



## Meet Sarah Miller, as she maps the intersection of health and development

MA in International Development, Global Health Affairs Certificate, Josef Korbel School of International Studies  
BA in Psychology and Peace and Justice Studies, University of San Diego

### Tell us about yourself:

I was raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico. My primary interests are in Africa and India. My undergraduate Peace and Justice studies led me to my interest in Africa. I volunteered in Africa for over a year and from that experience I became interested in health and education. I spent most of my time in Uganda doing health education. I also did some broad research on child soldier rehabilitation. This led me away from psychology and into development. There's a large need for mental health help in international studies but an even greater need for development. Where health and development intersect is where I'm most interested.

### What brought you to the Josef Korbel School?

I chose Korbel for a couple reasons. It seemed more interdisciplinary. At the time, I was struggling between psychology and development programs. Korbel allows you to take the [International Development](#) degree and the [Global Health Affairs](#) (GHA) certificate simultaneously. I was interested in [the University of Denver] DU because it offered a flexible curriculum and diverse classes. DU also offers an International Disaster Psychology program. I think it's important to have a mental health component in the curriculum.

It's been great because the GHA program has a lot of research projects you can get involved in. I did one project on implementing a community health worker program in India that I presented at the International Conference on Urban Health. I also did a project mapping incidence of obstetric fistula which was presented at the American Public Health Association. There's very little out there on it. Doing this research project was probably the best thing to come out of this program for me. For being a professional school that focuses on giving students skills that they can apply in the field, I didn't expect to find so many useful research opportunities.

**Do you take part in any extracurricular activities?**

I volunteer at [Longmont Humane Society](#). I used to want to be a veterinarian when I was little. I'm also a manager for the Santa Fe Common Ground-Africa Fund. It helps put African kids through primary and secondary school and also college.

**Where do you see yourself after obtaining your degree?**

Korbel has totally changed my interests because it's been so diverse. My ultimate goal right now is to get into mapping diseases internationally. I want to examine maternal and child health with a geographic information systems (GIS) component. I'm interested in working for the [Clinton Foundation](#), to [Partners in Health](#), to the United Nations. But I'm mainly interested in larger NGOs.

M. Schwinn, MA candidate in International Security  
Josef Korbel School of International Studies