Dear Friends of the Samuel Huntington Award,

First, a heartfelt thank you for your continued support of the Fund which has now been in existence for over 30 years, and sent over 80 young people out into the world with dreams and practical ideas for how to make life better for people both here in the US and across the globe. Just one of the projects, Healthy Learning, has already served 450,000 children and, thanks to having been adopted as Zambian government policy, projects to reach one million in 2023. It is one of my great pleasures to keep in touch with many of our winners; to learn what they learned as a result of working on their projects, and following their careers, often in fields related to their experiences.

As we, the board, review the applications each year, we look for practical ideas, for projects that can be sustained beyond the one year of service, for plans to attract additional funding, and clearly the energy and commitment it takes to engage in addressing some of the social, educational, medical and environmental issues of our times. Meeting these young people is always a highlight of our year, and it is often tough to make the final decisions!

Two newsletters ago I wrote about two of our winners who were facing extra hard times because of the political and social conditions in their countries. Sadiqa Basiri from Afghanistan, and Abraham Awolich from South Sudan have now been forced to leave their countries in fear of their lives, but their projects continue because of their vision and commitment, and the hard work of people whom they inspired. If you would like to know more about their work you can visit these websites to find out more details:


https://sudef.org/

Once again, I send this newsletter with a heart full of gratitude for your support. You are truly helping these young people make a huge difference in our world, and we hope to continue finding more talented, visionary and energetic young people with your support and help – many thanks!

Jennifer Huntington
Chair
2022 Award Recipients

This year we awarded two Public Service Awards—one to Joshua Kim, a biochemistry major from the University of Pennsylvania, and the other to Tess Pollins, a psychology and philosophy major from Boston University. After their projects, Joshua plans to attend medical school and Tess hopes to go to law school. Summaries of each of the projects follow:

CommuniHealth—Health Experiences Designed by the Community for the Community

For the past several years, the Covid epidemic was a huge challenge for students; for Joshua Kim it was also an opportunity. Joshua spent the last two years launching a student organization, called EduCare. EduCare attracted 16 staff members, established partnerships with eight healthcare organizations, and served over 10,000 patients lowering vaccine hesitancy and increasing Covid testing. In addition, the program produced a video with inmates that helped increase vaccination rates at a prison by 50 percent. During this process, Joshua spent over 200 hours interviewing patients and community members about health care services.

He learned a lot. He found that in low-income neighborhoods “mistrust, misinformation, and inaccessible distribution of health information persists because community voices are not included.” His new project addresses that need through the creation of a patient ambassadorship program in a comfortable clinical space with culturally relevant health infographics. Working with a West Philadelphia free health care center, Joshua will hire and train fifteen health ambassadors from the neighborhood. The ambassadors will help patients navigate health care facilities and hospitals, understand their doctor’s advice, and interpret health metrics so that the patients can act upon this information in a meaningful way. The overall objectives are to increase the Patient Power Factor (a quantitative factor developed by the team) by 30 percent in the first year, and to improve the patients’ understanding of preventative healthcare metrics, concerning Covid, hypertension, and PAP smears, from 34 percent to 90 percent.

Joshua’s new program is needed. The project has been favorably received by the Academy of Master Clinicians Education and Outreach Committee in Philadelphia, and his advisor believes that the “project has potential to be scalable and applicable for much broader engagement and outreach.”
Chakuwama Orphanage in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

As with many of our Award recipients, Tess Pollins developed a special connection with her project during her college years. During college, she made three trips and spent a year in total working at the Chakuwama Orphanage in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The orphanage currently houses 32 boys in one room and 15 girls in a second room with 17 younger children living in two other small bedrooms, a total of 64 children. The current location is just too small and the lease on the building is set to expire.

This is the problem that Tess is addressing. Using her personal savings, she has already purchased an acre of land for a new orphanage. With our Award, she will build the facilities. Her research shows that children do better in smaller homes. Thus, she is building eight homes, each with two bedrooms, each housing four children, and one bathroom. She is also building a school, including a preschool, that will accommodate the children from age 2 to 18. Finally, she will implement her English language program from Swahili (in which she is fluent). She believes that the school, particularly the preschool element, will generate fees from the community to help support the orphanage.

Fortunately, Tess has experience with a project of this kind. She built a smaller version of the orphanage design already, and is going to use that experience and the same construction team of local workers to complete her project this time. Most important, she has the support of the staff and children of the orphanage. As she explains, “with years of history they consider me a friend, rather than a visiting foreigner.”

In Memoriam: John W. Rowe

John W. Rowe, who succeeded Samuel Huntington as Chief Executive Officer of New England Electric System in 1989, passed away in Naples Florida on September 24, 2022. In addition to his numerous professional accomplishments, John and his wife Jeanne were very generous philanthropists, supporting a wide variety of civic, educational, and artistic causes — including the Samuel Huntington Fund. His keen intellect and sharp wit will be missed by many. You can read John’s full obituary here: https://www.fullernaples.com/tributes/John-Rowe
Visit our Website: samuelhuntingtonaward.org

Thank you to our Supporters!

The Samuel Huntington Fund was established in 1989 and, thanks to you, has now granted 85 Public Service Awards. Please keep the Fund in mind as you make your year-end charitable donations. You can make a tax deductible contribution at any time by visiting our website (www.samuelhuntingtonaward.org), our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/SamuelHuntingtonFund/) or sending a check to:

The Samuel Huntington Fund
c/o Ms. Amy Stacy
National Grid
40 Sylvan Road
Waltham, MA 02451

For your convenience, a pre-addressed envelope is enclosed with this newsletter. In addition, you can now also support the Huntington Fund through PayPal partners including: eBay, GoFundMe, Humble Bundle, Airbnb, Nextdoor, ShoppingGives, and Zakatify. Thank you for your consideration!

Samuel Huntington Fund Officers and Directors

- Jennifer Huntington  
  Chair
- Frederic Greenman  
  President
- Thomas Robinson  
  Clerk
- Lawrence Reilly  
  Treasurer
- Judith Haynes  
  Assistant Clerk
- George Sasdi
- Peter Flynn
- David Milner

www.samuelhuntingtonaward.org