

# Empowering Future Public Health Leaders: The Thai Scholars Program

Support Harvard Chan School students and, through them, the thousands of lives they will touch in their public health careers.

## FULFILLING THE PUBLIC HEALTH NEED

A robust financial aid program ensures that the Harvard Chan School will continue to attract the world's most promising future public health leaders, regardless of their ability to pay.

Financial support also helps ensure that students can use their talents where the public health needs are greatest after they graduate, instead of taking jobs solely to pay off school debt. Without a heavy debt burden, students can leave the School and immediately begin to improve lives and create positive change—the reason they came to the Harvard Chan School in the first place.

## GLOBAL IMPACT

The ripple effect of a Harvard Chan School education reaches far and wide. For example:

- School alumni led successful efforts to eradicate two major diseases: smallpox, which saw its last case in 1980, and guinea worm disease, which killed 3.5 million as recently as 1986 but is now on the verge of elimination.
- Alumni have held posts at the minister or secretary of health level in Afghanistan, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Taiwan, and Thailand, representing a combined population of more than 1.7 billion people.
- The Thai Scholars Program was established in honor of King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Prince Mahidol of Songkla. Together, they introduced public health and modern medicine to Thailand—influencing the health, prosperity, and longevity of Thai citizens. The dramatic improvements in Thailand can be traced to their remarkable contributions. Support for students studying at the School will help continue public health advancements across the globe.



## Alumni Spotlight

Physician Patience Ugwi came to the Harvard Chan School to learn better ways

to serve the desperately poor people she cared for as one of two doctors covering 23 rural villages. Her long-term goal: helping to bring universal health care to Nigeria.

“If you can empower one person who can bring about change, what you give is multiplied a thousand times. It’s not one person who is helped—it’s everybody.”

— *Patience Ugwi, MPH '12*  
*Financial aid recipient*

## Key Facts

- **Some 70 percent of Harvard Chan students depend on aid from the School and other sources to cover part or all of their expenses.**
- **The average debt load of a Harvard Chan graduate is more than \$75,000.**
- **The School would need an additional \$22 million every year to meet the full financial needs of all Harvard Chan students.**



## Donor Spotlight

In 2009, Mike Donatelli, AB '79, JD '81, and his wife, Evelyn, established the Mike M. and Evelyn B. Donatelli Fellowship, which to date has supported six Donatelli Fellows.

“Students come to the School to devote themselves to public service,” explains Mike. “Very often they already have advanced degrees and are giving up potentially more lucrative careers. I find that incredibly compelling. I give to financial aid to support the shared sense of sacrifice and commitment I see at Harvard Chan.”

— *Mike Donatelli, AB '79, JD '81*