



# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

COLLEGE PARK SCHOLARS – GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

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Hi CYC Teachers

My name is Lis Maring (better known to you for my relationship to Mr. M!). I am also Director of the Global Public Health Scholars Program. College Park Scholars is a residential living and learning program which provides college students with the benefits of a small college paired with life at a major research university. We celebrate Global Handwashing Day in October each year along with over 200 million people celebrating in over 100 countries around the world. Promoted on a wide enough scale, handwashing with soap could save more lives than any single vaccine or medical intervention.

**The best hand washers on this campus are definitely CYC children!** For the last six years, Global Public Health Scholars have come to the CYC to learn handwashing from the CYC “experts”. Each year, Global Handwashing Day is October 15, and this year that is a Monday. This year’s theme for Global Handwashing Day is “Clean Hands – A recipe for health” reminding us of the link between handwashing and food. Handwashing is an important part of keeping food safe, preventing disease, and keeping children strong. We strive for health, well-being and productivity for ourselves, our families, and our communities and Global Handwashing Day reminds us that handwashing with soap can prevent many of the 272 million yearly schooldays lost to diarrheal disease around the world.

Global Public Health college students can come to your classrooms to create a banner in celebration of Global Handwashing Day and to participate in fun learning activities about handwashing. In 2014, the School of Public Health created a video about the experience which you can find in the CYC archives and on the SPH website.

Kelly Blake, Communications Director in SPH and former CYC parent usually comes to take some photos and I can share a consent form for parents. We can plan to check with CYC staff and with parents before sharing on our website. Please let me know if you have any questions at [efmaring@umd.edu](mailto:efmaring@umd.edu). Look forward to seeing teachers and children on Monday, October 15.

Thanks!

Elisabeth Maring, Ph.D.  
Director of Global Public Health Scholars  
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