

2017 Decade Award

Megan Peterson Christofield

The Decade Award is reserved for alumnae who have demonstrated, among other things, *global consciousness* during the 10 years since graduation. Megan Peterson Christofield '07 met that criteria long ago. By the time she graduated from Saint Ben's, Megan had already collaborated with fellow classmates to organize an experiential learning trip to Uganda. The trip turned out to be the first of many to Uganda for Megan—and for the school. (The trip that Megan helped spearhead is now regularly offered through the college.)

After graduation, Megan joined the Peace Corps and was, coincidentally, assigned to Uganda. After completing her Peace Corps service and obtaining a master's in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University, Megan began working for Jhpiego, a global nonprofit that works to prevent the needless deaths of women and their families. As one of Jhpiego's technical advisors, Megan is tasked with improving access to reproductive health care and resources for women and families in developing countries—including (you guessed it) Uganda. Megan describes her role as a knowledge broker, working closely with colleagues abroad to employ the latest evidence for improving women's care, and in turn collecting successful practices for refinement and application elsewhere.

She travels internationally and regularly meets with high-ranking international government officials to support efforts of sustainable, life-changing program development. Spurred by that first trip as a student at Saint Ben's, Megan's passion for global health has taken her around the world—and put her in a position to change that world for the better.