

Center for Health and Hope Action Newsletter

Fall, 2021

FOR MORE
INFORMATION:
www.centerforhealthandhope.org

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TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS

As a 501(c)(3), gifts
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844-412-0056

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7185 S. Niagara Circle
Centennial, CO 80112

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COVID DELAYS KENYA ORPHAN EDUCATION: “VIRTUAL” IMPOSSIBLE—EXTRA TERM NEEDED

Unlike in the USA, AIDS orphans in Kenya have not had the opportunity for virtual learning, as they lack computers. Their impoverished elderly grandparents & guardians, often illiterate, cannot tutor. To overcome lost time in school, the government has added a fourth term for two years. Classes are open, but the 361 children supported by the Center need an extra \$50 for fees to ensure they can attend. Supporting a child for the next two years now requires \$250, rather than \$200.



This fall's Gathering to HEAL (Helping End AIDS in our Lifetime) fund-raising Breakfast will focus on helping these orphans to “catch up” in their education. The theme will be “The Challenge of Educating Youth & Children in Kenya & the USA Amidst the COVID Pandemic.” Keynoting the Oct. 30, 9:00 am breakfast at Hope UMC in Greenwood Village, CO, will be **Ryan Silva**, 2021 Colorado's Principal of the Year. **Rev. Dr. Valerie Jackson** will be MC. Music will be provided by **Allison Keller**. Transgender activist & educator, **Savannah Sanburg**, will be honored with the Paul and Paula Murphy Human Sexuality Award. **Dr. Bonnie J. Messer & Jodie Senter** are Co-Chairs. Cost is \$25; sponsors needed!



Ryan Silva



Savannah Sanburg



Allison Keller



Valerie Jackson



“GOOD TROUBLE” HEADLINES TUCSON BENEFIT

The talented “Good Trouble” musicians headlined “The Red Concert: A Benefit for the Center for Health and Hope and Tucson Interfaith HIV & AIDS Network (TIHAN) in Tucson, Arizona, Oct 3. Co-chaired by **Pat Fox** and **Jess Losoya**, the annual dinner event honored two AIDS Activists, **Jack Durham & Jim Yancey**. About \$20,000

was raised & split 50/50 between the Center & TIHAN. Money will help persons living with HIV in Tucson meet challenges of poverty & stigma; the Center's share will support Kenya AIDS orphans.

ENDING THE GLOBAL COVID VACCINE APARTHEID

The drastic disparity between the rich and the poor in this world is evidenced again as the world combats the COVID-19 pandemic. In the United States people refuse to be vaccinated, while only 3% of Africa has even had the opportunity to get this life-saving prevention. Everywhere the Center serves in Asia & Africa, people struggle to survive; many of our partners have been inflicted with the virus. Yet the distribution of vaccines remains uneven and unavailable to most people. A complete world vaccination would require 11 billion doses. Distribution will be difficult because there is a lack of medical personnel.



During this prolonged crisis, Center donors have provided extra funding in Kenya, India, Sri Lanka, Burundi, Rwanda, Malaysia, and Uganda. While some of the money has been used for medical purposes, the vast majority has gone for food relief, since people have suffered “lock downs,” lack of jobs, and lack of nutrition. Long-time Center advisor, **Dr. Pauline Muchina** of Kenya organized an advocacy protest in Washington, D.C., to urge the Biden administration to provide increased vaccines for the impoverished nations of the world. She says, “Stop vaccine apartheid. No one will be safe until the entire world is vaccinated. Greed & corporate influence should not keep global leaders from doing what is right & necessary to facilitate vaccines, therapies, and diagnostic tools.” To avert a humanitarian catastrophe, let us all become advocates for equitable global access of COVID-19

Donald E. Messer, Executive Director

MEDICAL CAMPS IN KENYA

People walked up to 3 hours to get to two medical camps sponsored recently by the Center in Kenya. With no doctors or dentists for miles, 1,078 people came for needed medical care. (Imagine sitting in a straight chair to get a tooth extracted, with limited Novocain!) Thanks to gifts given to the Center through the **Ann Fort Kenya Fund**, \$3,000 of medicine was distributed. “Due to COVID-19 protocols,” says organizer Jennifer Murithi, “the exercise was tiresome but all went well & our people were very appreciative.”



TEXT GIVING 844-412-0056

Give by text! Send a text to 844-412-0056 with the amount you designate (ex. 200). A return text asks you to register. Once you register, type in a number (like 200) to 844-412-0056. You get a receipt!

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL 15TH ANNUAL DENVER SWINGING@AIDS NETS \$51,000

After a virtual year of Swinging@AIDS in Denver, golfers returned in August to the links. Thanks to sponsors & golfers \$51,000 was raised to support programs in India, USA, and Africa. **Bruce Berger** chaired the event at the new Denver City Park Golf Course. This year’s event was dedicated to Grand Junction banker & humanitarian, **Herb Bacon**. In a special proclamation, **Governor Jared Polis**, commended the Center for its “outreach to those marginalized & stigmatized by AIDS & COVID,” & for affirming “all persons regardless of race, gender identification, nationality, religion, and sexual orientation.” Join us next year!



Both Shop & Give



Select the Center for Health and Hope from Amazon Smile. Each time you make a purchase you contribute to our work around the world. Thanks!

smile.amazon.com

BUY A PIG FOR A RWANDAN FAMILY: \$100 PROVIDES HEALTH INSURANCE & INCOME



Imagine purchasing health insurance for \$8 a year per person, but being so impoverished you cannot afford to pay the yearly costs for five in your family. That is the dilemma faced by pastors in Rwanda. By purchasing a pig for each pastor's family at a total cost of \$100, Center donors provide a resource to cover the yearly health insurance cost, plus the family gains additional income, extra nutrition, & fees to pay for school. **\$4,500 is still needed to help 45 more families.** Pastor Theogene Dusabimana with great excitement said: *"For a long time, my wife and I desired to do breeding of a pig with purpose of developing ourselves but we failed to get means. Now as a pig is provided to us, it is God's answer. May God bless the donors for their love and for thinking about us."*



KENYA DRUG THERAPY

Determined to reduce the stigma & health hazards of drug misuse, former Kenya **Bishop Catherine Mutua** currently directs a Drug Treatment Center in Meru. Women are now getting help as well as men. Using her media & community connections, she reaches out to persons who might risk HIV or being cast out of their families. Park Hill UMC, Denver, & other donors are key sponsors. There is a continuing need for salary assistance, supporting a patient for \$750, and money to upgrade facilities. Mutua notes that quality drug treatment centers in Kenya are very rare.



(Drug Treatment Center Staff; Catherine Mutua third from right)

RWANDA STUDENT



Prejudice & violence persist in Africa toward LGBTQ persons. Thanks to generous Center donors, a young man in Rwanda now has an opportunity to get a journalism degree. A courageous clergy & teacher, **Augustine Bahati**, has organized an Inclusive Mission for Health and Hope to serve in his country, with outreach to nearby

Uganda & Burundi. "A new generation of Africans," says Bahati, "are committed to human rights for all people."

VITAL HIV TESTING

HIV & AIDS remain a major threat to health & society. At every medical camp of the Center, HIV tests are offered. Nancy, the woman doing tests & offering counseling, was trained by Center donors.



PARTICIPATION FORM: GATHERING TO HEAL BREAKFAST (Cut & Mail)



7185 South Niagara Circle
Centennial, Colorado 80112

www.centerforhealthandhope.org

_____ persons @ \$25 each will participate on October 30, 2021
 _____ I cannot participate but enclosed is a gift for an AIDS orphan
 Here is \$_____ to help match the \$5,000 challenge grant!

_____ name(s)
 _____ address _____ zip
 _____ email _____ phone

(Every \$250 raised helps one of the 361 children.)



**POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS EXPANDING FOR AIDS ORPHANS IN AFRICA
DO YOU WANT TO SUPPORT A SCHOLAR?**

Talented young people often are stymied from future education in Kenya due to poverty. Parents are poor or have died because of AIDS. Scholarships are non-existent. Thanks to gifts to the **Ann Fort Kenya Fund**, six new Ann Fort Scholars have been selected in Kenya, adding to the six already funded. Donors have also provided another three scholarships; **six qualified young people wait for additional donors.**

Do you want to support a Scholar? Funding varies from a total of \$2,000 to \$6,000, depending on program & years of study toward becoming a plumber, electronics engineer, midwife, medical assistant, or teacher. We have a list of young people waiting for their lives to change!



ANN FORT GOATS

Looking beyond this life, **Ann Fort** established the Ann Fort Kenya Fund through the Center. Funded by her gifts, her estate, family & friends, it continues to impact Kenya.



About half of the funds are used to support post-secondary scholarships for impoverished but promising youth & the remaining supports AIDS orphans, medical camps, and goats. People sell baby goats to pay school fees, drink goat milk for its high protein, & use



manure for gardens. Twenty Ann Fort Goats yield 120 young kids, so the impact is magnified.

SEWING IN INDIA

Teach a woman to sew in India & a lifetime of income is generated. In two locations, the Center enables women to learn how to create saris & other garments. Jobs are available or the women can work at home.



COVID RELIEF CONTINUES



NEW BOARD MEMBER LARRY SONDBEROTH

Prominent Denver realtor & AIDS activist, Larry Sondberoth, has joined the Center's Board. Previously he was on Project Angel Heart board & Colorado Business Council.



WORLD AIDS SUNDAY

Led by **Dr. Valerie Jackson**, a Zoom Webinar on December 5 @ 7 pm, will focus on World AIDS Sunday. Remember loved ones & take action!

