

GSK Pulse program sees 100 employees join 46 NGOs

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Singapore: One hundred employees of drug major GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) have started long-term assignments with 46 nonprofit and non-governmental organizations (NGO) in 35 countries. The assignments, which will stretch for up to six months, will see the volunteers bring needed expertise to organizations working to address serious health challenges through GSK's skills-based volunteer program, Pulse.

The Pulse program enables GSK employees to work full time with the organizations and to bring their professional expertise and knowledge. Most employees who participate in Pulse work independently, while some work together in teams.

Employees participating in the Pulse program have until now worked with NGO such as Save the Children, New Delhi, India; OGRA Foundation, Kenya; Philadelphia Education Fund, US; and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Furthermore, GSK has recently established an ambitious new partnership with Save the Children to save the lives of one million of the poorest children in the world over the next five years. The two organizations have already been working together for eight years on a number of public health projects, including an initiative to reinvest 20 percent of GSK's profits in the least-developed-countries in community programs to strengthen healthcare infrastructure, primarily through the training of community health workers.

Ms Ahsiya Posner Mencin, director, Pulse Volunteer Partnership, GlaxoSmithKline, said that, "Our company and our employees are committed to helping to improve the quality of life for people around the world. Through our PULSE volunteer program, GSK employees use their professional skills and expertise to create sustainable solutions for important health issues. They return to GSK with strengthened leadership skills, a broader world view, and a greater connection to our mission of helping people to do more, live longer, and feel better."