

AWIN News

The newsletter of the Alice Wimpfheimer International Nutrition Fund

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Maggie Dylewski Begis and Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO) at Angkor Children's Hospital, Cambodia

Welcome

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter of AWIN! We are excited to tell you what has been accomplished with your support since 2022 when Alice Wimpfheimer International Nutrition was incorporated as a 501c3. Our goal is to honor Alice's vision to promote collaboration between dietitians and to reduce the impact of malnutrition not just in the United States, but around the world. She has been our guide as we scale up AWIN to encourage and support dietitians and dietetic students working in the international humanitarian space.



Alice Wimpfheimer

Our Mission: To support global humanitarian nutrition work.

What we do

The World Health Organization recognized nutrition as the #1 health issue in the world and yet there are commonly few nutrition health care professionals in the countries and regions where they are most needed. AWIN is dedicated to funding the training and mentoring of nutrition professionals and students within and outside the United States. AWIN supports professional groups, including within the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, but also non-governmental organizations, training and academic projects, research, and anything that enables more effective global humanitarian nutrition care. We support activities within high resource countries only as they support humanitarian nutrition efforts in low and middle resource countries.

Our AWIN leaders

The founding members and board of directors of AWIN are six Registered Dietitian Nutritionists, each of whom has been significantly involved in international work for many years as a volunteer and/or employee. Three are founding mothers of the Global Member Interest Group of The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, one is currently the President of the International affiliate of the Academy and another is the director of a dietetic internship who plays an essential role in global health affiliations in her academic institution. Please see the AWIN website <https://www.awinfund.org/board-members> for more information about the AWIN board.

Our giving in 2023 and 2024

In 2023 and 2024, AWIN began awarding grants, thanks to the donations of many of you! It is fulfilling to support these excellent projects:

- A \$250 grant to the Gallatin Valley Packathon for Haiti - Working again this year with [Future Forward for Haiti](#). 256 community volunteers of all ages assembled 31,200 meals for Haitian school children living in extremely adverse circumstances.



- In 2023 and 2024, AWIN provided funds to the Global Member Interest Group (GMIG) to support a project in collaboration with Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO) which provided Angkor Children's Hospital in Cambodia with two subscriptions to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Pediatric Nutrition Manual. This year AWIN has offered a \$750 travel grant to HVO to help another dietitian provide further training on the use of the pediatric nutrition manual. The newsletter headline photo is from the 2023 trip, hospital staff and two volunteer trainers, one of whom is Maggie Dylewski Begis, PhD, RD.

“Volunteers and Cambodian nurses think the manual is a wonderful and valuable resource and are optimistic about the impact it will have on their learning and patient care as they continue to improve their understanding of how to use the manual. They also have a goal of sharing with and allowing staff from other departments to use it.” - Report from medical staff and volunteers from 2023 trip

- AWIN's collaboration with GMIG is growing! This year we will fund two \$750 mini-grants for member students and RDNs. One grant is to help fund attendance at a conference of international significance and one for volunteer work overseas. We also provided \$800 for Nadin Samaan, GMIG External Relations Committee Chair, to attend the International Congress of Nutrition and Dietetics in Toronto, Canada. Additionally, \$200 was given for GMIG webinar honorariums.



Nadin Samaan

- Beyond GMIG, AWIN provided a \$750 stipend to [El Cuenco](#) for a student nutrition volunteer in Guatemala this summer. Iowa State graduate student, Takayo Lang, received a \$750 grant for a month-long experiential learning opportunity in West Africa. She will study community nutrition and sustainability practice at the Nutrition Research and Training Center in Asesewa, Ghana.



Alice turns 100!

We plan to continue funding many of these projects in years to come and to add others with your help. We are celebrating Alice's 100th birthday all year! If you would like to honor her with a donation that will further her dream of dietitians involved in advancing better nutrition around the world, please click here to see our website donations page:

<https://www.awinfund.org/donate>

We hope you enjoyed our newsletter. Thank you for your interest in Alice Wimpfheimer International Nutrition!



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