

Media Release

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Local Woman to Work With HIV/AIDS Orphans

Michelle Cameron of Owen Sound will be traveling to Malawi, Africa for eight weeks this summer to work with HIV/AIDS orphans.

Michelle is traveling with five other health sciences or nursing students from University of Ottawa, who are all part of the Ottawa Student Health Initiative (OSHI). The six students are expected to pay their own costs for the eight-week mission, and have been fundraising for their trip.

On May 24 there will be a special showing of the documentary War Dance at Grey Roots as part of Michelle's fundraising efforts. War Dance is the story of refugee children in Northern Uganda using music and dance to maintain hope after all the hardships of their displacement. Visit <http://www.wardancethemovie.com/> for more information.

Only a limited number of tickets are available for this special showing. Cost is \$20 and includes a pre-reception before the showing.

This event is being co-sponsored by The Rocking Horse and Mike Haswell Division Director, Investor's Group. Tickets may be purchased at The Rocking Horse, Grey Roots, and The Frog Pond Café. For more information please contact Michelle Cameron at 519-376-0215 or mic_cam021@hotmail.com.

Since its inception in 1989 the Ottawa Student Health Initiative has sent more than 100 students to developing countries including Burundi, Kenya, Malaysia, Malawi, Philippines, and South Africa to participate in international health projects.

Some accomplishments of these summer projects include: health surveys to assess the health needs of rural communities, the construction and repair of hospital outreach clinics, and feeding projects which provide a sustainable income to families.

The focus of this year's mission is HIV/AIDS. Michelle and her teammates will be working with orphans as well as commercial sex trade workers; for example doing home based care and support, providing nutritional support to women living with HIV/AIDS, and youth voluntary counseling and testing. Projects such as these require much planning and a considerable amount of funding. Please help support the important work Michelle will be doing in Malawi this summer!

*The Ottawa Student Health Initiative is a registered charitable organization (#888977790RR0001).