



Building
Assets to Better Lives

Women's Microfinance Initiative Internship: Buyobo, Uganda

WMI is a non-profit microfinance organization providing small loans and business training and support to impoverished women in developing nations. WMI's mission is to work with village-level organizations to provide capital to women in the lowest income brackets so that they can engage in income producing activities. Its goal is to help women living in poverty build assets so that they can stabilize their income and raise their standard of living for their families.

The Buyobo, Uganda loan program is the oldest WMI loan program, established in January 2008. Located in the Sironko District, about 30 minutes from Mbale, it has over 1,500 clients. It is administered by the Buyobo Women's Association (BWA), through a grant from WMI. Olive Wolimbwa, chair of the Widow's Association, is the local director for the loan program.

Interns in Buyobo assist BWA staff with organizing documents, copying and transmitting documents, automating records, interviewing borrowers, collecting and analyzing data, documenting loan program operations (pictures and stories), teaching girls group lessons, managing community outreach projects, reporting, and computer training. Interns may also teach at the local school, undertake community projects, and supervise other short-term interns.

Internships are 60 days, typically scheduled June – July.

Housing and meal arrangements will be made for interns in Bulambuli village (in a new guest house with indoor plumbing and solar electricity); shared rooms.

COSTS:

Room/board (including all meals) = \$15 per day

Program fee = \$500

Intern is responsible for arranging transportation to Uganda and the costs of ground transport to and from Buyobo (WMI will assist with the ground transport arrangements).

REQUIREMENTS:

- At least 18 years of age;
- College student or recent graduate
- Helpful skills: videography, photography, computer know-how; Excel; teacher training; bookkeeping; community organizing; ability to work co-operatively
- Prior living experience in a developing country is also helpful

ALL INTERNS MUST SIGN A GENERAL LIABILITY RELEASE AND WAIVER BEFORE BEING ACCEPTED INTO THE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.