

# THE SAMUEL HUNTINGTON PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

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## Doing Good, With Your Help

**Dear Friends of the Samuel Huntington Award,**

This year, and last, were excellent fund-raising years for the Fund, and I thank you very much for your generosity. Please know that your gifts do not simply disappear into a spreadsheet. They show up across the world in many different ways. They not only help thousands in different places to a better life, they also give confidence and invaluable experience to these young people. This is something many of them mention, as they go ahead with their projects. When you are 21 or 22, and you hear that you have won a prestigious award, that means a great deal. So, not only are your gifts helping others in different places, they are also helping motivate future leaders to continue their work in different ways.

Finally, thanks to the dedicated volunteer work of our board, and our wonderful Amy Stacy, our administrative costs in 2025 (printing etc.) were just under 1% of our income. So, you can

see that your generous gifts truly do not disappear into database – they make a huge difference, and for that we – and our winners, and the recipients of their work - all say THANK YOU!

We have just finished interviewing this year's finalists and you will hear more about them later. As always, it was so interesting to read about their proposed projects, to hear their enthusiasm for doing public service work, and their gratitude for our support.

Now, after 35 years, we, the Board members, think that it's time to reflect on where we have come from, and to ask ourselves what is the best path forward? We have a deep bench of former winners who are ready, willing and able to help us in that process. They have expressed interest in using their experience to help us plan for fund-raising, marketing, and finding ways to bring them together to share their efforts and projects. This is another subject which I will be glad to share in a future newsletter!



**Jennifer Huntington  
Chair**

Happy spring, and thank you all,

*Jennifer Huntington*

Sad news: I am devastated to tell you that my granddaughter, Zoe Huntington Davidson, a new member of our board, and granddaughter of Sam's, died on March 18. Her loss to our world, and to our board, is immeasurable. Zoe was a wonderfully smart, caring, bright, fun young woman, who had already had an outsize influence on many people, and who had brought so much to our world. We all mourn her untimely death with heavy hearts. Jennifer

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Your donations make all that we do Possible!



## Update on 2025 Award Recipients

At this time last year, our Award Winners were preparing for final exams: Alyscia Batista at Brown; Diana Naiyaboi Kimojino at Wesleyan; and Jack Rothacker at North Carolina State. Now, Alyscia is integrating traditional and modern medicine in Peru; Diana is adding women's health care to her Nailepu Foundation in Kenya; and Jack is building school rooms in El Salvador. Here we report on their progress.

### Integrating Modern and Traditional Medicine in Peru

Alyscia is working with healers and clinics in two regions of Peru—the mountains of the Andes and the jungles of the Amazon. Her project is multifaceted. She began with extensive field trips to the Andes from September to November and the Amazon from November to December. During these visits she made connections with community leaders, met with local medical practitioners, and inventoried native medicinal plants. She is writing a bilingual guidebook on native plant remedies and their use by tradi-



ditional, tribal healers. Over the remainder of her project, she will also hold workshops to share traditional medicine and native plant remedies

with clinicians and to inform local healers when to refer patients to modern medicine. At this point, clinics in both the Andes and Amazon plan to use her guidebook and curriculum this year and for the long term. A student at the university in Iquitos has also partnered with Alyscia to help with her thesis on local medicinal plants that support the guidebook.

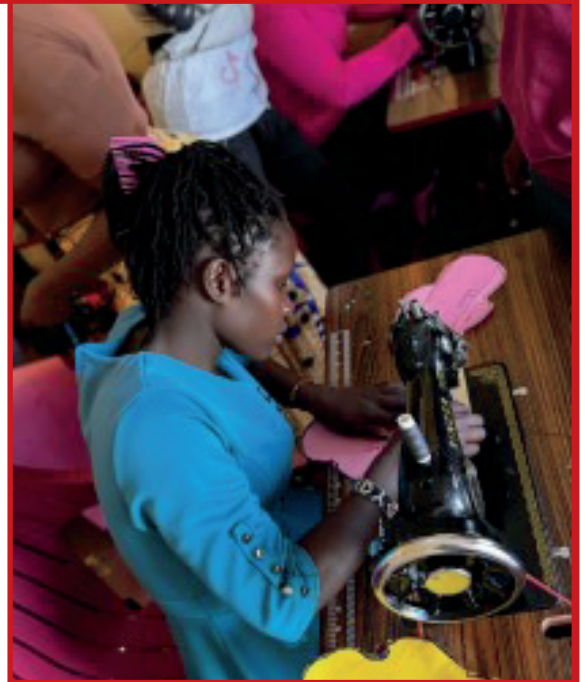
In the future, Alyscia intends to expand her model to “additional regions with rich traditional medicinal knowledge” documenting local plant-based remedies and conducting workshops that bring local healers together with modern clinics. Like so many of our Award winners, she reports that “this project has genuinely changed my life.”



### Women's Health in Kenya

Diana's project builds upon an effort she started in 2022 to help the young women of the Maasai community in Narok County, Kenya. She is using the Award to start a community health program, conduct workshops to address the high rates of teen pregnancy, provide safe childbirth and maternal health care, and teach the women to make and sell sanitary napkins to support the program over the long

term. To develop community support and attract participants to the effort, Diana held a soccer tournament over three days. The tourney brought the entire community together to discuss women’s health in a relaxed forum and attracted volunteers to participate in workshops and sew napkins. From that start, she organized several smaller meetings in home-based settings, visited schools, and donated sanitary pads. Rather than hold a single large conference as originally planned, these smaller meetings and workshops have allowed participants to discuss women’s health issues in more comfortable and safe settings.



She also expanded the project to neighboring villages, and in so doing discovered a very remote village that was hit by a severe drought, killing livestock, and leading to severe hunger in the community. Accordingly, the team provided immediate assistance, organized a food drive, as well as sharing health and hygiene care information with the families.

A key part of the project is making and providing sanitary pads for the women. The organization is up and running. The pads have been tested and redesigned to positive feedback. They will go into full production in the coming months.

## School Construction in El Salvador

Jack Rothacker is focused on building new classrooms and technical school facilities in a low-income region of El Salvador to help close an education gap and to create a consistent and safe environment for students. He has a five-year program to support 100 middle schoolers and 300 technical students. He reports that construction of the seventh grade classroom is complete. The room is now being used by grade schoolers pending approval of middle school classes by the Ministry of Education and Health.



Because our Award does not cover the full cost of planned construction, Jack is also using this period to raise funds from other sources. He is holding a soccer tournament to raise funds for an irrigation system, and has begun hosting paying trips to the school and El Salvador for North Carolina State students. He has hosted one trip and has another planned. These trips are designed to help fund Jack’s ongoing construction program, build cultural exchange, awareness, and longterm sustainability for the project, and inspire other students to start their own public service projects.

## Thank You to Our Supporters!

The Samuel Huntington Fund was established in 1989 and, thanks to you, has now granted 97 Public Service Awards. Please keep the Fund in mind as you consider your charitable giving. You can make a tax deductible contribution at any time by visiting our website ([www.samuelhuntingtonaward.org](http://www.samuelhuntingtonaward.org)) or sending a check to: The Samuel Huntington Fund, c/o Ms. Amy Stacy, National Grid, 170 Data Drive, Waltham, MA 02451. For your convenience, a pre-addressed envelope is enclosed with this newsletter. Thank you for your consideration!

A list of donors to the Fund since our Spring/Summer 2025 newsletter was published follows:

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