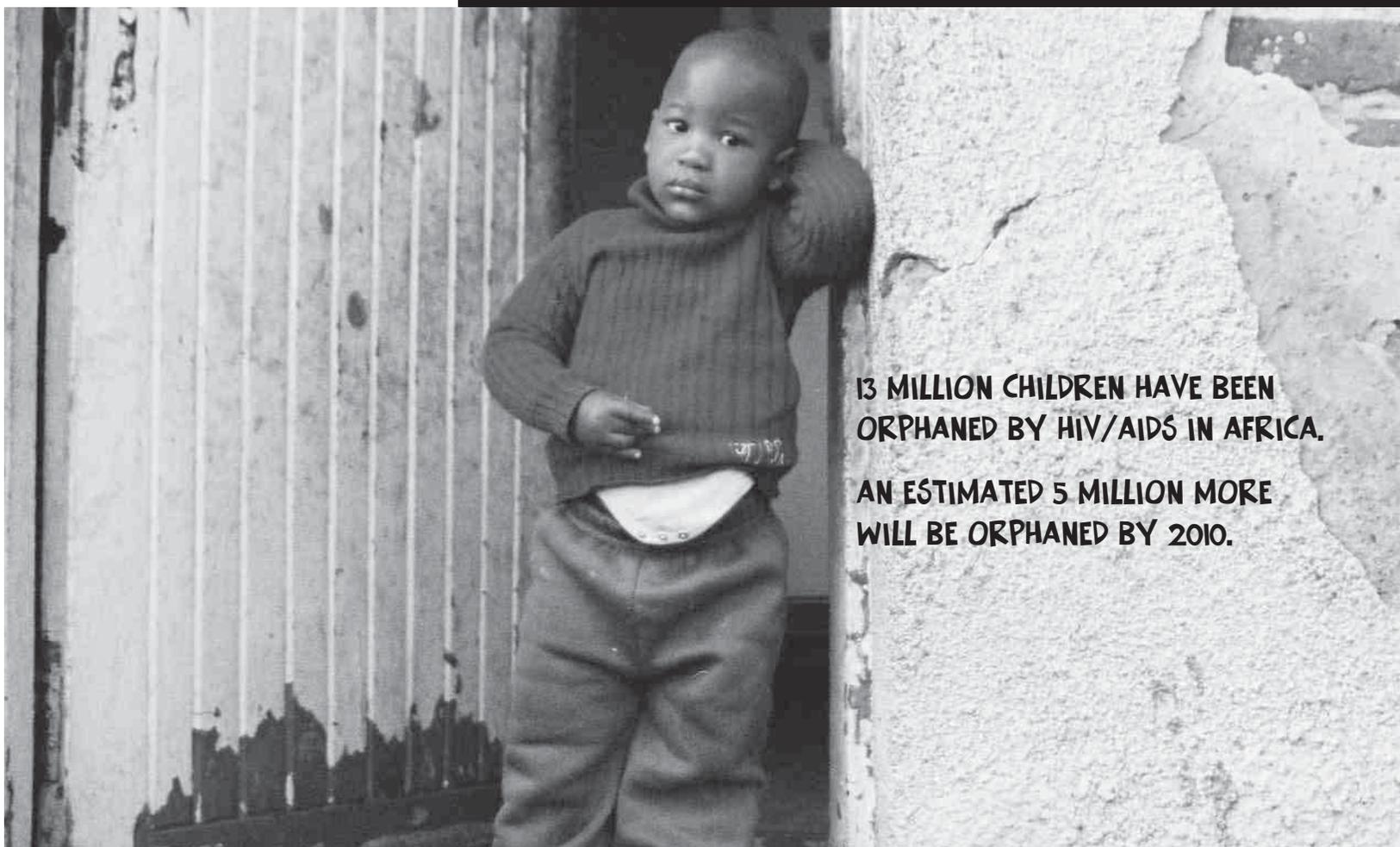


GRASSROOTS

JULY 2007



13 MILLION CHILDREN HAVE BEEN ORPHANED BY HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA.

AN ESTIMATED 5 MILLION MORE WILL BE ORPHANED BY 2010.

**A GENERATION OF ORPHANS:
READ ABOUT THE FILM AND THE SITUATION OF AFRICA'S AIDS ORPHANS**

© Liz Marshall

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DEAR FRIENDS:

The evolution of the Foundation continues to be fascinating. As you can see from much of this Newsletter, the grandmothers initiative has picked up extraordinary momentum and is now happily consuming a great deal of the Foundation's time.

But there's more to it than that. We learned an important lesson from the grandmother experience. We learned that even a small Foundation can discover a new dimension of the pandemic, largely neglected by the rest of the world, and by the sheer force of activity and determination, turn that new aspect of the pandemic into an international 'cause celebre'.

Who would have believed, even one year ago, that African grandmothers would rise to the top of the AIDS agenda?!

Now we're out of control, intoxicated by what we've achieved, and looking for the next world to conquer. I've been chatting with Ilana and colleagues at the Foundation, and it's our growing view that what we should tackle next is the issue of "Youth", ages 15 to 24. This age group in Africa constitutes 50% of the new infections, huge numbers of deaths, with young girls especially vulnerable, and yet youth are the nearly invisible part of the AIDS response.

Everybody talks about youth (just as so many talked about grandmothers), but the response to their desperate predicament is negligible. The Foundation is beginning to imagine the possibilities of Canadian High Schools and Community Colleges and Universities banding together to support the resilient and struggling youth of Africa, just as has been the case with the indomitable grandmothers. It won't happen immediately of course, nor tomorrow, but perhaps at some point down the road.

So stay tuned for a Youth to Youth campaign. We'll probably start with an international conference!

**Best personal regards,
Stephen Lewis**

AFRICA: A CONT

*"The problem is big – beyond us – but that c
do it one child at a time, one grandmother at*

– Jackson Kaguri, founder, Nyaka AIDS Orphans School, Uganda

Africa has become a continent of orphans. Thirteen million children have lost their parents to AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa – more than the total number of every boy and girl under 18 currently living in Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Norway and Sweden combined. The numbers are staggering – there are many countries, from Uganda to Swaziland, where 10-15% of the total population will be orphans by the year 2010.

For children orphaned by AIDS, the trauma begins as they watch their parents' health deteriorate: many children are withdrawn from school to go to work or to care for their sick parents and grandparents or their younger siblings. After their parents die, children often live with their overstretched and overwhelmed extended family members. In many countries across sub-Saharan Africa, up to 40-60% of AIDS orphans live in grandmother-headed households.

In August 2006, at the Grandmothers' Gathering, and again in May 2007, the Stephen Lewis Foundation invited African grandmothers and project coordinators to visit Canada and share their personal experiences – to speak as ambassadors for other women in their circumstances and the millions of children across the continent orphaned by AIDS.

The stories have a grim repetitiveness across sub-Saharan Africa: grandmothers and orphaned children struggling to find adequate food and shelter, to buy clothing and to pay for school fees, uniforms and school supplies. Grandmothers speak of the emotional trauma that their grandchildren endure – their grief, anger and bewilderment at the loss of their parents, and the heavy burden of stigma that still surrounds HIV/AIDS in so many communities.

Many grandmothers struggle with how to talk to their grandchildren – particularly teenagers – about difficult, often taboo, topics: safer sex, teenage pregnancy, sexual violence and HIV. Those caring for HIV positive children also face the challenge of providing their grandchildren adequate nutrition, health care and life-saving antiretroviral drugs.

Underlying the grandmothers' concerns is their fear about what will happen to the children once they die. They worry that their grandchildren will join a growing number of child-headed households, where the oldest sibling cares for the younger ones, often with little or no support.

INENT OF ORPHANS

*cannot stop us from doing something. We'll
a time and this is a wonderful beginning."*

During her visit to Halifax granny groups in May 2007, Kenyan grandmother Joyce Kageci Gichuna asked, "What happens when I go to sleep and do not wake up?"

Joyce described how she supports four orphans – her adopted grandchildren – in their own home by providing rent, food, love and emotional support. Although the children seem relatively happy and live in a stable environment, she wonders about their future: "You look at them – beautiful, nice, innocent kids – but you are afraid [for] their tomorrow."

The grandmothers see education as the key to a hopeful future for their grandchildren. Everyone understands that without it, girls in particular are more vulnerable to early marriage, sexual exploitation and abuse, and are at greater risk of contracting HIV. Infection rates are at least twice as high among young people who do not finish primary school as those who do.

Many orphans are not able to attend school because they cannot afford to pay the required school fees, or buy shoes, uniforms or school supplies. For most, the costs of secondary school and university put higher education out

“*The subtext to many of the discussions was the grandmothers' pervasive fear about what would happen after they died. Who would care for the children? How would they bear loss heaped upon loss? How would they recover? Who would become their parents and give them the nurturing and continuity that they so desperately need? Where would the money come from to ensure that they could continue their education? Would they be able to stay together? There are no easy answers, but... the grassroots projects provide some forum for discussion of these fears, as well as a place for grannies to draw together, find solutions, and assure each other that someone will always be there to care for their families."*

— excerpt from the Grandmothers' Gathering report, **Grandmothers to Grandmothers: The Dawn of a New Movement** by Ilana Landsberg-Lewis, Executive Director of the Stephen Lewis Foundation



© Liz Marshall

Many children are now raising children.

of reach, even for the brightest students. Time and again, the grandmothers stressed the importance of free education for the primary years and beyond, particularly for girls. "We do not want to waste brains," one grandmother said, while another added, "Knowing that kids have hope for a better future makes it easier for us."

Florence Apondu, a grandmother and principal of a school in rural Kenya where one third of the student body are orphans, spoke of her efforts to ensure that her students feel a sense of belonging. By visiting the children in their homes, arranging for the distribution of blankets, clothing and other necessities, starting clubs in school that provide psychosocial support, and organizing a school feeding programme, Florence and the other teachers work to ensure that the basic needs of the children are met and that they feel loved and included in the community. "I also grew up as an orphan," Florence said. "I empathize so much, and I encourage them, because I know that without education, I could not have been their teacher. And that has helped some children work harder, and even go for higher levels of education."

Millions of children orphaned by AIDS are now teenagers. Although some now live with loving families, a vast number have grown up with limited guidance, nurture and support. How will they become resilient, confident adults, without their parents and grandparents to support them?

The challenge ahead is a daunting one. As the pandemic evolves, so must our response: just as grandmothers have emerged as the unsung heroes of Africa, we must also look to the potential of youth – in Africa and Canada – as a means through which the pandemic will be overcome.



GRANDMOTHERS CAMPAIGN

The Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign has become an extraordinary expression of grassroots activism: thousands of women have become engaged by word of mouth, by watching films, by reading the report of the Grandmothers' Gathering. And it's all in aid of three deceptively simple campaign goals: to raise awareness, build solidarity and mobilize support for Africa's grandmothers.

When the Foundation launched the campaign in March 2006, there were just a handful of grandmothers' groups across Canada. Today, there are more than 150 grandmothers' groups in Canada (and beyond) supporting the campaign!

Together, Canadian grandmothers have raised more than \$1 million, which has enabled the Foundation to increase funding to grandmothers in 14 sub-Saharan African countries. Support for grandmothers includes: food, school fees, uniforms and supplies, income-generating projects (communal gardens, crafts, raising small animals), workshops, counselling, coffins and dignified burials for their loved ones.

At the close of the Gathering last August, the 300 African and Canadian grandmothers issued a statement to the world, expressing their solidarity, commitment and strength. In the last line of the Toronto Statement, as it has come to be known, they issued a stirring call to action: "May this be the dawn of the grandmothers' movement." This call has been heeded and the movement grows stronger each day.

In May 2007, nine African grandmothers and two project coordinators visited cities across the country to connect with their Canadian counterparts and discuss the situation of children orphaned by AIDS. Their journey began in Toronto, where they attended the premiere of SLF's new documentary film, *A Generation of Orphans* (p.5).

The grandmothers' presence at the premiere added deeper and wider context to the situation of millions of orphans in sub-Saharan Africa. The grannies spoke eloquently and openly about the challenges of raising traumatized children and teenagers, often in extremely impoverished conditions.



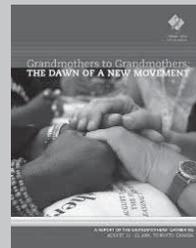
© Alexis MacDonald

Granny Joyce Kageci Gichuna of Kenya visits Peggy's Cove in Nova Scotia.

The African grannies were also here to continue the dialogue and strengthen relationships with Canadian granny groups – in Calgary, Saskatoon, Ottawa and Halifax – which have been unstoppable in their enthusiasm, energy and generosity. The welcome the African grannies received was incredibly warm, the hospitality more than gracious and the list of activities impressive. Throughout the visit, the African grannies attended potlucks, concerts, and film screenings, participated in First Nations ceremonies, spoke to students, attended fundraisers and spoke at church services. The visit provided an opportunity for the grandmothers to build on the body of knowledge from the Grandmothers' Gathering and to add momentum to the movement.

Grandmothers to Grandmothers: *The Dawn of a New Movement*

is a 94-page document that captures discussions from the Grandmothers' Gathering held in August 2006.



An 80-minute DVD with footage of workshops and testimonies from the Grandmothers' Gathering is also available. The complete report is available online or can be ordered at no charge by contacting:

info@stephenlewisfoundation.org



The CanGos' Great Canadian Quilt

GRANNIES TAKE ACTION

At the Grandmothers' Gathering, Canadians expressed their commitment to act as ambassadors and mobilize support for their African sisters: "We are dedicated to finding ways to make it clear that Africa's grandmothers hold a place in our hearts and in our thoughts, not just today, but each day... We will not rest until they can rest." Here are just a few of their initiatives:

- The gymnasium at Appleby College was filled to capacity when 1400 people bought tickets to listen to a speech by Stephen Lewis. Organized by the **oomamas** of Oakville, Niagara and Grimsby, Ontario, the event raised an incredible \$100,000 for grandmothers in Africa!
- The Kamloops, BC **CanGo Grannies** have created a 'Great Canadian Quilt,' with the signatures of famous Canadians, to be publicly displayed nation-wide and auctioned off, with the proceeds going to support grandmothers through SLF. www.greatcanadianquilt.com.
- In October 2007, **Gisele Lalonde Mansfield** and several other grandmothers will **climb Mt. Kilimanjaro** in Tanzania, with the proceeds going to the Grandmothers Campaign. They have raised more than \$35,000 toward their goal! www.gigiclimbskili.com.
- A new ad-hoc **Grandmothers Network National Steering Committee** was recently formed to provide guidance and coordination on key advocacy efforts for granny groups across Canada. The Committee will include representatives from regional clusters of

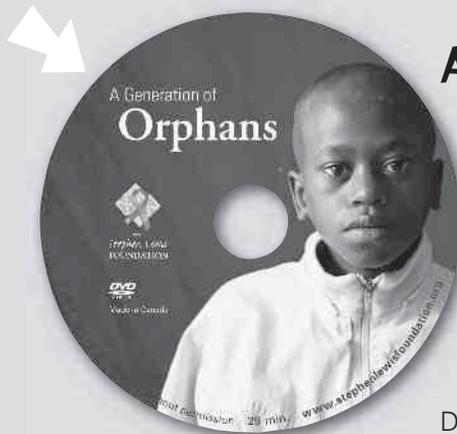
granny groups from across Canada. For more info, contact Kathleen at kathleen@wallace-deering.com.

- On September 8, 2007, grandmothers and friends will participate in the **Grandparents Solidarity March** for Grandparents' Day. Using the Toronto Statement as a call to action, granny groups across Canada will march to give visibility and support to HIV/AIDS in Africa. Elizabeth Mataka, UN Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa, has confirmed that she will be at the march on Parliament Hill. Contact Sharon at sharons@superaje.com for more.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

- Join a grandmothers' group or start your own.
- Hold a fundraising or awareness-raising event in your community.
- Hold a screening of the film *Grandmothers: The Unsung Heroes of Africa* or *A Generation of Orphans*.
- Share ideas, read about the campaign and learn about our projects on our website.

Contact campaign@stephenlewisfoundation.org or call 416-533-9292 ext. 234.



A GENERATION OF ORPHANS

This half-hour documentary (directed by Liz Marshall) gives voice to six orphans in sub-Saharan Africa and the grassroots organizations that work valiantly on their behalf – highlighting their hardship, hope and courage as they struggle with the loss of their parents to AIDS. This is the second film in a trilogy about SLF's work. These films would not be possible without the generous donation of time, energy and resources of our post-production sponsors: Tattersall Sound and Picture, Technicolor, Crush and Toronto Image Works. Thank you!

DVD copies are available on loan for community events or can be purchased for \$20. Visit the 'Films' page on our website to learn more.

www.stephenlewisfoundation.org

SUPPORTING THE GRASSROOTS IN AF



BOTSWANA

Maru-a-Pula is an exceptional secondary school that has extended its scholarship opportunities to AIDS orphans with the aptitude to become future leaders. Students spend several hours each week comforting the sick, teaching primary classes in neighbouring villages, feeding the destitute and doing HIV/AIDS education.

ETHIOPIA

Developing the Family Together (DFT) helps more than 150 women affected by and infected with HIV to start small businesses and generate a stable income. DFT also works with local *iddirs* (burial societies), churches and mosques to run prevention, care and support activities for people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHAs), grandmothers and orphans.

HIV/AIDS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

- There are nearly 25 million people living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa – 59% of them are women.
- Two million children are living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Only 13% of HIV-positive children in sub-Saharan Africa who need antiretroviral treatment have access to it.
- Without treatment, one-third of infants infected with HIV die before reaching age one. Half die before age two.

Sources: UNAIDS, UNICEF and WHO

VOICES FROM THE FRONTLINES...

BRUNO'S STORY

Nyaka AIDS Orphans School, Uganda
by Lucy Steinitz, SLF Field Representative

I wanted to visit the home of one of the Nyaka pupils in order to gain a better understanding of the contrast between home and school. The nursing assistant suggested that I visit Ankunda Bruno, age 14 in P4/Grade 4. To look at Bruno, you would think he is about nine or ten. His teacher describes him as quiet but attentive in school, and he performs very well. I suggested walking to Bruno's home so I could get a feel for what it is like for him to walk to and from school each day – but this would have entailed climbing up and down two small mountains over rough terrain (3.6 km each way) and the Headmaster wisely suggested we drive.

In former years, Bruno's father had been quite a well-to-do local farmer. He had a banana "plantation" (field) and

grew several crops. He also owned quite a few cattle and goats, and lived in a fairly large and well-built compound near a natural spring. But Bruno's father died six years ago (in 1998) and two years later his mother died and after that, also his grandfather and finally his aunt, who had lived on the compound, as well. That just left Bruno and his two older brothers. Then, if this wasn't enough tragedy, an uncle grabbed some of the property and took Bruno's oldest brother to mind his store at night. Bruno's middle brother was also pulled away in order to look after Bruno's great grandmother who is very frail – though these two brothers still have frequent contact.

This means that Bruno lives alone. I can't explain how shocked I was by this. In all the years that I have visited poor homesteads, even child-headed households, I have never seen a child having to live all by himself, day after day. You have to try to imagine this: the compound sits atop a hill, out of earshot of the neighbours. It contains

LESOTHO

Mothers2mothers (m2m) uses education and community leadership to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS during pregnancy. m2m selects, trains and pays 'mentor mothers' to serve as role models, reduce stigma and encourage other HIV+ women in the community to live positively.

MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambican Treatment Access Movement (MATRAM) uses a gender and rights-based approach to advocate for greater access to treatment for PLWHAs. Using educational materials in local languages and non-print media, it helps PLWHAs make informed decisions about treatment and demand access to life-saving antiretroviral drugs.

SOUTH AFRICA

As part of **Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust's** care programme, nurses and volunteer caregivers promote voluntary counselling and testing (VCT), and provide palliative care, training and incentives such as food, equipment, and uniforms for caregivers. Hillcrest also maintains a funeral fund so that impoverished clients may be buried with dignity.

SWAZILAND

Originally founded to train nurses to deal with the impact of HIV/AIDS in Swaziland, **The AIDS Information**

and Support Centre (TASC) has since grown to include VCT, HIV/AIDS education and outreach, home-based care, support groups for grandmothers, children and people living with HIV and AIDS in rural communities.

TANZANIA

Following the 2006 Grandmothers' Gathering, the three **MKUKI** delegates conducted house visits to identify the needs of grandmothers in their district. They now supply grandmothers with food, mattresses, bed sheets, blankets, clothing, shelter, skills training and health care, and provide educational support to 133 children.

ZAMBIA

Kara Counselling's Ranchod Hospice provides in-patient palliative care for the chronically ill and houses a day-care and the Busy Bees grandmothers support group. Ranchod's home-based care workers also visit the sick in rural areas, making it possible to reach bedridden patients who would otherwise not receive care.

ACROSS BORDERS

The **Girl Child Education Fund**, run by the International Council of Nurses, covers the costs of primary and secondary schooling for the children of nurses who have died of AIDS. The fund provides tuition fees, uniforms and books to 40 girls under the age of 18 in four African countries.

four buildings, three of which are abandoned. There are some garden plants that Bruno tries to maintain, and a field of sad-looking banana trees off to one side. But otherwise, there is nothing. No people, no pets, no company, no protection. No paraffin lanterns or even a candle for light after dark. No food in the kitchen except for some bananas and a few mangos. And just one small boy, trying to make it on his own, day by day.

After I was invited inside, I sat down with Bruno and told him how brave I thought he was to be living on his own like a grown-up. But it must be very hard, I offered. Personally, I can't imagine how he copes with the loneliness.

"What is most difficult for you?" I asked gently.
 "The nights," Bruno answered softly.
 "Do you have bad dreams?" I asked.
 "Yes."



© Jackson Kaguri

"And what do you do, to make the bad dreams go away?"
 "I practice my homework in my head," Bruno said.

I have to say, it has been a week since I heard Bruno say this, and I simply can't get it out of my head. I keep thinking about him, and about the impact of Nyaka school on this child – his only thread of hope – over and over again.

FROM THE GRASSROOTS OF AFRICA...

REACH ONE TOUCH ONE MINISTRIES

AIDS has significantly changed the structure of families across the African continent: men and women of child-bearing age are dying, leaving their children and their elderly parents vulnerable.

In light of this challenge, Reach One Touch One Ministries (ROTOM) was among the first organizations to address the needs of impoverished older persons in Uganda's Kabale District. ROTOM strives to address the spiritual, physical, emotional and psychosocial needs of older persons by providing nutritious meals, health care, group and peer counselling, basic sanitation, mattresses, shelter and funerals for community members who cannot afford them. ROTOM has become a vocal advocate for older persons in Uganda.

Many of ROTOM's beneficiaries are grandmothers caring for their orphan grandchildren who are living in situations of extreme poverty. With SLF support, ROTOM provides 100 grandmothers with food packages, grief counselling, workshops on HIV/AIDS, entrepreneurship and parenting skills, medical screening and treatment. Grandmothers also raise small animals (chicken, goats, sheep and pigs)



© Aissatou Diejhate

as a source of income. ROTOM provides school fees, supplies and uniforms for over 200 orphans in the community.

SUPPORT ACTIVITIES IN POVERTY ERADICATION AND HEALTH (SAIPEH)

Started in 1997 by a group of peer educators in Kenya, SAIPEH's initial activities involved theatre performances in rural areas to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. SAIPEH soon extended its services and began distributing food, giving grants, providing skills training and counselling, running income-generating projects and sporting events. SAIPEH helps guardians and young people – especially women and girls – to take on leadership roles, build a sense of community, and break down barriers and stigma in communities.

SAIPEH has a revolving loan system, where grandmothers and other guardians can get a loan of 3,000 Kenyan shillings (about \$50 Canadian) to start a small business. Many people open small shops, sell cereals or second-hand clothes. SAIPEH provides them with business training on skills such as bookkeeping, marketing and farming, and the loan recipients meet each month in 'enterprise groups,'



© Lucy Steinitz

where they pool their funds, pay off their loans, and save for the future.

Through SLF support, SAIPEH is providing loans and training to 40 guardians; running soccer and other sports competitions for women and youth; paying school fees for orphans; holding counselling sessions for orphans and vulnerable children; and providing food baskets to 20 grandmothers and PLWHAs each month.

CONSOL HOMES ORPHAN CARE

After witnessing the inconsolable grief of a young orphan at a funeral seven years ago, Alfred Chapomba set out to create an organization in Malawi that would “promote community participation in the care of orphans and other vulnerable children for their social, economic and academic advancement.”

The Consol Homes model is simple and sustainable: community members construct a village meeting place, known as the ‘Children’s Centre,’ where volunteers lead preschool and primary classes, and youngsters, as well as widows and grannies, meet for discussions, drama and role-play, or to grow vegetables in the communal garden.

With the help of an ever-growing network of volunteers, Consol Homes’ community support programmes provide care, support and advice to over 12,000 children, teenagers and adults in almost 50 communities in central and southern Malawi. Consol Homes’ remarkable success is a tribute to their well-grounded psychosocial model, to the involvement (from the beginning) of local stakeholders in each community, and to the leadership of orphans who feel increasingly empowered to help themselves and others.



© Hilary Hall

With SLF support, Consol Homes supplies food and self-help projects for elderly guardians and child-headed households; provides children with school fees; distributes bicycles and cell phones to facilitate communication and increase mobility between communities, enabling caregivers to visit the chronically ill.

GIRL CHILD NETWORK

Officially established in 1999, the Girl Child Network (GCN) in Zimbabwe began as a girls’ empowerment club at Zengeza 1 High School, where Betty Makoni and ten of her students met regularly to discuss the grim reality of gender inequality and the deprivation, violence and insecurity that the girls faced on a daily basis. At the club, the girls were able to speak freely about their own problems, support each other, and devise possible solutions.

Today, GCN continues to promote and protect the rights of girls. Based largely in rural areas, GCN’s core membership is among girls aged 9-13 years. More than 30,000 girls belong to some 500 GCN clubs in Zimbabwe, spread out over 40 of the country’s 58 districts. They have also created three Girls’ Empowerment Villages, where survivors of rape and sexual abuse can seek refuge and rehabilitation.

Through SLF funding, GCN continues to support girls at risk by increasing access to education and reducing their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS through the provision of school



© Jared Kelly

fees, supplies and other basic needs – including underwear, clothing, food and sanitary napkins – to some 1500 girls. GCN continues to build the capacity of girl clubs and community groups through income-generating activities.

...TO THE GRASSROOTS OF CANADA

YOUTH MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In 2006, Canadians raised an amazing \$3.1 million by holding community events to help ease the pain of HIV/AIDS in Africa. Some of the most creative ideas have come from young people, whose commitment to raising awareness and funds is quite remarkable:

After reading an issue of *Grassroots*, 11-year-old **Rebecca Davison-Mora** wrote: "All my friends talk about all the presents they're getting and how they need iPods and cell phones when there are people who need clean water, food and to go to school. Now I know more about AIDS and that kids my age are taking care of their brothers and sisters when they should be going to school... so even though \$50 is not much I hope it makes a difference in Africa."



Six-year-old **Breanna Pett** wrote: "I have lots of toys and books so instead of presents for me I asked the people who came to my birthday to bring some money for you. Please use it to help people in Africa. I want people in the world to have the things they need. Love from Breanna." Breanna has also decided to donate one week's allowance each month!

Students at **Thom Collegiate** in Regina, Saskatchewan held a penny-rolling drive and benefit concert with performances that included heavy metal, break dancing, improv and comedy. Their initiatives raised over \$1,400 for grandmothers and orphans affected by HIV/AIDS in Africa.

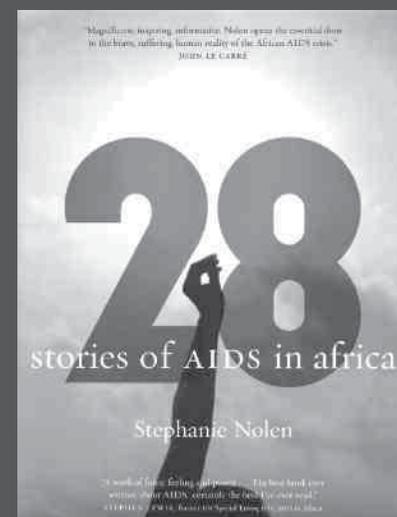
With the help of his friends and neighbours, **Elijah Rosen** of British Columbia collected "change for a week to make a change in the lives of others." Together, they raised nearly \$300.

Students in the **Youth Volunteer Corps** at Winston Churchill High School in Calgary, Alberta are making a difference by creating and selling greeting cards to help address HIV/AIDS in Africa. 'Cards for the Cure' has since spread to other junior and senior high schools in the city and recently earned the school YMCA Calgary's Medal of Peace.

In early 2007, students from **Lockview High School** in Fall River, N.S. competed with students at Charles P. Allen High School to see who could raise more funds for AIDS in Africa in a two week period! Both schools did amazingly well: Lockview raised \$1,400 and Charles P. Allen raised \$2,500, with the proceeds going to SLF.

Students at **Stephen Lewis Secondary School** in Vaughan, ON participated in a Wake-A-Thon, their first annual fundraiser to raise money and awareness about HIV/AIDS in Africa. From 7:00pm to 7:00am, 116 students and 12 staff played sports, games and activities without sleeping – and raised \$12,000 for AIDS in Africa through SLF!

WE'RE READING...



28 Stories of AIDS in Africa

by Stephanie Nolen

ISBN: 978-0-676-97822-3

Stephanie Nolen's powerful new book tells the stories of 28 people living with HIV and AIDS – one for each million people living with the disease in sub-Saharan Africa. Ida Mukuka – one of SLF's African field representatives – is profiled, as are several others affiliated with SLF-supported projects, including: Swaziland Positive Living (SWAPOL), Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), Mama's Club, and more.

Don't miss what Stephen Lewis has called "the best book ever written about AIDS, certainly the best I've ever read."

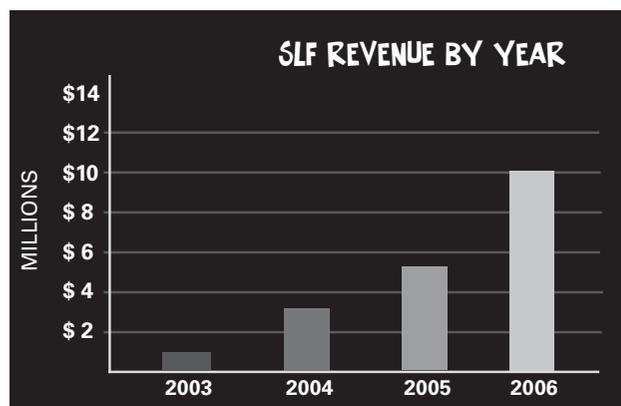
We have many materials available for community event organizers, including: films, public service announcements (PSAs), photos, flyers, newsletters, downloadable posters and more!
Contact community@stephenlewisfoundation.org.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

REVENUE AND ALLOCATION

Our current fiscal year runs from July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007. During that time, SLF received more than \$11 million in contributions. The groundswell of response from Canadians to the AIDS pandemic in Africa has exceeded anything we could have imagined.

Since we began four years ago, we have distributed and committed more than \$15 million to grassroots initiatives in 14 countries across sub-Saharan Africa, with millions more under active consideration. We remain committed to applying 90% of your contributions to our project work in Africa.



Our accountant is Karen Forrest, CMA. SLF financial statements are audited annually by Cowperthwaite Mehta Chartered Accountants. Our financial information is also accessible on the Canada Revenue Agency's website: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tax/charities/menu-e.html>

OUR DEEPEST THANKS...

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Alexis MacDonald, SLF's Director of Programmes, for her work with the Foundation over the last three years. She will leave her post in July to pursue graduate studies before running again for public office, where she will advocate around HIV/AIDS at the national and international level. Alexis has made a passionate and brilliant contribution to the Foundation and she will be missed. However, we are delighted to announce that Alexis will continue her relationship with SLF as a member of the Board of Directors, commencing in August 2007. Senior Programme Officer Aissatou Djahate will step into the role of Director of Programmes.

DONATING STOCKS AND SECURITIES

Gifts of publicly-traded stocks and securities to the Stephen Lewis Foundation are now exempt from capital gains tax. Tax receipts will be valued based on the closing price of the date upon which the shares are transferred to the Foundation's brokerage account. To donate, contact 416-533-9292 ext. 0 or info@stephenlewisfoundation.org.

SLF RECEIVES \$1 MILLION DONATION

In December 2006, Jackie Flanagan, founding editor of *Alberta Views* magazine, contributed one million dollars to SLF to be used "on behalf of the women of Africa." The donation was made through the financial conversion of shares. Ms. Flanagan's donation is being used to provide medical supplies and train nurses who bring care and dignity to women who are struggling with HIV/AIDS.

GIVE A DAY TO WORLD AIDS



Give a Day provides a chance for Canadians to come together in their communities and make a difference in the lives of those affected by the pandemic. In 2006, Canadians from coast to coast raised \$500,000 by giving one day's pay on December 1st, World AIDS Day. Give a Day 2007 is well underway – new workplaces are already joining the campaign and are planning events for the fall. To learn more and get involved, visit www.giveaday.ca.



the Stephen Lewis
FOUNDATION

Easing the pain of HIV/AIDS in Africa

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OUR MANDATE:

We provide funds in four critical areas to...

- Ease the plight of **women** who are ill and struggling to survive, so that their lives can be free from pain and indignity.
- Assist **orphans** and other AIDS-affected children in every possible way, from the payment of school fees to the provision of food.
- Support **grandmothers**, the unsung heroes of Africa, who bury their own children and then care for their orphan grandchildren.
- Assist the remarkable efforts of associations of **people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHAs)**, courageous men and women who have openly declared their status.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Donate online, by cheque, credit card or pre-authorized payment. Visit our website to learn more.
- To donate in the US, visit stephenlewisfoundation.org/usa
- Donate your Aeroplan Miles at www.aeroplan.com/donate
- Give in someone's memory or in honour of a special occasion
- Donate stocks, securities, bequests or legacy gifts
- Give a day's pay on December 1st, World AIDS Day
- Plan an event in your community

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