

NATHAN SIGWORTH



PharmaSecure

Co-Founded with N. Taylor Thompson

2008 Global Fellow

BIG BOLD IDEA

Use mobile technology to reduce the sale of counterfeit drugs in developing countries.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Counterfeit drugs are a major global health problem. Approximately \$45 billion of counterfeit drugs were sold globally in 2006 and World Health Organization data suggest that as much as twenty-five percent of drugs sold in developing countries may be counterfeit, containing few or no active ingredients. These counterfeit drugs cause hundreds of thousands of people to die every year and contribute to the incidence of drug-resistant diseases. By using mobile technology to reduce the sale of counterfeit drugs in developing countries, PharmaSecure's approach addresses the public health crisis of counterfeiting in innovative ways that are secure and culturally appropriate for customers and cost-effective for pharmaceutical and government partners.

PERSONAL BIO

Nathan Sigworth is from Hamden, Connecticut. He began studying physics at Colby College in Maine, then dropped out and moved to California to learn to fly airplanes. After living in a trailer and realizing that college was probably a good idea after all, he went back to Colby, and then promptly defected to Dartmouth, where he invented a gyroscopic replacement for training wheels now on the market as the "Gyrobike." While at Dartmouth, Nathan started doing research on healthcare access in rural India. He also studied religious and communal violence and its role in elections, but doesn't talk too much about that as he wants to keep his visa to do business in India. Nathan finally graduated Dartmouth with a degree in Economics in 2007. Just before graduating, Nathan started PharmaSecure with Taylor Thompson to allow consumers to check drug authenticity.

Issue area

Health and Healthcare

Organization/Fellow Location

Hamden, United States

Organization Structure

For-profit

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