

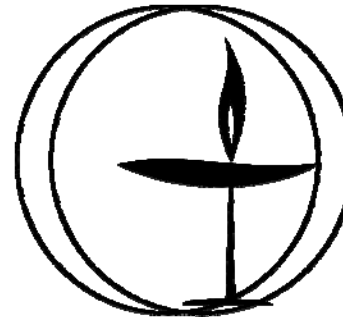
**11. Democratic Republic of Congo  
Relieving Rape Victims and their Children in the Eastern Congo**

More than 200,000 women and girls have been raped in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo since 1998. In most cases, these victims and their children are rejected by their communities, and the wives are abandoned by their husbands. Like their mothers, the invisible children of rape victims endure the same shame and live in extreme poverty.

The Association des Mamans Chrétiennes pour l'Assistance aux Vulnérables (AMCAV, or Association of Christian Mothers for Assistance to the Vulnerable) has been a pioneer in human rights, in particular for women, girls, and child victims of sexual violence in the Ruzizi region in the eastern Congo. For a decade, AMCAV has provided psychosocial care of 1837 women and child victims of sexual violence and 310 children born of rape. The association has done extensive work in community awareness about the victims' social and school reintegration. Each of its "listeners' houses" in five villages is administered by two counselors who understand problems of women in the community. AMCAV can provide daily counseling for up to 50 women and also provides shelter for a few of those women.

This project was selected by this year's 7th grade, session 2 RE class. Through one of our teachers, we now have a personal connection with AMCAV.

**A donation of any amount is gratefully accepted.**



*Cedar  
Lane*  
**UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH**

**Alternative Giving  
List of Program Choices  
2009 – 2010**



**Opportunities  
For  
Giving**

## 1. Afghanistan Adult Literacy Programs

*Enable enthusiastic adult Afghan couples to attend literacy classes together and develop the liberating skill of reading and writing.*

A full 90 percent of women and 80 percent of men in Afghanistan are illiterate. In part, this is the result of 25 years of civil war and massive displacement of the country's citizens, oppressive Taliban rule that prohibited women from studying and placed no emphasis on education for men, and a prior educational system that served mainly the country's elite but not the common citizenry. As liberated Afghanistan re-emerges into the modern era, great emphasis is being placed on children's education by international agencies and governments. The problem of adult literacy is not addressed adequately but presents a problem that is equally important.

Since the summer of 2002, **Kabultec, Inc.**, has been supporting adult literacy programs in and around Kabul, the nation's capital. Working with a local NGO, the Roquia Center for Women's Rights, Studies, and Education—operated by Nasrine Gross, president of Kabultec—classes are funded in the poorest neighborhoods and are designed to bring adult learners up to a fourth-grade level in twelve months. Classes are for couples only, and husband and wife must attend together. For every student, all expenses are paid, including transportation to and from the rented classroom. Kabultec also provides a salary to the qualified local teacher hired to teach the course as well as the teaching materials and overall management of the program.

The ability to fund classes comes mostly from donors, including Cedar Laners. The next Kabultec dinner and silent auction will be held at Cedar Lane on Saturday evening, January 23, 2010.

**\$40** pays for one student to study for one month

**\$120** pays for transportation for 20 students to reach class for one month

## 10. Global Literacy

This year's CL 7G, session 1 class is supporting international literacy and invites you to join them in their effort. The class believes that reading is crucial to opportunity. Specifically, they have chosen to support **The Global Literacy Project, Inc. (GLP)**, a New Jersey based nonprofit and tax-exempt [501 (C) 3] organization, conceptualized for the purpose of fostering community-based literacy initiatives throughout the world. The project's success is measured by individuals experiencing a shift of consciousness that dramatically and permanently alters their way of being in the world.

Working since 1999, the Global Literacy Project helps create community libraries, including collecting and distributing books and computers to developing nations. It also works with local communities to develop and sponsor structured literacy and educational programs that can be sustained and expanded independently.

The 7G session 1 kids are excited to help offer opportunities they enjoy to other children around the world.

**Any amount contributed will be put to good use by the Global Literacy Project.**

## 9. Ukraine

### Isolated Villages in the Chernobyl Region

Today much of the Ukrainian population in the area affected by radiological deposition from the catastrophic accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station live at a subsistence level in small isolated villages, growing most of their food on contaminated household plots. These villages are what remain of relatively productive Soviet collective farms prior to the Chernobyl accident. The children in these villages are greatly disadvantaged by the lack of resources to keep them healthy and to prepare them for participation in the Ukrainian economy and civil society.

Your contribution will go to the Ivankiv Chernobyl Center, one of five regional Chernobyl Centers, to support after-school and weekend programs for isolated village children, to supplement their diets with uncontaminated food and to provide warm winter clothing. The Ivankiv Center is the only organization responsible for serving the population closest to the destroyed Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

Transfer of contributions to the Ivankiv Center will be administered by Friends of Chernobyl Centers United States, Inc. (FOCCUS). FOCCUS has been recognized by the Ukraine Ministry of Emergency Services and Population Protection and by the United Nations Development Program—Chernobyl Recovery and Development Program as a partner in developing programs to support the psychological, social and economic recovery of the Chernobyl affected area of Ukraine.

**\$20** provides uncontaminated food for a family of four for a week or a wool sweater for a child.

**\$50** provides weekly enrichment activities for 10 to 15 children for one month.

## 2. The Gambia and Tanzania

### Promoting Solutions for Safe Water

*Help African families test for water-borne diseases and enable them to switch from wood-burning stoves to sustainable, safe solar cookers*

In equatorial Africa, contaminated water supplies are the cause of often-fatal diarrheal diseases, especially in children and those affected by HIV/AIDS and malaria. The traditional use of wood fires to boil water and prepare food creates health hazards from the toxic fumes and is also an economic burden. Cutting trees also accelerates erosion and dangerous landslides.

Now, by utilizing Solar Cookits (solar cookers) and a simple testing device, families can remain free of water-borne disease and decrease their dependence on wood fuel. **ADVENTURES IN HEALTH, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Inc . (AHEAD)** trains rural villagers to build, use, and teach other individuals to use the Solar Cookit. Women instructors can become self-sufficient through AHEAD's training and support. They present community-wide seminars on cooking, water purification, and water testing methods using solar power and Cookits. For every 50 new trainers, 800 families can learn to use the Water Purification Indicator (WPI) to test if water has been heated to a safe level in the Cookit. This simple change will save lives, protect their farmland from erosion and reduce CO2 to combat global climate change.

**\$33** provides training, two WPIs, and a Cookit for one family

**\$138** provides training and materials for one village group

### **3. Guatemala Pueblo a Pueblo**

*Help a T'zutujil Mayan boy or girl build a future of hope and health in rural Guatemala.*

Pueblo a Pueblo, Inc. is a nonprofit U.S. corporation that empowers Guatemalan individuals, organizations, and communities to improve their own lives by facilitating access to services, commodities, and financial resources. Pueblo a Pueblo links communities and individuals with shared goals, both locally and internationally, and believes that meaningful change requires the commitment and active involvement of the individual, community, or organization that will benefit from that change. The beneficiaries determine their needs and potential solutions, encouraging more culturally appropriate, effective, and sustainable interventions. Pueblo a Pueblo strives to deepen pro-social values (e.g., personal responsibility, self-respect, careful stewardship of resources, mutual collaboration). Pueblo a Pueblo also seeks to support the cross-cultural values of compassion, respect for others, and service qualities that must be cultivated if we are to create a world of greater equity.

During the mudslide in Panabaj, Guatemala, in 2005, the local school was destroyed. Many students perished, many more lost some or all of their family members. Many lost their homes and live in temporary housing. Their school has reopened, and Pueblo a Pueblo is supporting these children by providing school meals.

**\$20** provides 40 meals for children in Panabaj  
**\$100** provides 200 meals

### **8. Somaliland Edna Adan Maternity Hospital**

The Edna Adan Maternity Hospital in Hargeisa, Somaliland, is a nonprofit charity community hospital built by Edna Adan Ismail who donated her U.N. pension from the World Health Organization and sold her personal assets to help address the grave health problems that endanger the lives of women and children in the Horn of Africa.

Obstetric fistulas, which create holes inside women's bodies that leave them incontinent, odorous, often disabled, and shunned in their villages, are among the grave health problems women face throughout developing countries. Edna Adan Maternity Hospital has demonstrated that these injuries, which occur in difficult childbirths, especially in young girls, can be prevented and repaired.

In addition to services and facilities relating specifically to maternal and infant care, the hospital provides training courses (3-year general nursing classes, midwifery, laboratory techniques, first aid courses for school teachers, and computer literacy courses), diagnoses and treats sexually transmitted diseases including testing for HIV/AIDS, and offers facilities for carrying out studies and counseling with particular attention to the health problems associated with female genital mutilation.

**Friends of Edna Maternity Hospital**, a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization registered in Minnesota supports the hospital.

**Contributions of any amount are gratefully accepted.**

## **7. Transylvania (Romania)**

### **Support for the elderly in Dicsöszentmárton, Romania**

*Assist elderly partner church members confront the rising cost of living in Romania*

Members of our partner church community in Dicsöszentmárton, located in the part of Romania known as Transylvania, have a strong sense of family, community, and connection to the Unitarian faith.

Unfortunately, the city of Dicsöszentmárton, a former industrial center, is now in decline. Many factories that had employed members of the community have closed, unemployment is high, and the young people are moving elsewhere in Romania or in European Union to find jobs. At the same time, the cost of living is rising faster than old-age pensions. Our partner church community is rapidly aging, and many of the elderly now have only the church to provide the support that in previous generations would have come from an extended family network.

Our partner church actively supports elderly members of their congregation, but their resources are limited. Your contribution will help them provide this support.

**\$25** helps an elderly member of the Dicsö congregation pay for groceries for one month.

**\$50** additionally helps pay for heating costs.

**\$75** additionally helps pay for medical costs and transportation to medical appointments.

## **4. Haiti**

### **Trading Trash for Cash**

*Help Haitian families reduce their trash and improve their lives.*

In Port au Prince, there is a distasteful stench in this over-crowded capital from piles of smoldering rubbish. People burn their waste since there is no municipal trash collection system. The toxic smoke causes respiratory ailments and increased environmental problems. In a country where 80 percent of its citizens live in poverty, they are literally burning potential income.

**PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT (PID)** has discovered services in Haiti which pay cash in exchange for recyclable materials.

Unfortunately, without clearer communication, no distinction is made between trash and recyclables; all of it is considered trash. By providing training, materials and supplies, PID can help Haitians reduce their trash and improve their lives. The results will include fewer rodents to spread disease, cleaner water, and decreased air pollution. Most importantly, it can provide poor families potential income. For every nine pounds of recycling they could receive one dollar. To encourage long-term conservation, each family will receive a fruit tree for their own property which will provide better nutrition and prevent erosion, thus also reversing the effects of deforestation.

**\$6** provides promotional and educational training materials

**\$28** prepares one family for self-sufficiency by providing training, a fruit tree, and recycling bins

## 5. India

### Self-Employment for Women

Much of the labor force in India is made up of poor, self-employed women who earn a living through their own labors or by operating a small business. However, these workers are largely unorganized, unprotected, and unrecognized, leading to many constraints and limitations imposed upon them by society and the economy. The **Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA)** seeks to improve the status of these women by organizing them to achieve their goals of full employment and self-reliance. SEWA strives to ensure that its members obtain work security, income security, food security, and social security, including health care, child care, and shelter. It works through a strategy of struggle and development—struggle against the restraints encountered by the women workers, and development activities to strengthen their bargaining power and to offer new alternatives. In practical terms, the strategy is carried out through the joint action of unions and cooperatives. Gandhian thinking is the guiding force for SEWA's members in organizing for social change.

SEWA's supportive services, many organized and carried out by the women themselves as a source of self-employment, include savings and credit accounts, health care, child care, insurance, legal aid, capacity building, and communication services. Goods made by SEWA workers are now available online at [http://www.sewatfc.org/online\\_shop.php](http://www.sewatfc.org/online_shop.php)

SEWA is supported by the **Unitarian Universalist Holdeen India Program**.

**\$20** buys one share of SEWA's membership and supportive services.

**\$45** buys a complete set of books for a child care center.

**\$65** pays a teacher's salary for a month at a SEWA child care center.

## 6. Kenya

### Kakenya Center for Excellence School for Girls

Education for girls in the Maasai culture in Kenya is not a priority. Many families consider a daughter's education to be unnecessary and a poor investment. For those lucky enough to finish primary education, only a handful of girls ever make it to secondary school. Instead they are wed—young and uneducated—as children. Some 100 million young girls worldwide are expected to marry in the next decade.

Kakenya Ntaiya—the first woman from her village to attend and graduate from a U.S. college and now working toward a doctorate in International Education—sees a brighter future for Kenyan girls. In 2009, and with support from parents, the community, and the Kenyan government, she opened the first primary girls' school in her home region, with a class of 30 fourth-graders. In January 2010, as the first class advances to fifth grade, 30 new fourth-grade girls will be admitted. In addition to funding the new students, the school is raising money to build a dormitory so the girls will not need to imperil themselves by walking long distances to and from school each day.

Now attitudes toward girls' schooling in the region is changing, with many parents now eager for their daughters to acquire an education.

**\$25** buys one girl play clothes and shoes

**\$33** buys one girl books for one year

**\$50** buys one girl a complete uniform set (2 outfits)

**\$150** buys one girl's tuition for 6 months

**\$300** buys one girl's tuition for 1 year, including 2 meals a day