

Prosperity Science Internship Sponsor and Project Description

The Center for Business, Health and Prosperity is focused on integrating innovation and entrepreneurship with health-enabling practices in pursuit of economic, social, and political well-being. Prosperity science is about discovering what makes this type of progress happen and ways to expand it. Prosperity Science Interns work with sponsoring organizations (government organizations, non-profits, or entrepreneurs) to help them improve prosperity while earning university credit.

Project Partner/Sponsoring Organization: Engage Now Africa (<https://engagenowafrika.org/>)

Sponsoring Organization Mission/Vision (Please provide a short description of your organization's primary mission): Engage Now Africa's purpose is to heal, rescue, and lift vulnerable individuals, families, and communities to help them become self-reliant through strategic programs, projects, and partnerships. We empower individuals and families in Sub-Saharan Africa to rise above extreme poverty through the following approaches:

- Providing programs with sustainable self-help solutions
- Developing crucial, in-country leadership enabling long-term sustainability
- Asset-based community development
- Strategic use of resources for broader impact

Project Liaison Name, Phone #, Email: Jennifer Hogge, jahogge@engagenowafrika.org

Project Title: Assessing Maternal Mortality Rates and Developing a Program to Decrease Mortality Rates in Ghana

Semester (circle 1): Fall Spring **Summer**

Project Year: 2023

Project Background: Improving maternal health in developing countries is associated with ameliorating poverty as well as reducing both neonatal and under 5 child (U5) mortality rates. While under 5 mortality rates in Ghana, currently at 48/1,000 live births, have materially improved over the last several years, maternal mortality rates associated with births are stagnant at 319/100,000 live births and neonatal mortality rates are at 27/1,000 births and are actually rising. As the UN sustainable development goal for maternal mortality is < 70/100,000 live births, Ghana's performance on this metric is over 4½ times the UN goal. In addition, researchers have found that while community-based, health-center and hospital-based maternal, neonatal and U5 outreach programs are effective at impacting U5 health, they have to date been far less effective at improving maternal health.

Project Goals: To better understand the reasons for maternal mortality stagnation in Ghana, by

geographic region, and to develop recommendations for helping ENA develop programs to decrease these maternal mortality rates.

Objectives:

1. Assemble overall statistics for causes of and conditions of maternal mortality by geographic region in Ghana
2. Determine primary causes of maternal mortality by region
3. Benchmark Best Practice developing regions for decreasing maternal mortality
4. Recommend actions to ENA for a maternal health improvement program that decreases maternal death

Project Deliverable(s) to the Sponsoring Organization:

A report covering the above four objectives.