



# ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS USA

March 2024

Great Lakes Regional Steering Committee Newsletter

## Announcement

The Great Lakes Region (GLR) is excited to share our first monthly newsletter. Each month the GLR will be sending out regional and national updates, highlight resources, and showcase chapter work.

## Resource of the Month

### **Comprehensive Mentor Guide**

The purpose of this document is to explain mentoring to both mentors and mentees throughout the organization and to provide a single, usable document for mentor resources and general guidance.

Follow the link for more information!

<https://volunteer.ewb-usa.org/s/article/Comprehensive-Mentor-Guide>

### **Project Lead Forum**

The Project Lead Forum is a group, both on Discord and in Bi-weekly meetings, to connect project leads (PLs) across chapters and to crowdsource answers and solutions. This group is made up of current project leads, past project leads, mentors (some not PLs), and EWB USA staff.

Follow the link for more information!

<https://volunteer.ewb-usa.org/s/article/Project-Lead-Bootcamp>



## Volunteer Opportunities

### Ohio State Representative

This position is open to EWB-USA volunteers of any experience level. Please contact [greatlakespresident@regions-ewb-usa.org](mailto:greatlakespresident@regions-ewb-usa.org) with questions and interest!

### Wisconsin State Representative

This position is open to EWB-USA volunteers of any experience level. Please contact [greatlakespresident@regions-ewb-usa.org](mailto:greatlakespresident@regions-ewb-usa.org) with questions and interest!

### 2024-2025 Executive Fellow

### CORP Co-Chair

See link for details! The new position application will be updated shortly.

### EWB is hiring!



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## Chapter Spotlight: Purdue University

Contact: Ella Tietz ([etietz@purdue.edu](mailto:etietz@purdue.edu))

Our **Rwanda project's** goal is to implement a **spring catchment and freshwater delivery system** in the community of Rubona, Rwanda. **Phase 1 of our project was implemented in the summer of 2023** and included the construction of a head tank complete with a chlorinator, the spring water catchment system feeding into the head tank, and a tap stand for the community. This summer, the team will travel again to monitor the first phase projects, implement the 2nd and 3rd phases, and assess the area for the implementation of a new project! **The 2nd and 3rd phases of the project will include construction of three new tap stands, a reservoir storage tank, erosion control systems such as trenches, and the connecting pipeline!** At the end of the current project, the community will have much easier access to clean water with enough capacity to support growth in the future. Since this project is coming to a close, lots of work is currently being done to assess the viability of a new project to serve parts of the Rubona area that are not within easy access of the current project's tap stands. Much of the in-person assessment will be done as the 2nd and 3rd phases are wrapped up during the trip this summer. During the course of our work with Rubona, **we have been able to welcome two of our project partners, Isaac and Emmanuel, to Purdue twice since we started working with them, and we look forward to working with them on our new project!**



Our domestic program in partnership with the **Grand Caillou/Dulac Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw tribe in Louisiana** has gained a large amount of ground in the past year. The first portion of this project is the **design and construction of a floating garden which will be fully implemented in March 2024**. The second, and much larger, portion of the project is the **design of a hurricane resiliency center in partnership with CE Corps**. This will function as a community center for the tribe upon its completion and will be able to provide a place of meeting for the tribe post-hurricane. Our students have been carrying out the preliminary calculations and design work for this center in partnership with multiple professional engineers and architects. The chapter itself is unable to fund such a large project, and as such other members of the chapter have been hard at work to find grants to cover this \$10+ million project. Grants we are currently working on include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the EPA Community Change Grant. Both grants could fully fund the project if they are acquired; our team is set to submit the EPA grant by late March.