

HEART 2011 Interns



From left to right: Brittany Tuscan, Ashlee Negrete, Meghan McKinney, Aubrey Costa



Brittany Tuscan, 19, will be a freshman at City College in Santa Barbara, California this Fall 2011. Brittany has been all around the world including Kenya, Uganda, Nicaragua, India, France, London, Greece, Costa Rica, the Bahamas, and Holland. She says she “looks forward to [traveling to] more places in the near future.” After serving in Kenya with a HEART team from Valor Christian High School in 2009, she knew she had to return. She has a deep love and passion for the children of Kenya and is confident that she “will be back” yet again. For her project, she is creating files of each of the children at the Kibera WEEP Center Preschool. These files include their picture, medical check-up forms, progress sheets, and guardian information and will be kept at the Kibera WEEP Center for Gladys, Kibera WEEP Coordinator, to keep up to date. “I love being in the slums and seeing the children giggling and playing. The children in Africa are the cutest!”

Ashlee Negrete, 20, will be a senior at William Jessup University in Rocklin, California this Fall 2011, where she is majoring in Intercultural Studies with a Bible and Theology minor. She has served in Kenya once before in 2006 and is so happy to be back for a longer amount of time—interning! For her project, she is planning a Youth Seminar in Bware, Migori entitled “Kicking HIV Out of the Community,” which partners soccer with HIV prevention to appeal to the youth. With an attendance of over 650 including 12 men’s soccer teams and 4 ladies’s soccer teams, volunteers from the community will partner with volunteers from HEART to teach and empower the youth of Migori. For Ashlee, this project is right where her heart is. “I, alone, can’t save Africa. I can’t cure AIDS. I can’t save all the orphans, or feed all the starving. However, God can. It’s not about me, it’s about God.”





Aubrey Costa, 20, will be studying abroad in Chile for four months this fall before returning to be a senior at Humbolt University in Arcata, California. Aubrey has been on missions to Mexico, Uganda, and Kenya. Having worked with HEART in Kenya last year as a team member, she was thrilled at the opportunity to return for a longer period of time. Because of her heart for youth girls, her project focused on HEART's Freedom For Girls project. After analyzing the successes of the project in various upcountry locations (including Lower Taita, Upper Taita, and Machakos), she created two promotional powerpoints to be used for fundraising and helped author the 2011 August FFG Newsletter. "The only way to truly show my thankfulness for God's grace is to serve."

Meghan McKinney, 20, will be a freshman at Hollins University in Virginia this Fall 2011, where she will be a pre-med student. Although she has traveled and lived all over the world, this is her first time to Kenya—in fact, her first time to Africa. Meghan has the gift of always bringing a smile and laughter to every person she meets. Using her joyful, sweet spirit and love for animals, she is working with the Kids For School project. She is creating a pamphlet for the beneficiaries of the Kids for Schools project (also known as "Goats and Uniforms") to guide the students on how to care for goats. She has loved her time spent serving in Kenya and says she "cannot wait to go back."





Lauren Seibert, 23, graduated from Arcadia University in May 2010, where she majored in Global Media and minored in photography. Although Lauren has had extensive experience in communications for non-profits dedicated to humanitarian causes, she really hopes to gain experience on the ground – serving, learning, and witnessing firsthand all she has written about the past few years – through interning with HEART. This is Lauren’s first time to Africa, and she is looking forward to using her journalism and photography skills to create content for HEART (including articles for newsletters and a PowerPoint to be used for fundraising); Lauren’s project will focus on analyzing the successes of HEART’s WEEP centers across Kenya. “As a journalist and photographer with a passion for global issues, especially HIV/AIDS and malaria, I am very excited about the work HEART does on disease prevention education and with WEEP in particular.”