

Jacob Atem

Co-founder and CEO of SSHCO



Jacob Atem is the co-founder and CEO of the Southern Sudan Health Care Organization, a non-profit that provides medical facilities, supplies and healthcare-education to the people of South Sudan. At the age of six, Jacob traveled over 1,000 miles to escape a brutal civil war in South Sudan that claimed his family. For nearly a decade, he lived in an overcrowded Kenyan refugee camp where hunger and disease were daily struggles. Now recognized as a Lost Boy of Sudan, Jacob is a U.S. citizen, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Florida and has dedicated his life to healthcare education and medical service. Adhering to SSHCO's mission, which focuses on natives helping natives, Jacob advocates for displaced persons around the world. Under his leadership, SSHCO aims to inspire hope and improve the quality of life for the lost.