



FMEC Global Health is excited to be launching a storytelling initiative.

Why storytelling? Storytelling is essential to the human experience and has been practiced throughout history. We have the unique ability to construct the moments in our lives into a narrative with a beginning, middle, and end while putting our unique slant on it. This act of storytelling is one of the most effective and captivating ways to communicate with each other. When working globally we all go through intense experiences that range from hilarious to heartbreaking. By taking these events and weaving them into stories we are able to share these transformational moments in a way that connects with and inspires others.

FMEC Global Health is proud to be partnering with author Sonja Hakala (6 books and many published stories) who will lead a one hour webinar on how to effectively formulate a compelling story out of your experiences in global health.

Following the webinar, participants will be grouped in to writing circles (3 – 4 participants each). The circles will meet via telephone to share and receive feedback on their writing.

The webinar will be recorded and archived so those unable to participate in the live webinar can listen it at their leisure. We anticipate two to three telephone meeting during the summer and into the early fall. Once completed the stories will be ready to share. We will share them at the FMEC annual meeting this fall in Pittsburg. There will be evening global health live storytelling events where participants will share their stories with their peers in a cabaret environment.

Having participated in and attended similar events I can say that this is a tremendous experience. It is such a great thing to do for yourself to take your personal memories of working abroad and be given the tools to translate them into an impactful narrative that really conveys the experience. The actual live storytelling event is an amazing community experience as well. It is a deeply bonding occasion in which the audience becomes engaged and energized.

Join us on this project. Turn your unique experiences in global health into a captivating story and share it at the FMEC regional meeting.

To participate in this project, please send a message expressing your interest to Caitlin Cartwright at cwright123@gmail.com.