

Sullivan to study infant health in Southern Africa

Written by Becca Brandt
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Pursuing an interest in international health, Cierra Sullivan will be spending six months in Choma, Zambia, beginning June 12, assisting in an early childhood development study.

The study, funded by the Grand Challenges Canada Saving Brains Program, is meant to “improve children’s physical and cognitive development by reducing children’s exposure to malnutrition and infectious disease.”



Cierra Sullivan is pictured with a child she met while participating in medical brigades in Quito, E

Infants 6-12 months old will be divided into control and variable groups. Analyzing roughly 500 children for a year, five health facilities will be set up to monitor the surrounding communities.

Sullivan will contribute to the study by doing field work and data analysis. She will assist in

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measuring infant growth and nutrition to see if the children are healthy, along with providing activities to encourage cognitive development.

Sullivan is currently working on receiving her master's degree from Boston University School of Medicine and School of Public Health. In order to complete her degree, Sullivan must submit a thesis, and she hopes this study will lay the groundwork for her project.

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