**Matthew J. Gallagher, PhD** mattyjamesgallagher@yahoo.com



**EDUCATION**

**2017 - 2022 Arizona State University Tempe, AZ**

**Doctor of Philosophy in Community Resources and Development**

* + - Dissertation: Evaluator Exclusion in the Program Planning and Design Phase. Available [here](https://www.proquest.com/openview/0ff9cfb5042a47a4927b6e7b0f6cd164/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=18750&diss=y).

**2004 - 2005 University of Birmingham Birmingham, UK**

**Master of Science in Poverty Reduction and Development Management**

* + - Dissertation: The Compound Model of Vocational Education in a Growing Service Economy: A Case Study of Servol. Awarded with Distinction

**1994 - 1998 State University of New York at Geneseo Geneseo, NY**

#### Bachelor of Arts in History

* + - Thesis: Slavery and Anti-Slavery in Geneseo

## EXPERIENCE (All Full-Time)

## 7/2023-Present IREX Washington, DC

**Technical Advisor for Monitoring and Evaluation, Global Programs**

* + - Lead evaluator for the Information and Media practice within IREX
    - Advise approximately 30 programs on the proper development and implementation of monitoring, evaluation, and learning processes and practices. These include collaboratively developing monitoring and evaluation plans, learning plans, performance plans, performance indicators, and data collection tools with local staff in over 15 countries
    - Manage all monitoring and evaluation activities for 9 Civil Society and Media (CSM-STAND) programs funded by USAID
    - Train local MEL staff on all aspects of IREX’s research and evaluation systems, policies, and procedures for all phases of the project cycle, with a focus on Utilization-Focused Evaluation and USAID’s Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) practices
    - Fulfill higher-level tasks requested by programs that require advanced MEL knowledge and skills. These include conducting studies using quantitative and qualitative analysis, authoring MEL plans for USAID-funded programs, and writing reports for donors on study findings

## 6/2018-6/2023 Arizona State University Tempe, AZ

**Senior Evaluator – Education for Humanity**

* + - Lead researcher and evaluator for an initiative which offers higher education opportunities to refugee learners
    - Planned, developed, implemented, and managed all research and evaluation systems, policies, and procedures for all phases of the project cycle. These include Theories of Change, logic models, monitoring and evaluation plans, data collection tools, M&E staff trainings, mixed methods data collection, ongoing data analysis with intentional feedback loops, continuous learning and improvement through collaboration, and reporting
    - Built M&E capacity of implementing partners by training M&E and program staff in Jordan, Lebanon, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Israel, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Thailand, Bangladesh, and Iraq. Main program partners included UNHCR, Norwegian Refugee Council, Windle International, Plan International, Save the Children, ARDC Israel, Jesuit Refugee Services, and ANERA
    - Lead and managed all field-based data collection activities, including surveys, guided questionnaires, focus groups, and interviews
    - Conducted quantitative and qualitative analyses of data using a variety of data analysis tools and statistical methods, including SPSS, Excel, and Dedoose. Analysis served as the basis for program improvements and revisions to better meet the needs of intended beneficiaries
    - Authored evaluation reports for in-country partners and ASU leadership, which includes designing data visualizations to display evaluation findings, summarizing results, leading results presentations, and making recommendations for program improvement
    - Authored proposals to procure funding for ongoing implementation of the initiative. Successfully funded proposals include MasterCard Foundation, Office of Refugee Resettlement, LEGO Foundation, and UNHCR

## 5/2016-6/2018 Arizona State University Tempe, AZ

**Evaluator – Office of Evaluation and Educational Effectiveness**

* + - Managed a portfolio of program evaluations to meet client and funding agency needs
    - Liaised with client program leadership to develop evaluation proposal documents, project logic models, measurable objectives and outcome indicators, and evaluation research plans. Determined and developed appropriate methods, approach, and timeframe for data collection
    - Developed data collection tools and protocols to assess planned program outcomes and effectiveness
    - Prepared and submitted human research studies for Institutional Review Board review
    - Collected, cleaned, analyzed, and synthesized survey, focus group, and interview data
    - Conducted quantitative and qualitative analyses of survey, focus group, and interview data using a variety of data analysis tools and statistical methods, including SPSS, Excel, and Dedoose. Analysis serves as the basis for educational program improvements and revisions to better meet the needs of intended beneficiaries
    - Authored program evaluation reports for various stakeholders, which includes designing data visualizations to display evaluation findings, summarizing results, and making recommendations for program improvement
    - Monitored evaluation activity expenditures to ensure adherence to program evaluation budget

## 2/2013-5/2016 Peace Corps Washington, DC

**Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist – Europe, Mediterranean, and Asia Region**

* + - As the first M&E Specialist based within Peace Corps’ three regions, planned, developed, implemented, and managed all M&E systems, policies, and procedures for the 18 countries and 38 international development projects within the agency’s EMA Region
    - Managed, trained, and coordinated a team of 18 country-based Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists
    - Developed content for and facilitated domestic and overseas workshops on various M&E topics, including Theory of Change, logical framework models, data collection methods, data collection tools, USAID indicators, quantitative and qualitative data analysis, data quality assessments, process evaluations, and outcome evaluations. The most recent workshops took place in Armenia, Timor-Leste, Zambia, Cambodia, Thailand, Georgia, Indonesia, Macedonia, and Philippines
    - Collaboratively developed and authored the Peace Corps Comprehensive M&E Strategy, which sets the M&E blueprint and standards for all 160+ international development projects in the 65+ countries in which Peace Corps is active. This includes project design and development standards and templates, monitoring processes and tools, process evaluation guidance, standards, and tools, outcome/impact evaluation standards and tools, and reporting guidance, standards, and tools
    - Planned, designed, collaboratively developed, and managed the Volunteer Reporting Tool, which is the agency’s only data collection system for Peace Corps Volunteers. Built on the web-based Silverlight platform, the software collects quantitative and qualitative project data from all Peace Corps Volunteers (about 8,000 annually) that allows country staff to assess project progress, is the main data source for Peace Corps to tell its story to external stakeholders, and is the foundation for all project-specific evaluations
    - Conducted statistical analyses of the M&E data collected by overseas staff and Peace Corps Volunteers using a variety of data analysis tools and statistical methods, including SPSS, Toad, SQL, and Excel. Analysis serves as the basis for country program and project framework changes and revisions to better meet the needs of the host countries

## 10/2010-2/2013 Peace Corps Washington, DC

**Management Analyst – Office of Strategic Information, Research, and Planning**

* + - Managed all aspects of two impact evaluations that assessed the effects of the Youth Development Project in El Salvador and the Rural Health and Sanitation Project in Paraguay. This included developing the scope of work, creating standard survey protocols, designing and conducting the on-site training of the evaluation team, supervising the fieldwork, building the survey databases, analyzing the results using established and accepted methods of quantitative and qualitative research, and authoring the evaluation reports
    - Managed the agency’s Early Termination information. To ensure the accuracy of historical and current data, built a database to house all relevant data, and automated the process for creating annual early termination reports for dissemination to all overseas posts. Developed new statistical measures for interpreting early termination results and trends
    - Managed the Integrated Planning and Budget System, which is the agency’s primary program and resource management planning mechanism. Authored the annual guidance to all overseas posts and domestic offices, managed the annual submission and review process, and organized the review of domestic office strategic plans by senior leadership. To streamline the process, designed and built an interactive and dynamic pdf template, which allows all overseas posts and domestic offices to create standardized logical framework models and strategic plans to better monitor and improve annual performance. Collaborated with domestic offices to develop strategic goals, objectives, indicators, and targets that abide by the SMART criteria
    - In abidance with the GPRA Modernization Act, co-led the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the Peace Corps Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan. Developed policies and processes for collecting and analyzing agency performance data, and co-authored the agency’s annual Performance and Accountability Report
    - Responded to internal and external requests for data, and developed statistical analyses on issues of critical interest to the agency using a variety of data analysis tools and statistical methods, including SPSS, Toad, SQL, SRSS, and Excel

## 1/2006-10/2010 Administration for Native Americans Washington, DC

## Monitoring and Evaluation Officer – Division of Planning, Policy, and Evaluation

* + - Designed and created the Impact Evaluation Tool to include a participatory approach for gathering appropriate qualitative and quantitative data from all grant areas
    - Independently planned, budgeted, and implemented outcome evaluations to underdeveloped tribal reservations and Native non-profits in all 50 states and American territories
    - Led the Evaluation Team in conducting full-day on-site interviews with grantees and project beneficiaries. Over five years, managed the monitoring and evaluation of 102 development projects, worth approximately $50 million
    - In abidance with the Government Performance Results Act (GPRA), authored Congressional Impact Reports on completed Economic Development, Social Development, Language Preservation, and Environmental Regulatory grants based upon quantitative and qualitative evaluation data collected from the field
    - Presented findings from the field to Department of Program Operations and Technical Assistance Providers and collaboratively refined ANA project management policies
    - Regularly reviewed and evaluated operational grants to determine status and make recommendations for needed technical support assistance activities
    - Developed and led trainings on results-based project management, project monitoring and evaluation theory, and project design and implementation for ANA staff and contractors
    - Conducted the statistical and comparative analysis of all 341 ANA projects evaluated in 2006-2009. The 2006 findings constituted the agency’s baseline data for all future grants and were the impetus behind changes to internal policies and procedures aiming to improve the performance of ANA’s grant portfolio
    - Authored, submitted, and had accepted by Congress, the 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 ANA Impact and Effectiveness of Development Projects in Indian Country reports

## 5/2004-8/2004 Hands on Atlanta Atlanta, GA

**Consultant – Americorps Youth Service Summer Advisory Board**

* + - Developed and co-authored a service-learning curriculum of 10 training sessions that teaches project planning and management, resource development, and volunteer recruitment to Youth Service Advisory Board members
    - Created partnerships with local non-profit and community development agencies in order to plan 20 service-learning projects that focus on serving the underserved population of Atlanta
    - Independently planned, designed, advertised, and implemented recruitment campaigns at Atlanta-area schools and youth organizations
    - Recruited adult volunteers from community development agencies and trained them to be effective mentors to Youth Service Advisory Board members
    - Designed and implemented assessment tools to evaluate service-learning program effectiveness

**1/2001-11/2003 Peace Corps Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Office Arlington, VA**

**Peace Corps Recruiter**

* + - Independently planned, designed, budgeted, advertised, and implemented recruitment campaigns at universities and communities within the Mid-Atlantic region
    - Located, developed, and strengthened network of contacts at colleges and communities throughout region
    - Reviewed applications to accurately identify candidates qualified for Peace Corps service
    - Conducted interviews of qualified applicants and assessed skills and suitability, placing the most competitive candidates into appropriate skill programs
    - Produced written assessments of interviewed applicants and recruitment events
    - Managed, supervised, and trained 2 Campus Recruiters
    - Honored as the Top Recruiter of the Year for 2002 with 137 Peace Corps Volunteer nominations and a 64% retention rate, both tops in the country

**6/1999-8/1999 Pre-Service Training Program Micoud, St. Lucia**

### Peace Corps Training Coordinator

* + - Part of a 9-person team that designed and conducted a 6-week pre-service training program for 57 prospective Peace Corps Volunteers
    - Presented sessions on classroom management and Caribbean History, facilitated discussion groups, and coordinated logistics
    - Secured homestay placements for all trainees for the duration of the program, and acted as interpreter and counselor between each family and their trainee

**7/1998-7/2000 New Life Organization Carriacou, Grenada**

### Peace Corps Volunteer

* + - Designed an exam to evaluate students’ skills and assess their needs
    - Developed and implemented a curriculum in the areas of Mathematics, English, Grenadian History, Public Speaking, and Drama for 90 at-risk youth
    - Expanded the school’s computer literacy course to include an after-school program which taught word processing to adults
    - Researched, authored, and implemented Carriacou’s first Grenadian History curriculum
    - Scheduled guest speakers, coordinated parent-teacher meetings, organized fund-raising events, and collaborated with staff about students’ progress
    - Secured job placements for each student to expose them to the business world
    - Organized and guided historical tours for the local community

## INTERNSHIPS

## 11/2004-05/2005 Volunteer Service Overseas (VSO) Birmingham, UK

## Master’s Intern

* + - Researched, edited, created layout, and credited as a contributing author for the Country Information Briefing Packs of 17 African countries which are distributed to departing volunteers

## SELECT AWARDS

* + - Recipient of the Peace Corps Director’s 2014 Meritorious Service Award for co-developing and authoring the agency’s Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
    - Recipient of the Assistant Secretary of the Administration for Children and Family’s 2009 Organizational Team Achievement Award for my team’s work in Impact Evaluation

## SELECT PUBLCATIONS and PRESENTATIONS

* + - Sperber, M., Hinds, L., and Gallagher, M. (in review). Offline-First Designed Learning for Inclusive Education: Arizona State University Education for Humanity’s Sunspot Model Empowering Refugee Learners Online+Offline. *Journal of Interactive Media in Education.* Submitted December 2023.
    - Gallagher, M., and Bauer, C. (2020). Refugee Higher Education and Future Reconstruction Efforts: Exploring the Connection through the Innovative Technological Implementation of a University Course in Nakivale Refugee Settlement, Uganda. *Current Issues in Comparative Education, 22*(1), 39-57. Available here: <https://journals.library.columbia.edu/index.php/cice/article/view/8363/4264>
    - Bauer, C., and Gallagher, M. (2020). Education for Humanity: Higher education for refugees in resource-constrained environments through innovative technology. *Journal of Refugee Studies, 33*(2), 416-436. Available here: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Matthew-Gallagher-3/publication/342449357_Education_for_Humanity_higher_education_for_refugees_in_resource-constrained_environments_through_innovative_technology/links/5ef4d771299bf18816e7d172/Education-for-Humanity-higher-education-for-refugees-in-resource-constrained-environments-through-innovative-technology.pdf>
    - Gallagher, M. (2020). *Peace Corps, the 50plus Initiative, and Volunteer Early Termination.* International Journal of Volunteer Administration, 24. Available here: <https://www.volunteeralive.org/docs/Gallagher_Final_January_2020_1.pdf>
    - Gallagher, M., and Bauer, C. (July 2021). *Education for Humanity: Higher education for refugees in resource-constrained environments through innovative technology.* Presentation of evaluation findings at Connected Learning Summit, location virtual.
    - Gallagher, M., and Sabato, N. (May 2019). *A Tertiary Education and Integration Model for Refugee Learners.* Presentation of Findings at ICT4D Conference, Kampala, Uganda.
    - Gallagher, M., Van Roekel, K. (December 2012). *Host Country Impact Study: El Salvador – Youth Development Project*. Peace Corps, Washington, DC. Available at: <http://files.peacecorps.gov/multimedia/pdf/opengov/PC_El_Salvador_Report.pdf>
    - Gallagher, M. (October 2011). *Host Country Impact Study: Paraguay – Rural Health and Sanitation Project*. Peace Corps, Washington, DC. Available at: <http://files.peacecorps.gov/multimedia/pdf/opengov/PC_Paraguay_Report.pdf>
    - Led a workshop entitled “Using Stories in Evaluation” at the Society for International Development. Video is available here: <http://vimeo.com/album/1581385>

## SELECT RESEARCH and EVALUATION CONTRACTS

* + - Founder of Aboveboard Evaluation and Research, LLC
* Website: <https://www.aboveboardevaluation.com/>
  + - Arizona State University, Education for Humanity Initiative, January 2024 to December 2024. Led all aspects of a cost-effectiveness study which aimed to understand the costs of implementing four types of classroom models in refugee camps (face-to-face, online, hybrid, and SunSPOT offline hotspot) against the student outcomes of each classroom.
    - Americorps, January 2023 to March 2023. Provided expert evaluation consultancy on the review of logic models, evidence studies, and evaluation reports submitted by applicants pursuing Americorps grant funding.
    - Education Above All, May 2021 to May 2022. Provided expert research and evaluation support to the Digital Schools Project, which brings digital education to out-of-school youth in India, Uganda, and Rwanda. This included developing the project’s research questions, theory of change, monitoring plan, evaluation plan, and data collection tools.
    - Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, March to May 2021. Conducted a three-month Needs Assessment with nine universities in United Arab Emirates to determine their readiness to launch online learning courses and programs. Using a mixed-methods sequential explanatory research design, led all aspects of the quantitative and qualitative data collection, analysis, and reporting components.
    - PLuS Alliance, Research Fellow, September 2019 to April 2020. Collaborated with researchers from Arizona State University, Kings College London, and University of New South Wales to research and identify opportunities to partner with top African universities, which culminated in a roundtable and agreement with Vice Chancellors from University of Ghana, University of Ibadan, Makerere University, and University of Nairobi.
    - Schmidt Futures and ASU’s Alliance for the American Dream, Evaluation Subject Matter Expert, December 2018 to January 2019. Provided expert measurement and evaluation support to three ASU teams competing for financial awards with Schmidt Futures. This included developing logic models, measurement indicators, and evaluation plans for all three projects.

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

* + - Analytical Packages: SPSS, Toad, SQL, SSRS, Adobe LiveCycle Designer, Qualtrics, NVivo, Dedoose
    - CITI and FERPA certified to conduct research projects with human subjects
    - Member of the American Evaluation Association since 2009
    - Currently a guest lecturer at Arizona State University for BIS 355 Peace Corps Seminar. Teach two classes covering Community Needs Assessment and Data Collection Methods