PMIEF Touches Lives Worldwide Through Innovative Grants

The PMI Educational Foundation (PMIEF) has awarded more than US$6 million in grants since 2012 to ensure project management-knowledgeable youth, to develop project management-capable nonprofits, and to prepare a project management-ready workforce. The foundation frequently funds multi-year initiatives to permit ample time for their ideation, implementation and analysis. The results are as impressive as they are meaningful, and these grants touch lives in ways people appreciate.

Highlights of the numerous successes of PMIEF’s grants over the past five years include:

- **The Asia Society** created an interactive, online course and accompanying toolkit for U.S. secondary school career and technical education (CTE) teachers to build their project management capabilities and global competence. The organization will soon pilot the course in Asia in addition to designing a new course and toolkit for CTE teachers of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)-related pathways.

- **The Buck Institute for Education** developed a project management-rich framework for high-quality, project-based learning and will launch it at the world-renowned South by Southwest Conference in Austin, Texas, USA in March 2018. A series of strategic media placements in Education Week and Huffington Post preceded the launch in January and February to showcase PMIEF’s grant.

- **DiscoverE** deeply integrated project management into the curriculum of Future City, the preeminent engineering competition for U.S. middle-school students. It now includes a project plan as a key component. Future City reaches over 30,000 young people and challenges them to problem-solve environmental and social issues by designing a city of tomorrow using SimCity software and recycled materials.

- **Helen Keller International** secured funding from the World Bank Group for 20 large-scale projects for which its PMIEF grant delivers project management training and mentoring to build capacity to mitigate Côte d’Ivoire’s pandemic malnutrition. PMIEF’s grant enabled the organization to establish and fine-tune the key performance indicators necessary for support from additional sources.

- **Junior Achievement Ireland** is taking its PMIEF-funded Project Management Skills for Life initiative to scale to reach more than 550 young people nationwide. In addition, P3M Global, a PMIEF corporate donor, recently delivered three days of project management fundamentals training to a small cohort of Irish teachers who will also participate in a study abroad experience at the Buck Institute’s 2018 PBL (project-based learning) World conference in Napa, California, USA. Furthermore, they will aim to earn PMIEF’s microcredential for teachers.

- **Médecins Sans Frontières USA (Doctors without Borders USA)** chartered and executed multiple projects—including establishing the infrastructure necessary for customer relationship management, grants oversight and financial systems—Continued on page 16
Collaboration and Teamwork Help Global Volunteers Launch 2018 Tasks

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Ms. Davidson enjoyed the collaborative teamwork done at this LIVPM. "The value of coming together is discovering that we are more alike than different," she said. "Using PMI resources and connections makes my contributions stronger and more valuable."

Liam Dillon, PMP, PgMP, PfMP, is part of the PMI Professional Awards Member Advisory Group. He has traveled down the PMI volunteer path for 17 years, becoming an officer for the PMI Ireland Chapter in 2003 and rising through the ranks and becoming a global volunteer. This was his seventh LIVPM.

The benefits of volunteering, said Mr. Dillon, include meeting other professionals who are embracing project management or becoming project managers. At the global level, you can work with fellow volunteers and PMI executives to contribute to strategy. "It’s advising, not directing," he noted.

"It was great to see how PMI is moving forward," he said. Being at LIVPM shows him that PMI "is not just a network—it’s an organization with governance structures, roles and responsibilities." But the networking "is invaluable for becoming a leader."

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through its PMIEF-funded “Making Systems Fundamentally Work” initiative that helped build its capacity to deliver life-saving services.

- The World Federation of United Nations Associations created Mission Possible, its flagship global citizenship program for youth, thanks to its PMIEF grant. The initiative teaches them project management and sustainable development goals to prepare them to execute projects that benefit their communities. First launched in Bangalore and Hyderabad, India, Mission Possible now reaches students nationwide in India as well as in Armenia and Singapore. It also brings participating students and teachers to a once-in-a-lifetime, behind-the-scenes visit to the United Nations headquarters in New York, New York, USA.

In addition, the staff of multiple PMIEF grantees, including the American Red Cross, CARE USA, MBAREsearch & Curriculum Center, Plan International and Special Olympics, have received extensive project management fundamentals training thanks to the long-time, pro bono support of Cadence Management Corporation.

PMIEF’s grants reflect its staunch commitment to leverage project management for social good even as the foundation continuously strives to ensure it makes a difference where the PMI global community lives and works. To learn more about PMIEF, please visit pmief.org.