Global/Local Education: It’s all about the “context”

Jane Lipscomb, Professor and Director
Center for Community Based Engagement and Learning, UMB

We could be Anywhere!

So why the distinction in education?
What do I/we mean by context:

- Group of conditions that exist where and when something (health) happens.
- Relevant contextual factors include:
  - culture, policy, politics
  - history – local, regional, global
  - perspectives of multiple stakeholders
- Does the importance of context to health differ globally and locally?
Why Local is So Critical to Global

• Most students who do service/study “abroad” ultimately practice locally.
  – Local solutions present different challenges
  – Proximity to disparities motivates individuals to contribute to public health interventions

• Importance of “community capacity building”

• “Social accountability” in education

• Sustainability is lived at the local level
A Case Study in Linking GloLo

• UMB/Haifa course “Social Justice and Health: Are They Related in my Community? What Does Social Justice Look Like in my Community?
  – Pre-travel - 4 sessions locally, a local photovoice assignment and exchange of photos with Haifa students.
  – In Israel students worked collectively to create photovoice representing issues of social just locally and globally.
  – Course to continue when UMB/Haifa students spend a week together in Baltimore and presenting work to campus community.
It brings a smile to each of us to see a opening where there was meant to be a barrier.