

PRESS RELEASE

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
142 OLD HOPE ROAD, KINGSTON 6

Contact: Public Affairs Section TEL: 702-6000, Email: kingstonpress@state.gov

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For immediate release

Jamaica increases its presence among White House Emerging Global Leaders



With a ready smile and an easy and elegant demeanor, Anna- Kim Robinson exudes confidence, as she moves into a unique U.S. Embassy-sponsored opportunity which will enhance her contribution to Jamaica's non-profit/development sector.

Anna-Kim is one of Jamaica's recipients of the prestigious White House Emerging Global Leaders Initiative-Atlas Corps ("EGLI-Atlas Corps") Fellowship. The program brings emerging leaders from around the world to the United States for a 9-18 month professional placement with an American non-profit organization. The program equips these civil society leaders and social entrepreneurs with advanced training and professional experiences they can take back to their own countries. Anna-Kim was selected as part of a highly competitive process and the U.S. Embassy Kingston is proud to see her represent Jamaica as a cultural ambassador.

Through the EGLI-Atlas Corps Fellowship, Anna Kim will work with Heartland Alliance International (HAI), a service-based human rights organization committed to protecting and promoting the rights of extremely vulnerable populations based in Chicago, IL. There, she will

support the operational aspects of HAI, including but not limited to human resources, finance management and other back-end support to ensure quality operations that are on par or better than international standards and best practices.

Anna Kim looks forward to the training and networking opportunities which the EGLI-Atlas Corps program brings and intends to transfer the knowledge gained to Jamaica's development space. Driven by the personal motto, "if it's to be it's up to me", Anna Kim believes that change can only come through action. She ascribes this belief to the values instilled by her mother who strongly conveyed the message that it's not where you're from that matters, but where you're going. With that in mind Anna Kim always had the quest to do better and to be better, to make effective contributions to her community and Jamaica's development. This she recognized could only be truly accomplished through a sound education and a commitment to lifelong learning.

Anna-Kim has over seven years work experience in the development sector and is passionate about youth leadership and empowerment. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in International Relations/Economics and a Master's Degree in Economic Development Policy. Her experience in the development field started at age 15, when she participated in a global youth-to-youth mentorship project. She has since served in the areas of youth empowerment, rural regeneration, social entrepreneurship, and advocacy.

Anna-Kim says the U.S. Embassy's support for the Fellowship demonstrates "The commitment of the American people to help Jamaica's development in a positive way."



Counselor for Public Affairs, Joshua Polacheck urged Anna-Kim to make the most of the Fellowship and to be a true cultural ambassador to the American people during her time in Chicago. She joins Alecia Maragh, who is also a U.S. Embassy Kingston-sponsored EGLI-Atlas Corps Fellow working with Child Fund International.

To learn more about the **White House Emerging Global Leaders Initiative-Atlas Corps** visit <http://www.atlascorps.org/egli.php> - or visit kingston.usembassy.gov for information on other professional/academic exchange opportunities.

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