

Center for the Church and Global AIDS Action Newsletter

Spring, 2013

FOR MORE
INFORMATION:
[www.churchand
globalaids.org](http://www.churchandglobalaids.org)

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As a 501(c)(3),
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80112

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Nets, &
Water
Filters

HELP REBUILD A SCHOOL IN THE HEART OF KENYA'S SLUMS



Poverty, hunger,
disease, violence,
open sewage, and
polluted water
surround a new
school emerging in

the Riruta slums of Nairobi, *Carole Ann*
Kenya. If \$25,000 can be raised by Easter,
150 children can go back to school, where
they get their only meal of the day. "Four
years ago, I blessed a baby whose parents are
HIV positive," said Donald Messer, Center
Executive Director. "Last summer I met
Carole Ann again—she is ready for school
now. But where will she study?"



Nearly 150 children await their new school & daily meal.



SENATORS BOB DOLE & TOM DASCHLE JOIN CENTER BOARD AFTER DEATH OF GEORGE MCGOVERN

Two prominent Americans, former Majority Leaders of the United States Senate, Bob Dole (R-Kansas) and Tom Daschle (D-S.D), agreed to become co-chairs of the Center's International Advisory Board, following the death of the founding honorary chair, Sen. George McGovern. Vice President Joe Biden hailed McGovern as a patriot who fought AIDS, world hunger & stopped the Vietnam war. Daschle eulogized McGovern as a "humanitarian & a voice for the voiceless." Dole said "America and the world are for the better because of him."



Don Messer gave the closing prayer.

WORLD LEADER SPEAKS AT BRUNCH TO BENEFIT ORPHANS



South African AIDS activist and the executive leader of the World Methodist Council, Bishop Ivan M. Abrahams will keynote the 2013 "Spring Is A Time For HOPE" Brunch on April 13 at the University of Denver. Funds raised support over 200 AIDS orphans in Kenya. A gift of \$150 qualifies for two brunch tickets, thanks to a donor. HOPE stand for "Helping Orphans by Providing Essentials." Abrahams has described the AIDS pandemic in Africa as a "genocide of indifference" by church & society.



REGISTER NOW: CALL 303 877 1955 or EMAIL globalaids@gmail.com

GEORGE MCGOVERN: ENDING HUNGER AND AIDS

Donald E. Messer, Executive Director



(Celebrating George McGovern's 90th birthday with Statue of Liberty birthday cake in background, July, 2012.)

I deeply grieve the passing of a great humanitarian, statesman and long-time personal friend, former United States senator and 1972 Democratic presidential candidate, George S. McGovern. He was awarded America's highest honor, the Medal of Freedom, by President Bill Clinton. Right up until he entered hospice care and died peacefully, McGovern seemed to triumph over aging and to defy death. Most nonagenarians prefer a slower pace, but at age 90, he continued writing books and traveling the country delivering speeches.

McGovern's deepest personal and political passions were to end war, eliminate hunger, and end AIDS. In 2005, it was my unique privilege to co-author the book, "Ending Hunger Now: A Challenge to Persons of Faith" with former Senators Bob Dole & George McGovern. Even as his body became frail, McGovern's mind was still alert and active. In a visit just two weeks before his death, he expressed to me his

appreciation and encouragement for the work we were doing together on issues of world hunger and global AIDS through the Dakota Wesleyan University McGovern Center.

McGovern faced death without fear. He often recalled an audience with Pope John XXIII, recounting with quiet satisfaction how the Pope grasped his hand and said, "Mr. McGovern, when you go to meet your Maker and he asks, 'Did you feed the hungry?' You can say, 'I did.'"



(Available at www.amazon.com)



SUCCESSFUL MATCH OF \$15,000 CHALLENGE

December 2012 proved to be a record fund-raising month for the Center for the Church and Global AIDS. Participating for the first time in Colorado Gives Day, friends of the Center successfully matched a \$15,000 challenge grant in just 24 hours. One-third of the gifts came from 16 states other than Colorado. Over \$50,000 was raised in December for AIDS programs around the world.

1,168 PERSONS PROVIDED MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE IN KENYA

Thanks to gifts of \$2,500 raised at an AIDS Prayer Breakfast at St. Andrew United Methodist, Highlands Ranch, CO, 1,168 poor persons in rural Kenya received free medical and dental care. "Amazing what \$2 can do to save a life," remarked Rev. Kent Millard, the Prayer Breakfast preacher. "If only other churches would combine prayer and care, imagine what could happen?"



Singing at the Spring Brunch April 13, 2013

FIRST KENYA WOMAN BISHOP VISITS WITH AIDS ORPHANS



Bishop Catherine Mutua, Meru, Kenya, now leads the anti-stigma campaign, care program for 400 orphans, support groups for 850 persons living with HIV, and economic empowerment projects for women and children.

**HELP SUPPORT
AN ORPHAN
\$150 TO \$250**

2013 JOURNEY TO INDIA

AIDS tends to be overlooked in India, despite having 2,500,000 persons infected—the third largest in the



world. Why? Because it is a small percentage of India's one billion population, and the fact that most infected come from lower, neglected, impoverished castes. In March six persons from Colorado visited the AIDS programs funded by the Center in Chennai and rural Namakkal. Time was spent at the homes of child-headed households, visiting HIV clinics for women & children, and speaking at university seminars.

UPCOMING HIKE

IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

September 21, 2013

Embrace the beauty and grandeur of Colorado in the fall and join in a special hike to benefit persons infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. Bring the family!



HEAL (“Help to Eliminate AIDS in our Lifetime”) will be the theme of the morning's short climb amid the Ponderosa pines, granite boulders and open meadows of Three Sisters Park near Golden, CO. Contact the Center or Rhonda Dern at rhondadern@me.com for details.

SAVE THE DATE

**Swinging
at
AIDS**

*7th Annual “Best ‘Ball”
Golf Benefit
Denver City Park Course
August 13, 2013*



*Claudia Svarstad, chair of
2012 Swinging at AIDS,
congratulates Dan Bradley,
HOLE-IN-ONE winner!*

Golfers Register Early!

\$125

*covers fees, lunch, cart &
helps AIDS programs in
India and Colorado
globalaids@gmail.com*

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**Center for the Church
and Global AIDS**

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Your gifts bring
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INTEGRATED PREVENTION: DISTRIBUTE CONDOMS, MALARIA NETS & WATER FILTERS

For just \$25, families can be helped to combat malaria, HIV, and unclean water. In a new program being pioneered by the Center in rural Kenya, the Center will partner with the church and community organizations in distributing malaria nets, condoms, and family water filters. A volunteer team led by Bill Graf and Chad Roope hope to raise sufficient funds to help up to 2,500 families. Needed are individuals, churches, Rotary Clubs, and others committed to ending the scourge of widespread diarrhea, malaria, and HIV. Bishop Catherine Mutua of Meru,

\$25

Kenya, says “such an integrated approach has long been needed to help prevent infections and promote health.” Research in Zambia showed that giving HIV-positive mothers water purifiers reduced deadly diarrhea in children and adults by **53%**.

**How
Many
Families
Will You
Help?**

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