is to be able to integrate Christian principles to clinical family practice and to advocate for the Hispanic community in a way that is integrative, patient, and culturally sensitive.
- **Silvana Grandon** of Chile is in her fourth year in medicine at the Universidad San Sebastian. Grandon's major emphasis in the area of health is to provide medical care, especially in the southern rural zone of Chile. This area is very affected by rain, storms, and flooding, and marginalized people have great difficulty reaching hospitals and clinics. Taking into account Jesus' words, "I have not come to be served; rather, I have come to serve" is Grandon's guiding precept in her life. Grandon works in the local emergency room during the weekends to help cover her expenses.
- **Laura Pressley** graduated from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio in May 2011 with a master's degree in addiction counseling. Pressley's spiritual path has led her on a journey of helping others in desperate states of addiction. This began with seeing medical emergencies as an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) volunteer, and wanting to help keep women from reaching that point by supporting them in a life of recovery. Pressley's post-graduation plans are to create an inner-city residential treatment program for women of color, involving family members and children in the recovery process.
- **Lilian Siwila** of Zambia has almost completed her Ph.D. program in gender and theology in South Africa at the University of Kwazulu-Natal. She has been actively involved with the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, is a member of the Circle for Concerned African Women Theologians, and the Africa Tamar Campaign (a Christian organization dealing with violence against women and children). Ms. Siwila's goal is to work with different denominations and ethnic groups in the southern part of Africa, sensitizing the churches on issues of sexual violence within the churches and in Christian homes, a situation that has perpetuated the increase of HIV/AIDS in the community.



- **Jonsen Sembiring** of the Methodist Church of Indonesia has also almost completed his Ph.D. program in Islamic Studies at the HKBP/Lutheran Theological Seminary in North Sumatra, Indonesia. Mr. Sembiring describes his country as having one of the largest Muslim populations in the world, with a population of 224 million, and more than 4,000 tribes and languages. In this context, 85 percent are Muslim, and 13 percent are Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Kong Hucu, Taoist, or Animist. Mr. Sembiring's goal is to develop holistic ministries, showing God's love to all people through church programs. He feels it is within the realm of Christian mission to put a dialogue to his Muslim neighbors in order to build mutual understanding and to promote working together to reform Indonesia for a better life for everyone.
- **Soraya Montano**, an Afro-Latina originally from Colombia, completed her master of law degree in 2008 from the Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University. Soraya's major concerns have been with supporting the needs of disenfranchised women and children, and serving within the Hispanic ministry of The United Methodist Church. Soraya is now a Church and Community Worker in West Ohio at the Esperanza Viva Community Center, carrying out community organizing around issues relating to, for example, immigration, health, women, and youth and young adults.