

## EWB PORTLAND MAINE PROFESSIONALS

### 2/19/2019 MEETING MINUTES

Chapter President Nadia Glucksberg welcomed everyone and, after introductions, provided the following updates:

**PORTLAND UNCORKED!** The annual fundraising event is set for Thursday, February 28 at the Custom House in Portland, ME from 5:30 – 9:00PM. Set-up will begin after 3PM on Thursday. Online ticket sales continue – please buy your tickets! We’ve had terrific corporate sponsor support this year thanks to Kathy Kern’s focused efforts to contact area firms. Thank you!

**NEW ENGLAND EWB CONFERENCE – FEB 2.** Our chapter was asked to speak at the conference and join in the discussions at UCONN in Storrs, CT. The conference was hosted by the Hartford (CT) Professional chapter. Nadia Glucksberg and Helena Hollauer (with support from Baxter Miatke) made a presentation on Groundwater wells 101 that was very well received.

**Harvard EWB “Failure Forum” – April 6:** This is a day-long EWB workshop that emphasizes failures in EWB projects and humanitarian work and gives options for how to learn from and talk about these experiences. There will be presentations from student chapters, professional chapters, university professors, and other experts in the field of humanitarian aid. All are welcome to attend. Nadia & Helena have been asked to present a talk similar to that presented at the EWN Mini Conference Feb. 2. To learn more go to <http://www.harvardewb.org/failureforum.html> . Registration information is at <https://support.ewb-usa.org/event/harvard-college-chapter-failure-forum/e220331>. If others want to join Nadia and Helena presenting their drilling adventures, please do. Just let Nadia ([nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com](mailto:nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com)) know so that we can coordinate the drive and let the hosting chapter know for final numbers.

**DEBRE BIRHAN, ETHIOPIA:** Our portion of the project is officially closed out! For those new to the chapter, our portion was the design and construction of a school for 1000 K-12th graders, with support for the latrine design and miscellaneous support as needed. The remaining parts of the project have been handed over to the South Denver Professional chapter to carry on. As always PMP will continue to support The Community Project: Ethiopia (TCPE) as needed, but just not under EWB HQ’s umbrella. The South Denver Professional chapter will continue with the latrine project at the school site as well as their Bamboo Experimental Garden. If you want to join the Slack Channel, to follow the conversations, just let Kathy Hillman Reed ([khillmanreed@gmail.com](mailto:khillmanreed@gmail.com)) know.

Now that the Debre Birhan project is closed out, the chapter could take on another project. One major criterion is that there must be a strong NGO in-country for the project to succeed. Another criterion is there must be a PMP member willing to spearhead the project. A list of projects looking for owners is available in Volunteer Village on the EWB-USA website.

**EL PROGRESO, ECUADOR:** The Project Team has returned from El Progreso for the first of the implementation trips. This is a water project that will start as water distribution project and then

progress as new phases are identified. There will be more travel opportunities in the spring, so if you want to get involved, let Baxter Miatke know, as this team meets separately (biweekly on Wed.) for planning and completing the EWB requirements. The team communicates on Slack, and if you would like to be included, just let Baxter know (baxter.miatke@woodplce.com).

**HAITI BRIDGE TEAM:** The Haiti Bridge project is moving forward with weekly teleconferences and has momentum. Cashman's project leads are in country and work as started. Our chapter is supporting the project with geotechnical, structural and hydrology assistance. If you're interested in more information about this project, please contact Nick Dempsey (nicholas.dempsey@hdrinc.com).

**MILEMBE SCHOOL, TANZANIA:** Pamela Hawkes and Scott teas are in country working on the Milembe School. Africa Schoolhouse (the NGO) has asked them for help to design a prototype self-contained dormitory compound which might be built on the existing campus, and ultimately become the model for construction at other rural secondary schools. There is a Slack channel set up to facilitate communications. If you're interested in this project, please let Nadia know (ngluckberg@haleyaldrich.com).

**STEM OUTREACH:** If you like kids and being a role model (or like playing hooky) join us. Our chapter is **STILL looking** for a member to lead the school outreach and organize the presentations. They are easy, fun and only take a few hours. If we want to continue to support the local schools, we need someone to take on this effort.

Kath Hillman Reed will be talking to a group of pre-engineering students (juniors & seniors) at Falmouth High School on March 22 at 8:00AM. The time will be shared with Scott Christman, Program Manager of Trade Training & Apprenticeship at Bath Iron Works. The goal is to emphasize the importance of STEM, describe what post-secondary school opportunities are available for high school students in ME, and describe what EWB is and does. If you're interested in joining the presentation, contact Kathy at khillmanreed@gmail.com.

### **FEBRUARY PRESENTATION**

Caitlin Corrigan, Director of Preble Street Health Services, described a pilot program called the MMC-Preble Street Learning Collaborative that supports Preble Street's mission statement to provide accessible barrier-free services to empower people experiencing problems with homelessness, housing, hunger, and poverty, and to advocate for solutions to these problems.

The Learning Collaborative pilot program has been set up with Maine Medical Center (MMC) to attempt to address unmet healthcare needs of homeless populations, providing clients with short-term, targeted case management to assist in accessing primary care, behavioral health services, and referrals to specialists.

Operating from offices at Preble Street, the Learning Collaborative is staffed by the Preble Street Health Services Director, a MMC nurse practitioner, primary care residents, medical students from the

MMC/Tufts Medical School Maine Track program, nursing, pharmacy, and social work students. The Learning Collaborative was developed to:

- improve the quality of care and client access to existing providers and established medical homes;
- advance medical residents' understanding and education of the needs and care of homeless and other vulnerable patients (avoid "shaming" & increase "safe" feeling); and
- increase understanding of health disparities (reasons for disconnect from basic services).

Caitlin noted that in 2018, there were 1,128 unique patients at the MMC-Preble Street Learning Collaborative. She also noted that in the low-barrier medication assisted Recovery Program for substance abuse, there was not one overdose among those participating.

**NEXT PMP CHAPTER MEETING IS TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019 at SEA DOG BREWING CO. in SO. PORTLAND, ME from 6:00PM – 7:00PM. PLEASE JOIN US!**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Chapter Secretary