



18th Issue – October, 2012

Building a world where all people can be happy

Fall has been a busy time for the Foundation. In addition to kicking off our effort to raise funds for the 2013 Volunteer Service Awards, we expanded our reach by co-hosting a panel discussion in Houston on Grassroots Approaches to Women's Economic Empowerment. The panelists were *AllPeopleBeHappy* partners Erika Vohman, founder of The Maya Nut Institute, working with women in the rainforests of Central and South America; Conor French, CEO of Indego Africa, working with artisan women cooperatives in Rwanda; and Quynh-Anh McMahan, Our Global Village board member and co-founder of Community Cloth, a Houston based organization which supports refugee women artisans. The panel discussion was moderated by Carolyn Watson, VP of Global Philanthropy, J.P. Morgan Chase. There was a standing room only crowd present for this thought provoking discussion co-hosted by the Foundation and Our Global Village. Attendees also had the opportunity to begin their holiday shopping early at the showcase of products offered by The Community Cloth and Indego Africa. Everything ran smoothly thanks to volunteers from J.P. Morgan Chase's Young Professionals group and the Rice chapter of MBA Women's International.



New Grants



A \$10,000 grant was awarded to **50 Cents Period (50CP)** and its partner in Uganda, **Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project (NAOP)**, to establish a reproductive health curriculum and menstrual hygiene management system for girls in the rural Ugandan schools operated by NAOP. The mission of 50CP is to empower women and girls to participate fully in education and civic engagements by eliminating the stigma and societal barriers surrounding menstruation through the provision of sanitary products, clean water, sanitation and women's health education. The program involves 1) modifying an existing curriculum such that it is culturally appropriate, 2) training the teachers, helpers, and grandmothers, 3) identifying a local source for sanitary products, and 4) evaluating the hygiene infrastructure at the schools and making any necessary changes.

AllPeopleBeHappy foundation can be reached at info@allpeoplebehappy.org or by mail at 1302 Waugh Drive, #257, Houston, TX 77019-3908

An \$8,725 grant was awarded to **Spark MicroGrants** for a micro-enterprise project in the village of Gahunga, Rwanda, involving 184 families. Rwandan college students have been working with the community to discuss the needs of the village and to strategize how to earn the funds to implement needed infrastructure improvements. The major portion of the



AllPeopleBeHappy grant will be used to purchase 184 goats. The villagers will sell goat products (e.g., manure, meat, offspring...) and save the income generated in a communal account. The first improvement they intend to fund is the installation of a water tap for the village. This is certainly one of the most unique efforts the Foundation has funded. We look forward to following the community's endeavors.

Volunteer Service Awards

This issue we'd like to feature the report of Molly Ortiz who spent her summer working with Ghana Act: **“Engaging Ghana’s Youth through Education and Sports:** With the help of the *AllPeopleBeHappy* Foundation, I had the incredible opportunity to volunteer in the Volta Region of Ghana for nine weeks this summer with Ghana ACT, a nonprofit service organization that provides volunteers the chance to live and work side by side local Ghanaians in their



communities, fostering cultural exchange through projects in Education and Community Development. Along with a classmate, Annelise Madison, I taught English, math, computer skills, and science at McColin’s Primary School, an institution serving underprivileged children in the town of Ho. We also started an after-school sports program and basketball team, and engaged with the local community in a variety of other facets, as

Ghana ACT allowed us the flexibility to explore the area on our own, making connections with locals and immersing ourselves in the landscape and culture. Over the course of the summer, I documented my experiences through photographs and blog entries, which highlighted everything from my initial expectations, to challenges faced and lessons learned, to the many joyful and inspiring moments interacting with the local children and surrounding community.” You can like *AllPeopleBeHappy* on Facebook to read the entire blog.

More reports from returning 2012 Volunteer Service Award recipients can be found under the Volunteer tab on the Foundation’s website www.AllPeopleBeHappy.org. This year’s recipient’s accomplishments were amazing. Help us fund 2013 Volunteer Service Awards by sending your tax deductible donations to AllPeopleBeHappy foundation at 1302 Waugh Drive #257, Houston, TX 77019-3908 or by donating on-line at <http://www.allpeoplebehappy.org/Donate.aspx>.

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