

# CHRISTY GAVITT, MPH, MIA

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**Nationality:** American

## KEY QUALIFICATIONS

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- Global, multi-lingual (including French) and cross-sector public health professional with nearly 40 years' experience in non-communicable diseases, community-based health trainings, and M&E with a focus on disease screening and prevention, curricula strategy design/classroom instruction/learning tools, survey instruments, research and reporting, behavior change management in development and humanitarian settings, field logistics/distribution, and resource mobilization. Pursuing short- to medium-term in-country consultancies with an NGO or multilateral.
- Held senior-level positions in seven emergency settings: Lebanon, North Korea, Rwanda, Mozambique, Chad Somalia and Pakistan.
- Well-respected leader of multi-million dollar, multi-stakeholder, multi-regional projects and programs with a focus on capacity building, sustainability, evidence-based protocols, and compliance with the highest and best public health practices.
- Effective interlocutor between government agencies (USAID, CDC, OFDA, DFID, EU), NGOs (CARE, American Red Cross, IFRC), academia, multilaterals (UNHCR, WPF), program managers, program beneficiaries, civil society, and other public/private interests.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills with experience preparing detailed and well-documented analyses and research reports for dissemination and presentations at meetings and internationally attended conferences; issues areas include HIV and AIDS, NCDs, RMNCH, malaria, WASH, SRH, and refugee health.
- **Regional/Country Experience:** Africa: Tanzania, Namibia, Mali, Rwanda, Mozambique, Somalia, Comoro Islands, Chad, Tunisia, Togo, Kenya. Caribbean: Haiti. Middle East/Subcontinent: Pakistan, Lebanon. Korean Peninsula: North Korea, South Korea. Southeast Asia: Indonesia, Vietnam.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Geneva** April 2017 – Sept 2017  
**Health Technical Writer – Community-Based Health and First Aid manuals**  
(Desk consultancy, Fairfax, Virginia)

- Reviewed and revised contents and format of designated modules of the IFRC's "Community-Based Health and First Aid" volunteer and facilitator manuals.
  - Manuals utilized by Red Cross/Red Crescent national societies worldwide for health-related community outreach activities.

**Medair, Zablé, Lebanon**

Nov 2015 – Jan 2016

**Knowledge, Practice, Coverage (KPC) Survey Consultant**

- Developed and oversaw a KPC survey targeting Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese served by Medair-supported clinics in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon.
  - The survey provided representative data on key MCH, family planning, and non-communicable disease (NCD)-related indicators at the household level.
  - Consultancy involved pre-survey clinic interviews, questionnaire development and pre-testing, training of 50 enumerators and supervisors, planning and oversight of field implementation, data analysis, and writing survey report.

**Global Health Consultant, Washington DC**

**Feb. 2014 – Present**

**Non-Communicable Diseases/Emergency Relief & Rehabilitation**

- Provided input to the draft chapter “Heart Disease and High Blood Pressure” in Hesperian’s *The NEW Where There Is No Doctor* (March 2018).
- Conducted a concurrent session entitled “Integrating NCD prevention, screening and follow-up care into existing chronic care humanitarian and non-humanitarian services” at the Fall 2017 CORE Global Health Practitioner Conference in Baltimore MD (September 2017).
- Conducted a presentation entitled “Reflections on Providing Humanitarian Aid in an Authoritarian Setting” at George Washington University (November 2018), Anne Arundel (MD) Community College (September 2018), Relief International, Washington, DC (April 2017), and for a graduate school seminar at the University of Pittsburgh (April 2016).
- Conducted a webinar presentation entitled “Non-Communicable Diseases in Humanitarian Contexts” at Relief International, Washington DC (October 2016).
- Provided extensive input to drafts of the NCD chapter to be incorporated into UNICEF’s “Facts For Life” (August 2014, December 2015).
- Co-facilitated a session on NCDs and women’s health at the “new information circuit” session at the Fall 2014 CORE Global Health Practitioner Conference (October 16-17, 2014).
- Facilitated a concurrent session entitled “Community Health Workers: The First Line of Defense against Non-Communicable Diseases” at the Spring 2014 CORE Global Health Practitioner Conference in Washington DC (May 6-9, 2014).
- Active in the Washington DC-based NCD Roundtable, and as a member of the Roundtable’s Communications and Engagement working group.

**Non-Communicable Disease-Related Professional Development**

- Participated in a thematic seminar entitled “Chronic Diseases in Humanitarian Contexts”, Geneva Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action (CERAH); Geneva, Switzerland (May 9-13, 2016).
- As a guest, attended day-long counseling session for cardiovascular patients at the Cleveland Clinic’s Wellness Institute. Session facilitated by Caldwell Esselstyn, MD, author of Prevent and Reverse Heart Disease (March 26, 2015).
- Took course entitled “The Role of Nutrition in Maintaining Health”, facilitated by Caldwell Esselstyn, MD, and Dr. T. Colin Campbell, author of The China Study. Lenox MA, - Nov. 21-23, 2014.
- Participated in the “Next Steps for NCDs” meeting sponsored by UNICEF in New York City (September 22, 2014), which included “Facts for Life” planning and preparation.
- Attended NCD Child Conference in Trinidad (20-21 March, 2014).

**American Red Cross (AmCross), Washington DC**

**July 2008 – Feb 2014**

**Senior Health Coordinator**

- Managed the health technical team consisting of HIV/AIDS and monitoring & evaluation specialists to provide technical assistance to American Red Cross-funded international programs.
- Provided strategic technical guidance to AmCross’ health programs worldwide to ensure incorporation of best practices. Conducted regular visits to country programs (including Haiti, Tanzania, Kenya, Vietnam, Indonesia and China) to ensure quality, and support effective management of AmCross-supported HIV/AIDS and health programs.
- Reviewed technical content of health project reports, and provided feedback to technical team and health delegates. Oversaw development of new health programs. Wrote annual health operational plans.
- Provided input for future post-emergency health programming in Indonesia and Haiti.
- Developed proposals to external donors, and engaged with donors on technical issues.
- Provided extensive input to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) community-level non-communicable disease (NCD) prevention curriculum and oversaw plans to pilot curriculum in Indonesia.

**Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**  
**Country Director/Tanzania**

**Jan 2004 – Sept 2006**

- As one of the first EGPAF Country Directors, established and organized the Tanzania country office, personnel, administrative, financial and operations procedures. Provided input to EGPAF headquarters' overseas operations manuals related to subgrantee compliance procedures.
- Recruited and managed 23 staff, directly supervising three expatriate technicians and two senior local staff. Oversaw a Centers for Disease Control (CDC)-funded Care and Treatment project, and a United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) project in four regions.
- Established and managed the competitive procurement process for a total of 37 Tanzanian and three international subgrantees who implemented PMTCT or Care and Treatment interventions in 231 hospitals, clinics and health centers.
- Due to the increase in Tanzanian sub-grantees during my tenure, CDC and USAID funding for the Tanzania country office increased from \$4 million to \$15 million per year, making EGPAF the largest NGO recipient of funds from each of these donors.
  - Coordinated interventions of EGPAF-Tanzania's three Care and Treatment technical subgrantees: Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, the University of California at San Francisco and John Snow, Inc.
- Liaised with donors and senior officials in the Tanzanian Ministry of Public Health.

**American Red Cross, Windhoek, Namibia**

**November 2001 – March 2003**

**Health Delegate and Technical Advisor to Namibia Red Cross Society**

- Provided technical, managerial and financial oversight of the Namibia Reproductive Health Initiative project implemented in three regions in northern Namibia.
  - This pilot project, one of the largest reproductive health projects funded by the American Red Cross, involved training 40+ regionally-based Namibia Red Cross staff in adolescent reproductive health and maternal mortality prevention.
  - Wrote curriculum for a 3-week training to include development of coach and volunteer manuals.
    - Co-led training of coaches; a key focus on capacity building for Namibia Red Cross counterparts and senior project staff.
    - Coaches trained 1,000 community-based Red Cross volunteers to conduct adolescent reproductive health or maternal mortality prevention educational activities and peer counseling in their respective communities.
- Provided oversight of social mapping and baseline survey; developed monitoring system and forms.
- Provided technical and managerial input to other Namibia Red Cross Society health-related initiatives.

**World Neighbors, Ségou, Mali**  
**Technical Consultant**

**March 2000 – November 2000**

- University of Michigan Population-Environment Fellow: provided technical assistance to the World Neighbors-Mali team implementing reproductive health activities together with inter-village associations.
- Developed reproductive health plan with family planning, traditional midwife, and peer education components.
- Wrote a manual for semi-literate community-based contraception distribution agents and oversaw their training.
- Wrote fundraising guide for World Neighbors/West Africa staff, and conducted donor liaison.

**Private Voluntary Organization Consortium for North Korea, *Pyongyang, North Korea***      **June – Nov 1998**  
**Consultant**      **Feb – April 1999**

- Conducted project assessments and monitored the distribution of 150,000 metric tons of U.S. Government-contributed food-for-work programs in seven North Korean provinces.
- As Senior Monitor during 1999 consultancy, refined project assessment and monitoring systems with responsibility for training the team in these systems.
- Wrote a procedures manual for Private Voluntary Organization Consortium food-for-work operations.
- Presented 25 slide lectures about North Korean assignment to The National Geographic Society, The Korea Society, US Congress, and to academic, government and military groups in major US cities.

**CARE, *Global Locations***      **August 1977 – January 1996**

CARE is an international, non-governmental, development and emergency relief assistance organization. Served in nine overseas assignments with increasing responsibilities, to include activities in field operations and management related to emergency relief, community and rural development, food programming, and program development.

- ***Interim Deputy Director/Program, Togo***
  - Supervised qualitative survey of HIV and AIDS prevention education project targeting truck drivers and commercial sex workers. Oversaw initiation of European Union-funded urban community development/small economic development project.
- ***Deputy Director/Program, Rwanda***
  - Oversaw CARE's extensive emergency interventions beginning immediately after the genocide, including the largest seed & tool distribution projects in the country, and the refugee transit waystation project. CARE's total programming value in Rwanda during the emergency phase reached \$25 million, staffed by 50 expatriates. Rehabilitation programming included HIV and AIDS prevention, reforestation of former displaced peoples' camps, small livestock production, and water system rehabilitation. Carried out extensive US Government and multi-lateral donor liaison.
- ***Deputy Director/Program, Mozambique***
  - Led CARE's overall program strategy during the country's transition from emergency to rehabilitation. Supervised managers of five projects, including commodity and seed distribution, rural and peri-urban potable water, hygiene education, and small economic activity development. Liaised extensively with US Government, multi-lateral and private donors.
- ***Consultant, Northern Somalia***
  - Developed a monetization project in coordination with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, World Food Program, United States Agency for International Development, and international and Somali NGOs. Reflows were used for funding Somali NGOs' project interventions, with oversight from CARE. Established the Djibouti suboffice's operations.
- ***Deputy Director/Program, Haiti***
  - Supervised the managers of six mother-child health/family planning, HIV and AIDS prevention, potable water, elementary education, and reforestation projects. Facilitated four project planning and management workshops of one-week duration, one of them in French.
- ***Acting Director, Comoro Islands***
  - Opened and directed the operations of the CARE-Comoros mission, supervising project managers of a mechanic apprentice training project and a reforestation project, both funded by USAID.
- ***Project Manager/Abéché Suboffice Manager, Chad***
  - Oversaw logistic operations for the distribution of commodities to 80,000 Chadian refugees returning from Sudan. Supervised the Abéché suboffice operations.
- ***Field Coordinator, Somalia***
  - Supervised field logistic operations for commodities distributed to 700,000 Ogadeni refugees in 30 refugee camps. This entailed oversight of a team of 25+ field officers. Designed and implemented the "ration shop" system of commodity distribution. For seven years, this system was used in all refugee camps in Somalia.

- ***Peshawar Suboffice Manager/Coordinator of Refugee Shallow Wells Project, Pakistan***
  - Oversaw construction of 160 shallow wells for Afghan refugees located in five refugee camps in the Northwest Frontier Province. Team consisted of three Afghan engineers and thirty refugee masons. Supervised the Peshawar suboffice operations.
  - Wrote an illustrated manual related to our construction method and material logistics system. The project was subsequently turned over to UNICEF, who applied the manual's management and construction model to construct more than 5,000 shallow wells.
- ***Coordinator of Feeding Programs, Tunisia***
  - Oversaw USAID-funded pre-school feeding and school canteen projects. Wrote an illustrated operations manual for feeding center personnel.
- ***Project Evaluation Officer, South Korea***
  - Designed quantitative and qualitative survey forms for an evaluation of the sanitary education component of CARE-Korea's three potable water projects. Developed and conducted training of interviewers, oversaw survey and data analysis, and wrote evaluation report.

**U.S. Peace Corps, Onyang, South Korea**  
*Volunteer – English teacher and teacher trainer*

**June 1974 – August 1976**

- Taught in a boys' middle school; organized and taught district- and province-wide teaching methodology workshops for Korean middle school teachers.

**EDUCATION:**

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**Master of Public Health Degree (MPH)**  
*Tulane University School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine*

**August 1998**

- Focus on reproductive health in developing countries; independent study: *Approaches to Family Planning Interventions in Four Emergency Settings*

**Master of International Administration (MIA)**  
*School for International Training, Brattleboro, Vermont*

**May 1997**

**B.A., Italian**  
*University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona*

**December 1973**

**HONORS/AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS**

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- Carroll Behrhorst Primary Health Care Award, Tulane University

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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- CORE Group, CORE's Social and Behavior Change working group; Non-Communicable Disease Roundtable

**VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

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- WAMU Community Council (Public radio station covering Washington DC/Northern Virginia/Maryland region (February 2019 – present).
- Network of Consumer Hearing Assistive Technology Trainer
- Board of Directors, Friends of Korea (November 2018 - present).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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**Languages:** English (*Mother tongue*); French (*Fluent*); Haitian Creole (*proficient with practice*), Italian (*proficient with practice*), Korean (*proficient with practice*), Portuguese (*proficient with practice*); Bambara (*Basic*), Pushto (*Basic*), Spanish (*Basic*), Swahili (*Basic*)