

## St. Anne's Episcopal Church Outreach Grants 2009

Annually, the Outreach Committee solicits grant proposals from members of the congregation to identify local projects or programs that focus on improving the lives of children, alleviating hunger, and/or focus on supporting systems which have tangible and sustainable impact on the lives of those served. In addition, international projects that support the Millennium Development Goals are also considered. Grants awarded in 2009 include:

### **Jennifer Mitchell Memorial Fund: \$1000**

St. Anne's was one of the founding congregations when the fund was established in 1990 to provide financial aid for college to students from South Lakes and Herndon High School. Recipients of the scholarships show a solid record of academic accomplishments in the face of special challenges in their lives. Connie Pettinger and Joanne Brownsword have represented St. Anne's on the selection committee, and report that the awards, though small, have an enormous impact on students' ability to continue their education. They also note that they themselves were transformed and inspired by the stories of the students.

### **Our Daily Bread: \$5000**

Our Daily Bread identifies and addresses the unmet fundamental needs of Fairfax area residents and empowers the community to help our neighbors maintain self-sufficiency. It provides food, emergency financial assistance, financial literacy training, holiday gifts, backpacks and school supplies to the working poor in Fairfax County. One of the main goals is to help working families avoid homelessness and hunger. Many of the clients are on the brink of homelessness or do not have enough money for groceries because of low paying jobs, recent layoffs, or medical emergencies and the need for these services has increased dramatically during the recession. This grant was awarded as part of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the work of Our Daily Bread.

### **Jeannie Schmidt Free Clinic: \$5000**

Founded in 2002, the Jeannie Schmidt Free Clinic provides free health services to patients with no insurance and a household income of less than 200% of the federal poverty level. Services include non-emergency care for children, and full medical care for adults with high blood pressure or diabetes in Reston, Herndon, Chantilly or Centreville. This grant helped support the move of the clinic to a new facility in January 2010. Members from St. Anne's helped paint the new space, pack and move equipment, build new shelving and cabinets, and sponsored one exam room. The new clinic is co-located with other non-profit groups, to create "Connections for Hope" with easy access to members of the community.

### **Dungannon Development Commission: \$1000**

St. Anne's has sent teens and adults to a summer mission in Dungannon, VA for 18 years. The mission focuses on building and repairing homes for low-income families and disabled and elderly people, but in recent years the participants have also helped with other projects, including bringing school supplies, and canned and boxed food for the

local food bank. The Dungannon Development Commission (DDC) is a non-profit, run by a board of volunteers who manage Project Help (housing program which our mission supported), the Food Bank, helping hands for the elderly, computer training, maintaining low-income rental property, and various health education programs. DDC recently sent a special request for support of the food bank and emergency funds, citing severe need exacerbated by the economic downturn. Beneficiaries are low-income Scott County residents or residents who have suffered a catastrophe (such as fire) and need emergency help. Food is distributed once a month.

**Stop Hunger Now: \$500 (Millennium Development Goal-MDG) Support)**

Stop Hunger Now is a Raleigh-based international hunger relief agency founded in 1998. Since that time the organization has coordinated the distribution of food and other lifesaving aid to children and families in countries all over the world. Stop Hunger Now has provided over \$56 million dollars worth of direct aid and 18 million meals to more than 70 countries worldwide. It has a four star rating from Charity Navigator, for sound financial management and effective use of funds. Stop Hunger Now provides aid in areas of greatest need, and often works in places other relief organizations don't, including Liberia. The \$500 donation will provide raw materials for 2000 meals.

**Cristo Salvador Children's Center: \$5000 (MDG)**

The shelter, run by Fr. Hipolito Fernandez and Cristo Salvador, opened in 2007 using the second level of the church. Currently, the shelter is run by a director, three teachers and a cook. The director accepts no payment for her services and the teachers and cook are each paid about \$200 per month. Forty-five children, ranging in age from 2-9 years, receive care at the shelter. Two meals per day are served to these children, plus the children of the workers and several elderly residents of the neighborhood. Approximately 70 people are fed each day.

Over 80 individuals from St. Anne's have participated on mission teams to this parish since 2004, and worked with this priest since 2001. A recent grant from the Episcopal Women's United Thank Offering has enabled the church to purchase and renovate the house across the street, to expand the shelter and better serve the community. This grant paid operating expenses (food, staff costs and supplies) for 3 months.

**Global Camps Africa: \$2500 (MDG)**

Global Camps Africa was started by Reston resident, Phil Lilienthal, in 2003 to address the AIDS epidemic in South Africa. South Africa has the largest HIV/AIDS infected population in the world, and it is projected that one third of 15 year olds will die of AIDS. Lilienthal established a 10 day residential camp where 10-15 year olds play sports, dance, sing, write about their lives, and create art. Boys and girls learn respect for one another and speak openly about sexual issues — a novel experience for most — and begin to break gender stereotypes. Lessons in proper hygiene, HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness, healthy sexuality, and nutrition are incorporated into daily activities in creative ways. Once they return home, lessons learned are reinforced in bi-weekly Kids Club activities, resulting in a lasting impact. Participating children are AIDS orphans and

or are HIV positive themselves. This grant sponsored enrollment in the camp for five children for one year, plus bi-weekly GCA Kids Club activities.