

Executive Women in Ghana

Investigative and bridge building was the descriptive of a recent trip to Ghana, Africa by a United States Women's Executive Group. Members of the group included representatives in education, medicine and business from across the U.S., including Mary Sheid of West Plains, owner of Physical Therapy Specialists Clinic (PTSC) and her daughter Ashley Kimberling.

The women's contingency met with Ghana officials, including the First Lady, Ernestina Mills. The group arrived in Accra on May 20th, 2010. During their seven day visit the group went to local schools to provide supplies as well as to area villages where they worked with Teacher's Against Malaria Epidemic (TAME), an international organization that supplies and installs mosquito nets in



Back row on right, Mary Sheid, front row middle Ashley Kimberling, then to the right of Ashley is the first lady Ernestine Mills

developing countries. TAME which frequently hangs over 150 nets for school age children and infants in their

homes in rural Ghana during a service day and assisted the Executive Women's Group in hanging nets for the afternoon in rural communities of Ghana. The purpose of TAME is to prevent malaria, a disease that kills one person every 30 seconds in developing countries.

Their stops included the Ghana South District Hospital where they met the hospital administrator, Matilda Agyemang, then made several stops at local public and private health clinics in the area where they took much needed medications and medical supplies. In addition, the group visited the University of Ghana, the University of Ghana Medical School, and the Catholic University College of Ghana to initiate affiliations between Rice University and Missouri State University with medical, nursing and physician assistant students. Missouri State University is also initiating a five week study abroad experience for their students.

The group was led by Kelli Moles, a Harvard MBA student and a survivor of Malaria, who was on her fifth trip to Africa. Members of the group included: Suzanne Beitel, Director of J.P. Morgan Bonding, Denise Castillo-Rhodes, CFO of Texas Medical Center and Board Member of Medical Bridges, Kenia Adeyeri, Duke Medical Student, Phyllis Washington, Belinda McCarthy and Rochelle Darabi all University and Public educators, Faith Geidd Fund Raiser and political consultant, Mary Sheid owner of PTSC and MSU Board of Governors, Ashley Kimberling, student at University of Arkansas and Parvonney Darabi, Graduate Student in Public Health Indiana University.