



22<sup>th</sup> Issue – October 2013

*Building a world where all people can be happy*

The Foundation is continuing to expand its efforts, since mid-September we have selected 7 new Volunteer Service Award recipients, renewed 2 project grants, selected 4 *AllPeopleBeHappy* foundation Fellows, and chosen 2 awardees for *AllPeopleBeHappy* Challenge Grants. If that weren't enough, the Fall 2013 public relations campaign class of the University of Houston selected *AllPeopleBeHappy* as their focus. We are very anxious to see their proposals for improving our communication efforts. Also in Houston, we are preparing for a visit from Deogratias "Deo" Niyizonkiza, founder of Village Health Works in early December. Finally we began our Annual Fund Raising Campaign. Please join in this effort by donating at [www.allpeoplebehappy.org](http://www.allpeoplebehappy.org) and helping us exceed our goal of raising \$50,000 by the end of 2013.

## Grant Renewal

A \$3,500 grant was awarded to **Cercle Social** to improve their existing computer lab launched in November, 2012 in the school of Tori Agouako, Benin. The main issue encountered during operating hours of the computer lab was the insufficient electrical power in the classroom. Classes were interrupted several times in the day due to intermittent power outages and low voltage. The computer lab will now use a generator to supplement the existing electrical power. They will also introduce a \$35 minicomputer called the Raspberry Pi, to gradually replace the traditional desktop PC. An experimental trial of this device gave successful results in 2012. Ten minicomputers will be deployed this year.



Last year we funded an innovative program designed by a new organization called **50 Cents Period** to develop a curriculum and provide hygiene facilities, support and supplies that will enable girls in Uganda to stay in school once they have reached menses. For the initial due diligence, they partnered with Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project Schools. An additional grant of \$7,655 has now been awarded to fund the next phase. Phase 2 aims to disseminate, implement, and replicate the reproductive health curriculum and training workshops designed as a result of the due diligence data collection and field site visits conducted during the first quarter of 2013. As their findings were so well-received, implementation and training has been requested at additional sites, such as Engeye Health Clinic, Come Let's Dance Clinic and School, Maka Pads, Sseko Sandal Factory, Uganda Red Cross Society Field Office, and Luwhahwa Youth Development Organization.



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## Challenge Grants

The challenge grant is a big step for our small foundation; a commitment of \$100,000 paid out over 3 years if the recipient organization can raise the matching funds from other sources. The intention was to help small organizations with proven track records “step out” to expand their programs. We were frankly surprised by the number of compelling proposals we received, but in the end we could only afford to select two: **Global Emergency Care Collaborative** will use the funds to leverage the training they developed for Emergency Care Practitioners in Uganda to work with a Kenyan medical school to provide similar training and certification, and **Indego Africa** plans to replicate their Rwandan program of providing markets and training for partner cooperatives of women artisan in Ethiopia. We look forward to watching these new programs blossom in the coming years.

## Returning Volunteers

Brittany Barb is a photographer, which made her assignment with Indego Africa different than other volunteer assignments. To paraphrase her report, it is said “A picture is worth 1,000 words” and she wanted those words to jump off the page with energy, happiness, and most importantly, a sense of empowerment and change that Indego Africa works so hard to promote. They work with over 500 artisans, helping to improve the lives of over 2,000 women,



children, and other dependents. With the tools and education they need to sufficiently run their own businesses, they are able to generate sustainable income for themselves and their families. "It can be a challenge to feel connected to the person you are photographing with a barrier of tripods, lenses and steady-cams working against you. However, I felt I was able to get to know the women I was photographing. By the end of six weeks I was no longer there as a spectator taking ‘snapshots’ of their daily lives; I was welcomed in and I could see each woman slowly open up to me in their own way." After her return to the US, Brittany was offered and accepted a full time job with Indego Africa.

Flannery McArdle, sponsored by **Face Aids**, worked as an intern with the Rwandan Minister of Health. “Three days after graduating from college I found myself on a plane on the way to spend 15 months in East Africa, the first two and a half months of which I would spend in Rwanda working for the Ministry of Health. I was overwhelmed, terrified, excited, exhausted, and emotional when I arrived in Kigali on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The next few weeks were a whirlwind of meeting with long time idols including the Rwandan Minister of Health and Paul Farmer...” Her report which is too long to print here ends with a wonderful quote, “If I came away with anything after this summer it is the answer the Minister gave to any question on public health in Rwanda. She said, “It is a fight of everyday, but our people are worth it... Despite the frustrations and the setbacks, the seemingly hopeless nature and perpetual persistence of diseases, corruption, poverty, and violence we keep fighting because our people, as citizens of the world, are worth it.”

