

Center for Health and Hope Action Newsletter

Spring, 2016

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

Donald E. Messer
Executive Director
303 877 1955
globalaids@gmail.com

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS

As a 501(c)(3), gifts
to the Center are tax-
deductible.
ID: 20-4199173

Contributors will
receive receipts.

Send donations:
**Center for Health
and Hope**
7185 S. Niagara Circle
Centennial, CO 80112

Inside this issue:

Plan Adopted; 2
AIDS Activist;
Bishop Mutua
Will Return

Malaria Nets— 3
HIV+ Women

Tutoring in 3
English Helps
Children Self-
Esteem

Philippines 3
Epidemic;
India Ranks
3rd in HIV

\$5,000 Easter 4
Challenge

A NEW NAME AND LOGO FOR THE CENTER, BUT STILL FOCUSED ON HIV & AIDS

To effectively reflect a more inclusive outreach in the world, the Board of Directors has introduced a new organizational name and logo: the Center for Health & Hope with the tagline: “focusing on global HIV and AIDS.” Center for Church & Global AIDS remains as a trade name. Board Vice President Marla Petrini notes the mission is still the same: “to support & advocate for persons infected & affected by HIV & AIDS around the world through programs of education, prevention, care, & treatment.” Initial responses are overwhelmingly positive: “A better expression of what you’re about.” “Very good indeed!” “I love the inclusivity and clarity.” “Welcomes everyone!”



260 KENYA AIDS ORPHANS TO BENEFIT FROM “SPRING IS A TIME FOR HOPE” BRUNCH



Dr. Anne Gatobu

Too easily forgotten are the vulnerable children whose parents have died from AIDS in Africa. Yearly, however, the Center seeks to raise funds to help 260 orphans with their basic needs of security, love, food, education, and medical care through a community-based program that mobilizes grandparents, relatives, and guardians.



The 9th Annual “Spring is a Time for HOPE” brunch will be at the University of Denver on April 23, at 11:00 a.m. Persons contributing at least \$150 will receive two free tickets. Speaking is **Dr. Anne Gatobu**, founder of FOWCUS, a program for AIDS orphans in her native Kenya. Denver TV Anchor, **Theresa Marchetta**, will serve as MC. **Julie White** will be honored as “Hero of the Year” for establishing a business for HIV positive women in India that makes products from used saris. Music by **Kimberly Scott & Chin Keong Tan**. Call 3038771955 or use website. **Limited seating—register now!**



Julie White

COMBATING AIDS IN USA & AFRICA

Twenty years ago a young man stood up and asked for prayers in an Arizona church, saying “I have AIDS.” A layman, **Scott Blades**, heard the cry for help and began the Tucson Interfaith HIV & AIDS Network.



*Performing artist
Kelly Triplett*

A decade ago, **Anne Baraza**, saw the plight of the poor in a Nairobi slum & started a school that did not discriminate against HIV positive children and teachers. Partnering with Arizona and Kenya friends, the Center is sponsoring a Tucson benefit concert (April 2) and a “Swinging@AIDS” golf event (April 4) to raise \$20,000 to help fund these two life-giving groups.

Needed: golfers & sponsors. Call 303 594 8027



Ben Galloway, M.D. Denver, spoke of “protecting the dignity of life” at last year’s event., as co-chair, Claudia Svarstad, nods in agreement.

CENTER ADOPTS THREE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN



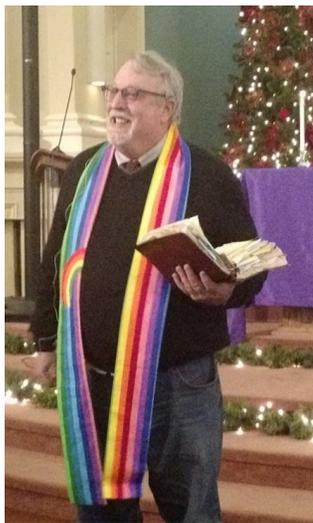
Confident that planning yields results, the Center’s Board has adopted a three year strategy. Copies of the plan are available to interested persons, but below is a brief summary of some of the items envisioned.

Organizational Development: Change Center name, hire part-time staff to help with communication, events, & grant writing, calculate volunteer time as contributed support; promote estate and planned giving, increase business & foundation support, recruit interfaith partners, establish Ambassador’s program outside of Denver, & enhance working relationship with the LGBT community.

Program: In **Africa**—Support 260 Kenya AIDS orphans, train community HIV workers, manufacture malaria nets & create other economic empowerment programs, provide medical supplies, support school in slums of Kenya, aid street children, & embrace LGBTQ persons. In **India**—help operate women & children’s center, hold seminars on AIDS, develop English tutoring for low caste children, tutor young girls for graduation, encourage India volunteers, provide care & support for persons living with HIV. In **USA**—provide short-term housing for HIV homeless and recently incarcerated African-Americans, women’s conference for minorities, aid health needs of Native Americans, Hispanics & Tucson Interfaith HIV & AIDS Network. In **other countries:** continue work in the Philippines, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, South Africa, and explore possibilities in Latin America.

AIDS ACTIVIST JOINS CENTER BOARD

A nationally-known pastor, who conducted hundreds of AIDS funerals, and publicly raises awareness by speaking of his HIV infection, Rev. Dr. Jim Mitulski of the Metropolitan Community Church of the Rockies, Denver, has joined the Center’s twelve member Board. Center friends joined his church in observing World AIDS Day December 1. He and Dr. Don Messer will teach a course on “Theology & AIDS” at Pacific School of Religion in July, 2016.



FEARLESS & FAITHFUL BISHOP RETURNS



Fearless she walks into the garbage heaps of her city, and faithful to the Gospel, she reaches out to the street children to offer them food, clothes, and help for a better life. Bishop Catherine Mutua, the first woman episcopal leader in Kenya, will return to the USA in September to raise funds to support ministries to over 600 AIDS orphans, 130 street children, 1200 HIV positive persons in support groups, etc. She will speak at our annual “Gathering to HEAL” breakfast on September 17, 2016. Other events will be scheduled in Colorado & South Dakota.

HIV POSITIVE WOMEN MAKE MALARIA NETS



Millions of dollars are expended yearly by churches and governments in purchasing malaria nets in Europe and Asia and shipping them to Africa. An alternative would be to create factories in Africa (like one in Mozambique) that help Africans be self-sufficient. In Kenya, the Center has initiated a program where ten HIV positive women are making malaria nets for sale. Start-up funds of \$6,000 for this self-empowerment economic program were provided by an anonymous donor & Hope UMC of Greenwood Village, CO. When the millions of dollars have been exhausted importing nets, this program will still exist.



TEACHING ENGLISH IMPROVES SELF-ESTEEM OF CHILDREN LIVING WITH HIV IN INDIA

“Impoverished children who know how to speak English clearly have better opportunities in life for health and hope,” says Burt Golub, M.D., Denver. Golub, who has traveled four times to India with Executive Director Don Messer, has helped start English learning centers for poor, vulnerable children impacted by HIV & AIDS in Chennai and Calcutta, India. Initial results from special English tutoring has been exceptionally encouraging, as the junior high age youth seem to both enjoy and excel in speaking English. “It provides them new confidence and self-esteem,” says Pastor Ambrose Dhanaraj, as “the children struggle with so much ugly stigma and unfair discrimination in their lives.”

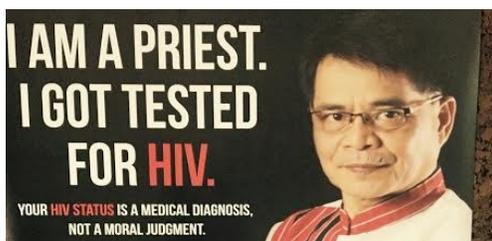


PHILIPPINES HIV EPIDEMIC ESCALATES; INDIA RANKS 3RD IN HIV GLOBALLY

Often overlooked is the stunning increase in new HIV infections in the Philippines and that India has the third largest number of people in the world living with HIV. Speaking in the Philippines, Center Executive Director Don Messer noted that "When I was here three years ago, there were then 10 new cases a day. Now there are 25 cases a day being reported. It is one of only seven countries in the world where HIV is increasing." In India, Messer noted that “AIDS will not end until stigma towards lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender persons is eliminated.” He urged persons to “change their hearts and minds” so “together we can make a safe, fair and just world for everyone, no matter who they are or whom they love.”



Donald Messer demonstrates a female condom to a Filipino audience



A public poster in the Philippines

**Center for Health & Hope
(formerly Center for the
Church & Global AIDS)**

7185 S. Niagara Circle
Centennial, Colorado 80112

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1644
DENVER, CO

Return Service Requested



*Raised in a child-headed home,
HIV positive Murugan needs
food & care*

*Thanks!
For returning the
enclosed envelope.
Your gifts bring health
and hope.*

www.centerforhealthandhope.org

CAN YOU HELP US MEET A \$5,000 MATCH BEFORE EASTER?



“I have seen the incredible need, felt the emotional pain and suffering, and witnessed the joy of people receiving food, clothing, and other assistance,” declared an anonymous donor that has offered \$5,000, if the Center can raise an additional \$5,000 by Easter for the people served by Pastor Ambrose Dhanaraj in Chennai, India. He helps with loving compassion & great accountability the poorest of the poor in this world.

What will our money do? Over the next year, \$240 provides nutrition for six HIV infected children; \$3,472 will give food for 28 poor families living with HIV and AIDS, \$333 will train a person with HIV to become a beautician, \$1,100 buys new clothing for children at Christmas, \$3,000 is needed for programs and staffing, and \$2,958 buys school kits for 325 Dalit (“untouchable” caste) children, 30 of whom are from families living with HIV.

Yes, the needs add up to more than \$10,000—more like \$11,103, but we are hopeful other funds will be received during the year. We feel very compelled to increase the monthly nutritional support—the women have received 620 rupees per month (about \$10), for a long time. Food costs are much higher now!

**THANKS FOR SENDING YOUR GIFT IN THE ENCLOSED
ENVELOPE or use our new website to send a donation**

www.centerforhealthandhope.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tucson Concert & “Swinging@AIDS”

April 2 & 4, 2016

“Spring is A Time For Hope Brunch”

April 23, 2016

Denver “Swinging@AIDS”

August 17, 2016

Gathering To HEAL Breakfast

September 17, 2016

World AIDS Day

December 1, 2016

Colorado Gives Day

December 6, 2016