

Girls Leading Our World in The Kingdom of Swaziland GLOW Training of Trainers 2013

Throughout the 3-day workshop many lessons were covered and many important discussions were had. Topics covered included volunteerism, body image, leadership, sexual and reproductive health, goal setting and facilitation skills. GLOW T.O.T. 2013 even had a special address from U.S. Ambassador James, where she shared personal stories from her past that inspired counselors and volunteers alike.

While the rain tied participants down inside for the first two nights, all were able to bust outside for the third night to share a special talent show that included singing, dancing, dramas, and even a special synchronized swimming presentation that resulting in many counselors jumping into the pool for the first time in their lives.

Camp GLOW will take place this year at Siteki School for the Deaf on April 29th-May 4th. It is expected that Camp GLOW 2013 will double its size from last year, with 21 Swazi counselors and 50 campers attending. Peace Corps volunteers are currently working diligently to gather young women in their community's together to allow them the opportunity to apply to Camp GLOW and to share the message of upcoming GLOW Community Clubs.

While we all know that behavior change is hard to monitor and the work of a volunteer can seem ineffective, the assessment of GLOW T.O.T. from Swazi Counterparts is truly inspiring. Here is my personal favorite quote from feedback questions that we gathered throughout the week:

“I learned that any girl, despite her background or how she was treated, can be strong and confident to take an active part in leadership and bring change to our communities.”

With momentum gained in just a short 2 years, GLOW continues to be a positive driving force towards gender equality in The Kingdom of Swaziland.

