

Meet Our UN Representatives: Abeer Alharthi

Abeer Alharthi, a doctoral candidate at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, is passionately committed to bridging the gaps in cardiovascular healthcare for refugee and migrant populations. Starting her journey as an emergency room nurse, she witnessed the profound impact of preventable risk factors on heart health, which motivated her pursuit of meaningful change in this area.

After earning her master's in nursing science from the University of Illinois at Chicago, focusing on community and global health, Abeer has actively contributed to significant healthcare initiatives. This includes her work in developing disaster preparedness plans for Saint Kitts and Nevis in collaboration with their Ministry of Health. In addition to her academic pursuits, she co-founded the first international students' organization at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, enhancing the institution's academic and cultural diversity. She also serves on the PhD advisory committee, representing the nursing school and advocating for her peers.

Her role as an active humanitarian health nurse is particularly impactful at the Zaatari refugee camp, where she is currently implementing her doctoral dissertation. This work not only underscores her commitment to the field but also provides invaluable on-ground insights into the healthcare needs of refugees.

As a lecturer at King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Abeer shares her expertise in nursing and healthcare education. She has been recognized as one of 20 fellows for the OpEd Project, highlighting her as a thought leader in her field. Abeer's goal is to pioneer research in refugee environments like Zaatari camp, shedding light on unique cardiovascular health challenges and opportunities. Through her work, she aims to contribute to healthier futures for vulnerable populations and influence global health policies and practices.