

**A Message from Marion....**



Dear RFFA Members and Friends,  
In this **September 2009** issue, we are talking about one large, public/private partnership- HIV Free Generation in Nairobi, Kenya - that involves Local and International Rotarians, the US President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief and a vast array of American leaders from Business and Industry. The project takes a multi-faceted and multi-media approach to reducing new HIV infections in youth by 50% within 5 years.

Another project, the Chongwe School in Zambia, again displays the power of partnership, this time between Rotarians For Fighting AIDS, Inc. and The Coca-Cola Africa Foundation. We hope you enjoy learning a little more about our current projects and the way we link Rotarians and partners to the needs of children in some of the poorest local communities in the world.

Warmest wishes to all,  
Marion Bunch  
Founder & CEO

**RFFA Awards Outstanding Achievement At Sixth Annual Meeting in Birmingham, England**

During the Rotary International Convention, RFFA Founder and CEO Marion presented the second annual Jerome W. Schutz HERO Award to Eric Krystal, Rotary District 9200 AIDS Officer and the RFFA Kenya Country Representative. During her presentation, Marion noted Eric's dedication and selfless service as RFFA's vital link between the international Rotary community and the orphan children on the continent of Africa. Eric led the in-country hosting and organization of Rotary's Medical Mission in three slum communities of Nairobi during September 2008. Facilitated through RFFA, this was Rotary's largest Medical Mission effort in history when nearly 10,000 orphans and vulnerable children were treated by professionals in an eight day period. The award honors Marion's son, Jerry, who died of AIDS in 1994.

RFFA's Corporate Partner of the Year was presented to Warren G. "Buck" Buckingham for outstanding service in the prevention of HIV/AIDS in youth through PEPFAR's "HIV Free Generation" program. RFFA serves as one of the partners to this program being piloted in Kenya. Buck is the Kenya Country Coordinator of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS relief. Buck was invited by RFFA and Rotary International to be the keynote speaker at the RFFA breakout session during the RI Birmingham Convention. His talk covered Public/Private Partnerships and their effectiveness for addressing critical health concerns of emerging nations. The award was presented at the session's end.

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**When the Youth of Kenya cry “Hope for the Future” Rotarians, RFFA and “HIV Free Generation” Program Partners Respond**



For youth in many destitute “casual” villages around Nairobi, “Hope for the Future” is a vision in which they have the ability and skills to obtain a job and become self-supporting - be a contributing member of their community. And, their vision includes good health with a body untouched by the HIV/AIDS virus devastating their friends and family members.

To many Kenyan youth, this vision appears more distant than dreams. They need secondary education or job skills training, but they can afford neither. They need to build self-esteem and learn to value themselves and others around them. They need to hear important messages about HIV prevention from leaders they respect or admire, as well as from their peers. And they need to avoid the risky behaviors that carry grave dangers for transmitting the virus that will later develop into full blown AIDS.

Reducing the rate of new HIV infections in the youth of Kenya by 50% over five years, is the great big goal of “HIV Free Generation” a public/private partnership sponsored by PEPFAR (The US President’s Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief). As one of the private partners, **Rotarians For Fighting AIDS, Inc.** represents both international and local Rotarians who are working to achieve this huge, challenging goal. Here is a snapshot of three programs all Rotarians, through RFFA, are undertaking as support to “HIV Free Generation” programs currently being considered for Nairobi.



**YOUTH EDUCATION: SECONDARY/VOCATIONAL SCHOOL LEVEL**



Supporting HIV-Free project goals, RFFA’s internationally donated funds are directed toward paying school fees (including uniforms and supplies) for secondary and/or vocational school educations only and targeted to specific ages defined by “HIV Free Generation” messaging.



International funding donated to RFFA, given through the **Nairobi Rotary Clubs**, totals approximately \$105,000 US, since the December 2008 kickoff of HIV-Free programs. All funds were donated or raised by Rotarians and designated for AIDS prevention and educational intervention.



**More ... Youth of Kenya HIV-Free Generation**

**LIFE SKILLS TRAINING COMBINED WITH HEALTH EDUCATION AT YOUTH SITES**



Rotary sponsored **Kidz Clubs** (funded by RFFA directed monies) are organized after school group meetings established in safe environments where youth can gather, learn and interact with their friends. (For a complete description of Kidz Clubs go to the RFFA website (<http://rffa.org/>) and click on Projects and then Kidz Clubs.

Within the HIV Free project parameters, model **Kidz Clubs** will be established at designated "G-Sites" (safe, sustainable locations featuring HIV/AIDS prevention messaging delivered by multi-media and supported with computer games, skills and health training sessions). HIV messaging is critical to every

learning component in these groups.

In addition, existing **Kidz Club** programs are being revised to maximize the interests, concerns and well being of girls. Training created by other private sector partners (e.g., Junior Achievement Entrepreneurship, or Intel computer training) will be included with the partner's permission for the groups of youth at these sites.



RFFA asks international Rotarians to fund **Kidz Clubs**. As a new model for the HIV-Free project, RFFA also asks individual, international Rotary Clubs to "**adopt**" a **Kidz Club in Kenya**. This plan creates closer links to a particular **Kidz Club** and fosters an ongoing partnership with the Kenyan Rotarians and their youth group.



RFFA Kenya asks that each Club in Nairobi sponsor **Kidz Clubs** and that local Rotarians volunteer at **Kidz Club** sites. HOPE worldwide



Kenya personnel mentor, manage and train leaders for the **Kidz Clubs**. For more information about how to sponsor a **Kidz Club in Kenya**, email [rffa.org@gmail.com](mailto:rffa.org@gmail.com)

Support the HIV-Free Generation in Kenya by helping RFFA. Go to [WWW.RFFA.ORG](http://WWW.RFFA.ORG) and click on any of the projects to find out how to help. Keep your support going and get our latest news by joining RFFA today!

The smiling faces of children and the knowledge that you are helping to bring hope to a new generation mean so much!





**More ... Youth of Kenya HIV-Free Generation**

**ROTARY'S COMMUNITY CORPS (RCC):  
UNITING ROTARIANS, KIDZ CLUBS AND HIV FREE GENERATION PROGRAMS**

**Rotary Community Corps** are young adult groups, from local Kenyan communities, who are training younger youth members of the same villages. The **Rotary Community Corps** is a proven, sustainable model created by **Rotary International**. **Rotarians For Fighting AIDS, Inc.**, is adapting RI's model to uniquely support HIV-Free Generation messaging and projects. **Rotary Community Corps** leaders will receive intensive training so they can, in turn, lead and manage **Kidz Clubs** in their local areas. In this way, local young adults are reaching thousands of youth with HIV Free lifestyle messages, organized community service spirits and Rotary resources combined with skills training. Most importantly, the entire process remains community based with peer to peer learning.



The training modules can and will be uniquely multifaceted, including psychosocial support, life skills, HIV health messaging, gender based awareness and issue resolution along with initial vocational skills training. **RFFA Kenya** will lead the way for the Kenyan Rotary Clubs to engage in this RCC model for HIV Free Generation. A one day training session on "How Rotary Clubs Mentor RCCs" will be held for local Club leaders on October 13, 2009.

**RFFA Kenya** will also lead the way by linking RCC leaders to potential job opportunities with and through local Rotary business leaders, thus providing one critical component of the "Hope or the Future Vision." RCC leaders may become gainfully employed in addition to the volunteer work they will do by managing **Kidz Clubs**.



**RFFA International** will expand the established RCC model by creating and/or adapting training modules enabling Rotary Club members to learn how to "mentor" and initiate an RCC group and integrate modules provided by other HIV Free private sector partners. The process of "youth teaching youth" offers so much opportunity for broadening and deepening HIV Free Generation programs that it is difficult to project all that can possibly be done. This is one more giant Rotary step toward turning the "Hope for

the Future "vision into a reality.

**Coca-Cola Spearheads the Chongwe Community School Project**



This project began when the immediate past Chairman and CEO of the Coca-Cola Company, Neville Isdell, visited Lusaka, Zambia, for another program in 2008. Since Neville was actually born in Zambia, he was encouraged to visit the Chongwe community where 240 orphan children were not allowed to attend the government school... just because they were orphans.

The Chongwe Community School was established in 2002 to address the educational needs of a growing number of OVC (Orphans and Vulnerable Children) due to HIV/AIDS and poverty. The school attracts students from 8 surrounding villages whose families have difficulty paying for school fees, uniforms, books and other educational material.



William Asiko Chairman TCCAF, Priscilla Banda RFFA ANCHOR Rep Zambia, Sherree Sherini TCCAF Program Director

As a result of his visit, Neville recommended to RFFA Zambia that both Rotarians For Fighting AIDS, Inc. and The Coca-Cola Africa Foundation further investigate the school's needs and develop a co-operative plan to improve conditions. Visiting teams saw that the school children are learning under very poor conditions, in buildings which are crumbling around them.



Income generating projects that could support some school activities are not being carried out due to lack of seed funding. The entire community needs to be engaged more fully and trained to provide better care and support for OVC.



Chongwe School Kid-powered water tower!

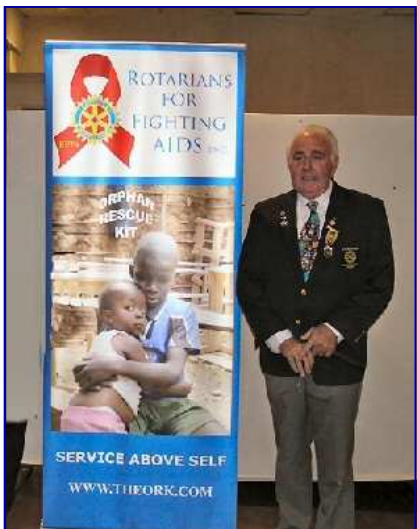
A situational analysis revealed the following needs: rehabilitation of the school and conversion of a chicken run into more classrooms, provisions of furniture and educational materials, and training for caregivers on subjects to help Orphans and Vulnerable Children.

Based upon the research, RFFA and The Coca-Cola Africa Fund both voted to invest \$30,000 USD each to begin Phase One of a school building program in Chongwe for these children. With that initial agreement, TCCAF made their investment. The project has begun. RFFA has raised \$16,000 USD to date toward their \$30,000 goal, and is looking for another \$16,000 USD in matching DDF funds.



**District 9700 Orphan Rescue Kit Challenge a Success!**

*By John Glassford Past President, Coolamon Rotary Club, D 9700 New South Wales, Australia*



Immediate Past District Governor Fred Loneragan and his wife Rae (2008-2009) chose the Orphan Rescue Kit as District 9700's signature project during his year. PDG Fred's message reflects his great passion for the world's vulnerable children. Here is what he said to all District 9700 Rotarians.

“Past District Governor John Eagan and Maria made Shelterbox their special project in 2007-2008. We have adopted the Orphan Rescue Kit as our special project. The Orphan Rescue Kit (ORK) is a concept that can be adopted anywhere in the world where children die from preventable diseases such as malaria, AIDS, polio and others. ORK embraces other well established Rotary International projects.

The first ORK initiative will be in Nairobi and Kenya where partners **Rotarians For Fighting AIDS, Hope World Wide** and **Coca Cola** work together with the Rotary Club of Nairobi to assemble and distribute ORK's to the children in the slums... particularly to the Mathare slums. After that, the ORK will go to other African countries such as The Ivory Coast, Malawi, Swaziland, South Africa, Botswana and Nigeria.

As District Governor, Rae and I were moved to do something positive in our year after hearing that 30,000 children die every day from preventable diseases that can largely be addressed through education, the provisions of food, school books and pencils to learn to read and write.

As we make our way around District 9700 in club visits, we are taking a short DVD which was initially made by one of the Kilimanjaro 28/8 climbers Mandy Watson... a DVD that features the children of the Mathare slums where our district will distribute the first ORKs. Rae and I will also have an Orphan Rescue Kit for you to see what goes into the package for rescuing orphans.



There is an ORK web site with news updates from Kenya where a few Rotarians from District 9700 are going in September on a medical mission with RFFA. These include Past Assistant Governor Marilyn Walters. <http://theork.com/>

Coolamon Rotary president John Glassford, who is involved with the Orphan Rescue Kit (ORK), is now a member of the Board of Directors for (RFFA), an international organization for Rotary members concerned about the HIV/AIDS pandemic. RFFA is a Rotarian Action Group (RAG), and was the first RAG to be approved by RI.

We all know what family means to each and every one of us. Growing up in loving homes, as most of us have, means being fortunate enough to experience many good things in our lives.

**More on District 9700 Orphan Rescue Kits...**

And, when young and in need, we always find that helping hand to guide our way. Not unlike D.K. Lee and wife Young, Rae and I have had the opportunity to nurture children and grand children, three sons and five grand-children to share Christmas, that special time of year for all families. ... As Christmas approaches what better gift could any club member think of giving than the resources to fight AIDS or provide Orphan Rescue Kits? May we wish you the very best that life, family and friends can shower upon you as we look forward to working with the members of District 9700 in the remainder of this Rotary year and beyond.”



D9700 Conference ORK Launch!

A year has passed since Fred and Rae Loneragan started the ORK awareness program throughout District 9700. After 42 visits to the Rotary clubs, PDG Fred has raised around US \$68,000 in donations from the clubs in our district. When these funds are added to the US \$25,000 raised by John Glassford on the “Killi Climb” and Rotary International’s Matching Grant of US \$12,500, **Rotarians in District 9700 have given nearly \$103,000 US to orphans and vulnerable children.** What an incredible challenge for the entire Rotary world. The funds raised will be going to RFFA’s Orphan Rescue projects in Kenya, the Ivory Coast and South Africa with matching grants from the Rotary Foundation if possible. PDG Fred and Rae Loneragan should be congratulated on a magnificent effort in achieving such a wonderful result.

**OUR PARTNERS**



United States President 's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR )



**Rotarians for Fighting AIDS, Inc.**

*A Rotarian Action Group*

**Marion Bunch, Founder & CEO**

**PDG Mark Doyle, Chair**  
*District 9250, South Africa*

**PDG Patrick Chisanga, Board Vice Chair,**  
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**Marketing & Communications**  
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**Peter Sotheran, Chief Information Officer**  
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**John Glassford, Board Member**  
*District 9700, Australia*

**Past ADG Olu Olowu, Board Member**  
*District 9110, Nigeria*

**Past RI Director and Past RI VP**  
**Mike McGovern, Board Member**  
*District 7780, USA*