



*Building a world where all people can be happy*

*9<sup>th</sup> Issue July 2010*

***AllPeopleBeHappy Event in Boise:*** On June 23, 2010, we held our first ever information and fundraising event in Boise, ID, with 30+ attendees. After an overview of the Foundation's



work by staff, guest speaker Dr. Heather Hammerstedt, an emergency physician in Boise who co-founded the Global Emergency Care Collaborative, spoke about her recent trip to Uganda where *AllPeopleBeHappy* funds helped to support the work of building a new emergency department, and creating a sustainable training



program to help overcome the countrywide shortage of physicians. In addition, Lee Spangler of Bend, OR, who recently returned from a 4 month adventure volunteering at Amizade sites around the world, shared his amazing pictures, spoke about his experience volunteering with Amizade in Karagwe, Tanzania, and described the water harvesting project funded by *AllPeopleBeHappy*.

Special thanks to Kathy Supko and Margi and Neeraj Soni for arranging for the lovely Crane Creek Country Club venue, as well as donating the wine and hors d'oeuvres for all to enjoy. And of course for making it all happen, *AllPeopleBeHappy* Directors Usha and Yogi Soni.

***New Grants:*** For many years Nepal has had one of the highest rates of maternal mortality in Asia. **Friends of Nepal Pariwar Foundation**, for the past 3 years, has provided assistance for the salaries of five nurse-midwives in four rural clinics in Nepal, and for in-service training and transportation expenses for the nurse-midwives, through the Friends' partner organization in



Nepal, BBP-Pariwar. Starting this month, the \$5,000 grant from the *AllPeopleBeHappy* foundation will enable the Friends of Nepal Pariwar Foundation to hire 3 more nurse-midwives. In addition, one of the in-patient delivery



facilities in one of the clinics will be upgraded. The expectation is that, because of the 24 hour care now provided by 3 of the supported facilities, the government of Nepal will begin to subsidize their support by the end of 2010.

***Volunteer Service Awards:*** This past spring we invited organizations receiving *AllPeopleBeHappy* grants to submit applications for our new Volunteer Service Awards initiative. Our intention was to award four \$2,500 grants, but it was so difficult to select only 4 that Steve Swanson, one of our Directors, helped break the deadlock by contributing the extra money needed to award a 5<sup>th</sup> grant. The five winners are: Caitlin Newman, volunteering with **Amizade** in Tanzania; Ellie Kates, volunteering with **Indego Africa** in Rwanda; Jessica Bilecki, volunteering with **The Kossoye Project** in Ethiopia; and Huan Dong and Laura Reyes, volunteering with **Support for International Change** in Tanzania. Most of these volunteers have only just begun their volunteer service, but for Ellie Kates, the grant money enabled her to continue the work she began in January of this year. Below is a brief summary of Ellie's accomplishments so far:

“As an Indego Africa Project (IAP) volunteer in Rwanda, I spend significant time working



directly with the women at all three of IAP's partner cooperatives. We work together to develop products and new designs and we tackle all of the details that are required to complete international orders. One of the most challenging components of this work is translating Western definitions of quality and quality control into a rural Rwandan setting. My colleague and I run specialized quality control trainings because our objective

is to eventually remove ourselves from the process and allow the women to critique their own products. Though challenging at times, it has been incredible to see the women take ownership over the quality control process in their respective cooperatives and also to see the quality of their products improve. In this context, one of the most rewarding experiences I've had here was watching two of the women from one of our Indego cooperatives teach a separate cooperative about the importance of creating both high-quality products and a quality control system. They explained that high-quality products not only encourage customers to buy, but it can also lead to larger orders and international partnerships. It was truly wonderful to see how well Indego's partner women had come to understand this concept and how willing they were to help other women achieve the same understanding in order to improve their businesses.”



*AllPeopleBeHappy* foundation can be reached at [info@allpeoplebehappy.org](mailto:info@allpeoplebehappy.org) or by mail at 1302 Waugh Drive, #257, Houston, TX 77019-3908.