

Dr. Mitch, EMA Program Director, talks about the importance of training local people.

"Training local people is hugely important. Usually, people just don't go to live and work long-term in remote rural places unless they grew up there. Basically, our vision is to help get well trained healthcare workers to practice medicine in remote areas of Karen State. Studies suggest that the people that are going to stay and work long-term in these areas are people who come from there. And that makes sense to me...because they are going back home. They will be helping their own people.

Secondly, if they are trained in a remote area, they are more likely to practice in remote areas. Again, this makes sense to me. If they train in a remote area, they become confident in working in that environment. When comes time to make tough professional decisions in a very isolated situation, they are confident. They are not stressed out. They will stay the course. So, we are trying to not only recruit people from remote areas but also provide training opportunities for them in remote areas. The only chance we have to succeed is to empower people from those remote areas who are passionate about helping their community. That vision is everything." - Dr. Mitch

