



Health Builders Welcomes Global Health Corps Fellows March 2022

A conversation with **Flora NIYOKWIZERWA**, a Global Health Corps (GHC) fellow working as a software project manager:

“As a woman working at Health Builders, it is a great opportunity to work in the health sector with people from different backgrounds but still help and value each other without any discrimination. I like the working environment is conducive, team members are open, communicative, and compassionate. This enables growth and makes employees feel safe and comfortable around each other.

My work in Health Builders is impacting me personally and socially. Under my supervisor, I am working on developing a system for monitoring and evaluation performance which will help Health Builders to collect and analyze the data from 52 health sectors. This tool will help to improve the organization internal process and it will be faster, easier and secure for Health Builders to keep the data for future use.

Additionally, I am also helping in E-heza project where I monitor and train Community Healthcare Workers (CHWs) in Rulindo district at Kajevuba Health Center. In the mentorship we train CHWs to increase their user experience on E-heza system to follow-up the health status of pregnant women, mothers and children. This tool will help the Ministry of Health to get the accurate data of health state of pregnant women, mothers and children under 5 years.

My work at Health Builders also impacted my personal growth because while working on these projects, I learned a lot in health sector and discover how I can integrate IT and Software skills in health sector.

Health Builders empower women because usually it is not likely that women get chance to be hired on the position of Software Project Manager. They also ensure that women live healthy and safe lives. In addition, they partnered with The TIP Global Health for the well-being of pregnant women, mothers and children less than 5 years in antenatal care, acute illness and nutrition program.”

A conversation with **Deborah Uwimbabazi**, a Global Health Corps (GHC) fellow at Health Builders serving as a software project manager.

“Working at Health Builders as a woman means the world to me because they provide equal opportunities to both women and men. It Has built strong confidence in me because no one judges or criticizes your work because it has been done by a woman. They believe in your abilities and everyone is eager to help you wherever you get stuck. They also provide necessary

support and a conducive work environment especially to pregnant women who are in their late months of pregnancy where they can work from home or at office depending on their health condition at that moment and giving them a maternity leave of three months means a lot to me. Furthermore, Working at Health Builders as a woman, especially in the IT department is something encouraging and inspiring because they do not undermine you because you are a woman. The work a man can do, also a woman can. They have a good culture of treating everyone equally with dignity and respect.

About the working environment, Health Builders have a friendly working environment where everyone treats each other like family. Its employees are so friendly and open to everyone which makes you feel comfortable asking any help or assistance you may need. Health builders also have a working environment which favors its employees to be connected through different social activities like visiting someone who gave birth as well as going out spending some time together and getting to know each other more.

My work at Health Builders has a big impact first on my professional growth, organization, my family, and the entire society in general. Currently I am working on a project digitizing the existing method Health Builders was using during monitoring and evaluation processes. This project will help the organization to access records quickly and easily, reduce errors due to manual data entry, and improve data safety as well as security.

Also, under guidance of my supervisor, working on this project has greatly improved my professional growth where I gained and improved in different skills such as programming skills, resilience skills, communications skills, teamwork, and kept me in a state of continuous learning. With all these skills and more I got, I believe that will be a great asset towards my career development. Furthermore, support in the E-Heza project has greatly impacted the society where the mentorship sessions we provide to community health care workers has improved their user proficiency in using the E-Heza digital system and this has helped them to be able to record and track health conditions of pregnant women and children under five years. Last but not least, my work has greatly impacted my family financially in a way that I am able to support my husband in providing for the family which leads to a wellbeing and a healthy family.

I would like people to know that Health Builders places great emphasis on empowering and enhancing the role of women where they selected two female GHC fellows to come and serve as software project managers. There might have been other men applicants who were competing for this role, but Health Builders gave equal opportunities to both sides to compete and be selected according to their potentials not their genders.

Also having a woman in the executive team (Mrs. Immaculate Kyarisiima, director of programs and development) shows the great work Health Builders is doing in empowering women. Furthermore, referring to the Health Builders work towards building Maternity wards to different Rwandan health centers shows the great work they are doing towards ensuring safety and healthy lives of women.”