Grandmothers:
The Unsung Heroes of Africa

Grandmothers: The Unsung Heroes of Africa is a moving half-hour documentary highlighting the crucial role grandmothers play not only in caring for AIDS orphans but also in holding their families and communities together. Through intimate portraits of four African grandmothers – Salome, Catarina, Karmela and Matilda – the film invites the world to listen to their stories and take action.

Four grassroots projects in South Africa, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia run by remarkable community-level organizations are profiled in the film. These are just a few examples of the over 300 projects in 15 sub-Saharan countries supported by the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF). The film premiered at the Grandmothers’ Gathering in Toronto (August 11–13, 2006) and was also shown at the Global Village in conjunction with the XVI International AIDS Conference.

Distribution: In many places, people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS continue to be stigmatized and discriminated against within their own communities. For this reason, the film is not intended for distribution or purchase within Africa. The grandmothers profiled in the film courageously agreed to share their stories with a North American audience, with the understanding that the films would not be shown in their home countries.

Screenings: We hope this film can play an important role in your community activities. DVD copies are available for $20 (covers duplication and shipping). Cheques or money orders payable to the Stephen Lewis Foundation (mark “Grandmothers Film” in subject line) can be sent to:

Stephen Lewis Foundation
260 Spadina Ave, Suite 501
Toronto, ON M5T 2E4

For other methods of payment or for more information, please call 416-533-9292, ext. 0.

Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign: In March 2006, on the eve of International Women’s Day, SLF launched a campaign to raise awareness and mobilize support in Canada for Africa’s grandmothers. To learn about the campaign visit stephenlewisfoundation.org, email campaign@stephenlewisfoundation.org, or call 416-533-9292, ext. 233.