



AP Fellows in Nepal: from the left - Vicky, Cynthia, Rachel and Kirstin.

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Peace Fellows Line up for Peace and Human Rights!

Highlights from The Advocacy Project Peace Fellow Blogs

Nine Peace Fellows are volunteering this summer with AP partner organizations in Vietnam, Lebanon, Uganda, Kenya, Jordan, and Nepal. In this digest we offer excerpts from their blogs. We encourage you to visit their pages and comment.



Samburu selfie

Teach Your Children Well

Talley Diggs (George Washington University) is working with the [Children Peace Initiative Kenya \(CPI\)](#), which builds peace between warring pastoralists: "I quickly learned that the extent of their outreach was possible through their strategy of empowering children as peace-builders. By investing in education that roots children in convictions of tolerance and peace, CPI has developed a long-term strategy to eradicate conflict in the future." [Read more](#)

To donate to Talley's appeal, [click here](#)

"It's Our Right to Know Where They Went"

Vicky Mogeni (Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University) is working in Bardiya with the [National Network of Families of Disappeared and Missing Nepal \(NEFAD\)](#), helping wives of the disappeared to develop an embroidery cooperative: "It was a particularly hot day in Kathmandu and as we walked home, I thought about the notion of victimhood. Enforced disappearances victimized those disappeared but also victimizes their relatives, long-term. The search for truth persists." [Read more](#)

To donate to Vicky's appeal, [click here](#)



Vicky at embroidery training



The universal sign

Peace Signs and Duck Faces

Rachel Petit (Sciences Po, School of International Affairs) is helping [Care Women Nepal \(CWN\)](#) in Nepal to organize a health camp for women with uterine prolapse: "Peace signs and 'duck faces' are universal, illness is universal, access to care is not. Care Women Nepal is working to change this reality for the women of Dhankuta. As an advocate for women's health rights, I am truly grateful to play a small role in CWN's work this summer." [Read more](#)

To donate to Rachel's appeal, [click here](#)

An Inconvenient Truth: My First Time at a Brick Factory

Cynthia Boruchowicz (University of Maryland, School of Public Policy) is helping [CONCERN](#) in Nepal to place 50 children from brick factories in school: "I think CONCERN's approach is the same as mine. They are not here to close factories, or to claim that parents are evil because they let their kids work in these conditions. They understand this is all the result of a system that is not working properly. And they try to help without judging." [Read more](#)

To donate to Cynthia's appeal, [click here](#)



**Cynthia with CONCERN beneficiaries at the Suryodaya
Balbika School**



All smiles in Gulu

Special Educators in Uganda

Lauren Halloran (Middlebury Institute of International Studies) is helping the [Gulu Disabled Person's Union \(GDPU\)](#) in Uganda to provide accessible sanitation services for children with disabilities: "On a personal note, part of my dismay at seeing the lack of support for students with disabilities comes from my mom. She works as a Special Ed aide in a local elementary school in my hometown. (Her) school has an incredible commitment to inclusive education.... This isn't the case in all schools in the U.S. I've been to plenty where there are no funds for special needs students and they are ignored in much the same way as in Uganda." [Read more](#)

To donate to Lauren's appeal, [click here](#)

A Day and the Life of a Refugee in Jordan

Reina Sultan, a recent graduate from the University of California, Santa Barbara is working with refugees from Syria and Iraq at the [Collateral Repair Project \(CRP\)](#) in Jordan: "In Jordan, refugees are barred from seeking formal employment. This causes a number of problems. Refugees can become wholly dependent on aid, which is unreliable due to changes in funding or donor engagement. Refugees, desperate to support themselves and feed their families, can begin to work informally, which can be exploitative and dangerous. Based on my conversations with the men in the support group at CRP, the lack of work can be extremely disempowering for those who were breadwinners and felt defined by their careers." [Read more](#)



Reina and friend at the CRP in Jordan

To donate to Reina's appeal, [click here](#)



Jacob with an Agent Orange caregiver, Duong Thi An

Agent Orange - Checking in with Beneficiaries

Jacob Cohn (Fletcher School at Tufts University) is working at the [Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities \(AEPD\)](#) in Vietnam, where he is visiting families that were poisoned by Agent Orange: "I had the privilege of meeting three more of the Advocacy Project's beneficiary families here in Quang Binh Province - families that have been ravaged by the effects of Agent Orange. These are all families that have already received funding through the generosity of AP's donors, and I'm mainly visiting to check up on how everyone is doing.... However, I would soon be reminded that AP's support, while welcome, is no shield against misfortune." [Read more](#)

To donate to Jacob's appeal, [click here](#)

Transitional Justice in Nepal

Kirstin Yanisch (Georgetown University, Master of Science in Foreign Service) is working in Bardiya with Peace Fellow Vicky Mogeni at the [National Network of Families of Disappeared and Missing Nepal \(NEFAD\)](#), helping wives of the disappeared to launch a sustainable business: "The families in Nepal who were affected by the civil war (1996-2006) are at the heart of the work we do here for the Advocacy Project. Nepal is in a phase of transitional justice (TJ), a period of reconstruction and reconciling the events of the war as the country rebuilds..... at its base, TJ is about addressing the needs of people whose lives were disrupted by war, who are too often forgotten in the transitional phase." [Read more](#)



Kirstin is introduced to embroidery in Bardiya

To donate to Kirstin's appeal, [click here](#)

Reflections of a Middle Eastern Peace-builder



Jean-Paul Chami founded Peace Labs

Alberto Gimenez (Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs) is working with [Peace Labs](#), which promotes conflict resolution among communities in Northern Lebanon. In this blog he profiles Jean-Paul Chami, the founder of Peace Labs and reflects on peace-building: "A Peace-builder is someone who's mainly concerned by the fact that there's violence; and that person wants to see this violence changed. For that change to happen, they need to have a say in it, need to do something." [Read more](#)

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- Donate to our [Global Giving campaigns!](#)

This bulletin was edited by Natalie Roberts