

# Center for Health and Hope Action Newsletter

Fall, 2017

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION:  
[www.centerfor  
hopeandhealth.org](http://www.centerfor<br/>hopeandhealth.org)

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## TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS

As a 501(c)(3), gifts  
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**Center for Health  
and Hope**  
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## DEEP IN KENYA'S RAIN FOREST, FIVE HOMES BUILT FOR FAMILIES LIVING WITH AIDS

Five small two-room houses were built in Maua, Kenya, this summer for very poor families living with AIDS. \$3,000 not only constructs a house but also provides mattresses, bedding, a year's education for the children & health care for the family. Dedicating the dwellings were Kenyans & a team of ten persons from the Denver area who spent two weeks visiting AIDS projects. Donors gave the homes in memory of Richard Moore, Jerome Carter, Polly & Loyd Berger, Paul & Paula Murphy, & Fred Anthony Holland/Roderick Joseph. Neighbors joined in celebration with singing, dancing & drumming!



## "HERO OF THE YEAR" MET HIV PATIENTS WITH OPEN DOORS, NOT SPACESUITS



"Some doctors approached HIV patients in spacesuits for fear of being infected," remembers Burton Golub, M.D., "but from the beginning my door was always open to caring for patients with a strange new illness known as AIDS." For over 30 years he reached out to hundreds & hundreds of men & women facing the disease in Denver. For the past five years he has traveled as a volunteer to visit AIDS projects in India. In Calcutta & in villages in southern India, Burt & his wife Lee have started a program teaching English to poor & HIV positive children. "Kids with English skills have a better chance in life." Golub will be honored by the Center Board as its "Hero of the Year" on May 5, 2018, at the University of Denver.



## SAVE LIVES BY "CREATING A HUMAN ROPE"

Headlining October 21 "Gathering to HEAL" breakfast will be Dr. Don Messer as the keynote speaker, TV anchor Theresa Marchetta as MC, & *basso profundo* soloist Chin Keong Tan. Messer will share stories of hope, citing examples of those who benefit from the "human rope" the Center's donors have linked around the world. At Hope UMC, Greenwood Village, CO, the event begins at 9:00 am. Rev. Kent Ingram, Colorado Springs, will receive Paul & Paula Murphy Award. Register by contacting [bjmesser43@gmail.com](mailto:bjmesser43@gmail.com) or 303-877-1955. Cost is \$15.



# BI-PARTISAN GLOBAL EFFORTS TO END HIV & AIDS THREATENED BY TRUMP ADMINISTRATION



Since President George W. Bush initiated the President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to end HIV & AIDS, the USA has saved millions of lives through prevention, care & treatment. Bi-partisanship support prevailed during President Barack Obama's days in office. Now the Trump administration has proposed drastic cuts that would lead to many millions of deaths & new infections.

Letters from each of us can make a difference! Delaware Senator Christopher Coons told me that Congress never gets a "thank you" for this life-saving work. **Please write your legislators in the House & Senate.** Thank them for PEPFAR and the Ryan White domestic funding, and ask them to continue their support. More funds, not less, are needed, if we are to wipe out HIV & AIDS. Let me know if you send a letter & get a response!



*Donald E. Messer, Executive Director*



## ANN FORT KENYA FUND

Ann Fort's 93rd Birthday Party in September launched the Ann Fort Kenya Fund to extend her legacy of love & compassion in Africa. At the age of 73, she made the first of 18 trips to Kenya! She has built schools, churches, & clinics, fed street children, cared for persons with HIV & AIDS, & promoted economic empowerment. **The Fort Family Foundation is offering a \$9,300 challenge gift, urging donations of \$93 or more! Your gift can help us reach the goal**



## ORPHANED BY AIDS, GLORIE NOW HELPS 260 OTHER OPHANS

Each year Center friends provide \$180 to support an AIDS orphan in Kenya. Glorie Gitonga got this help as a child & later trained as a social worker. Now she has returned to assist other children & youth facing similar dilemmas of dire poverty, hunger, isolation, & depression. Many are tempted to commit suicide. Long's Peak UMC supports her yearly salary of \$3,000.

## LONG-TIME ADVISOR DIES

Bishop Ruediger Minor, retired United Methodist Bishop of Russia, served on Center International Advisory Board until his recent death. A generous donor, he & his wife Gerlinde have always championed health & human rights for all people.



## WORLD AIDS DAY SERVICE

On December 3, at 7 pm, Bishop Karen Oliveto will lead annual World AIDS Day Service in Denver. Save the date! Details forthcoming.



# FEEDING THE HUNGRY & ENHANCING NUTRITION ESSENTIAL TO ENDING HIV & AIDS

Hunger continues to stalk humanity. In slums of Kenya, mothers boil water to fill empty stomachs. Without food, people with HIV quit taking their medicine because pills feel like poison. Therefore, feeding the hungry & enhancing nutrition are key programs for the Center both in Africa and India. Donors are providing education & two meals a day for 188 children in a Nairobi slum, feeding 80 street children who sleep in the garbage pits, as well as providing Kenya famine relief. In India, monthly nutritional supplements are given to 140 families in Chennai & Namakkal. The need outstrips our resources—can you or your church help?



*Beautiful, but very vulnerable, street children are fed three times weekly through Center gifts.*



*Center raises \$5,000 a year to feed school children twice a day in slums of Nairobi.*



*After meal, Center volunteers provide food for street children to take "home".*

## MARCHED IN DENVER & MANILA PRIDE PARADES

HIV still disproportionately impacts gay & bisexual men around the world. LGBTQ persons suffer discrimination & stigma, even persecution, in many places. In response, the Center stipulates all persons receiving grants must pledge to serve all people. This summer the Center sponsored a workshop on "Creating Safe Spaces" in Kenya for LGBTQ citizens & refugees. Representatives also marched in Pride Parades both in Colorado & the Philippines.



*Dr. Don Messer spoke in front of Colorado Capitol & marched in the Philippines, where he was speaking at an AIDS conference*

## BUY GOATS & SHEEP FOR RWANDA

Vulnerable women & persons with HIV received 30 sheep and 30 goats in Rwanda from the Center in 2016. They provide valuable milk for families & manure for farming. Seven died from sickness or wild dogs! But new births were given to others, so now there are 43 sheep & 50 goats! More are needed! This makes a great birthday or Christmas gift—invite others to join you in giving!

Buy a goat  
\$40  
or a sheep  
\$60  
Or help two  
families  
\$100





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## STORIES OF HOPE AMID HEARTBREAK

### CONGO



Facing increasing AIDS in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rev. Mujinga Mwamba Kora asked the Center to send him books so he can teach pastors, laity, & seminarians about HIV prevention & care. "These two books are my answer from God. I need more."

### INDIA



Kavitha displays her new master's degree! After her father died of AIDS she & her mother were very destitute. But thanks to Center help via tutoring & the Care & Support program, she is employed now & is caring for others.

### KENYA

Good news/bad news! AIDS orphans are living, but success in life requires post high school education. Finding money for college & technical schools proves challenging! Wilfred, who cares for his little sister, got industrial machine training for less than \$900 & has just been hired! Moses, below,

cares for 5 orphan nieces & nephews, is also in training. The Center would like to educate ten youth a year! Need \$10,000 to \$20,000!



### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

*A Gathering to HEAL Breakfast*

**October 21, 2017**

*World AIDS Day Service*

**December 3, 2017**

*Journey to India*

**January, 2018--Details Pending**

*Tucson Concert & "Swinging@AIDS"*

**March 23 & 24, 2018**

*"Spring is A Time For Hope" Brunch*

**May 5, 2018**