



Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in *Step Up Reach Out*, an innovative, international leadership program designed to help build tomorrow's leaders in the bleeding disorders community. The program was created by the University of Texas Health Science Center, Gulf States Hemophilia and Thrombophilia Center (UTHS) and is administered by the Lone Star Chapter of the National Hemophilia Foundation, with support from Bayer HealthCare.

Young men selected for the program will join with their counterparts from different parts of the world in receiving specialized, hands-on training and coaching to develop their leadership skills. There is no cost to participants or their families for *Step Up Reach Out* travel, accommodation or program expenses, other than obtaining passports and visas (if applicable).

Our website, www.stepupreachout.net, contains complete program information, and an easy, online application procedure. Space in the program is limited due to our worldwide scope and our goal of offering this opportunity to young men of all backgrounds and economic status. To join *Step Up Reach Out*, begin by confirming that you meet the following criteria, which apply to all participants:

- **Diagnosed with hemophilia A or B (all severities)**
- **Between the ages of 18 and 24**
- **Able to self-infuse factor concentrate and access to factor for the duration of conference dates (no factor or infusion assistance can be provided during the program)**
- **Proficient in written and spoken English**
- **Able to attend all program sessions**
- **Able to travel unaccompanied with appropriate visa and/or passport**
- **Able to fulfill all aspects of the program's application process**

The sessions will be hosted in different cities and will be attended by a diverse group of young men determined to make a difference in their communities. We will be accepting applications online at www.stepupreachout.net until the closing date of **August 20, 2010**. To be sure that your application is processed smoothly, please follow these additional instructions carefully:

- Provide at least one **letter of reference** from a teacher, care provider, employer or others able to recommend your participation. This letter can be attached to your online application or faxed
- Be sure that the information on all program forms and documents, including phone numbers and email addresses, is correct
- Submit the application and other documents by the dates indicated on www.stepupreachout.net

The Director will notify you via e-mail by August 27, 2010 about your acceptance status, so be sure to provide a reliable e-mail address. If you are selected, further instructions and travel information will be provided for you.

Additional details about *Step Up Reach Out* are contained in the attached program overview. If you have any questions about the format, curriculum or application process, please contact me at the University of Texas Health Science Center, via E-mail at this address: application@stepupreachout.net.

Thanks again for your interest!

Best Regards,

Ed Kuebler, LCSW
International Leadership Program Director

The decision on acceptance of applicants is at the sole discretion of the *Step Up Reach Out* Selection Committee. The Committee consists of representatives from the University of Texas. Bayer HealthCare does not have a role in participant selection, or the conduct of the program. Projects and presentations will not be published or shared with other organizations, unless expressly authorized by the participant. Personal information about participants will remain confidential within the University of Texas and will not be shared with Bayer HealthCare or other organizations