

Dear JJCF Board Members,

Thank you for all of your assistance in implementing JJCF's mission and, more personally, in helping me to travel to Rwanda.

My time in Rwanda, working with Initiatives for Peace and Human Rights (IPHR), is an experience that has and will continue to alter the way I see the world. I now understand on a more in-depth level the sense of privilege we have in America as well as how great of an achievement it is to have justice and peace in a country. I've also come to understand the astounding resilience humans have in the face of personal loss and defeat, and just how valuable relationships are in life. My time in Rwanda with IPHR has re-emphasized to me the importance of believing in something/someone and supporting what/who you believe in with the strongest of conviction, despite the negative consequences.

The Uruguan journalist, Eduardo Galeano, once said: "It's worthwhile to die for that without which it is not worthwhile to live." This quote may convey a more intense message than the one I am trying to communicate but, nevertheless, it still captures what I have learned during my time in Rwanda.

I have learned that any life worth living requires thought, passion, and executed conviction. I admire IPHR for openly demonstrating these qualities and for impressing them upon me.

I also believe JJCF demonstrates these three qualities, as is evident in all they do to support young adults in their passions. Thank you. Thank you for your thought, passion, and conviction. And thank you for believing in me.

Sincerely,

Mallory Minter

[2012 AP Peace Fellow](#)