

GO GO Grannies! FWIO supports the fight against AIDS in Africa!

The AIDS pandemic is ravaging the continent of Africa. The numbers of those afflicted and estimates of the spread of the disease are horrendous - almost beyond comprehension. There is no vaccine; there is only limited treatment. More than two million people die each year. The effects on every aspect of sub-Saharan life are shattering. – Stephen Lewis Foundation website www.stephenlewisfoundation.org

FWIO is asking Members to support the Stephen Lewis Foundation's "Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign". **Go Go Grannies** is an outreach project that supports 30 grandmothers who have buried their children and are caring for grandchildren with meager resources. It provides team-building activities for this group of elderly women who have been called to raise a second generation. Garden start-up materials such as seeds and fertilizer are provided so they can grow their own gardens to provide food and income. One time building grants and guidance to make home improvements for their growing families are available. An educational model to learn about mental health support for caregivers is also provided.

How can my Branch get involved?

- · Host a fundraising event
- · Ask each Member to make a donation
- Challenge another WI Branch to see who can raise more funds

Important Information

- · Branches submit donations to their Area
- Areas will submit the money to FWIO Provincial Office on or before March 1, 2007.
- Cheques should be made payable to FWIO and the memo line should reference the GO GO Grannies Project.

Much good work is being done to try to tackle the longterm structural and political issues. But women and children continue to suffer and die. We believe grass-roots efforts can help many who currently have no hope.

- Stephen Lewis Foundation website www.stephenlewisfoundation.org



In year two, FWIO will direct attention to the second phase of support for the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Program. Home-based Care Training of Trainers & Provision of Home Care. The program mobilizes and trains 42 people on home care support, sensitization in relation to awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS, behaviour change, community responsibility and reduction of stigma.

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