



AAA NEWS BRIEF – JANUARY 2009

END OF YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Your contributions keep us going!
Please send a tax-exempt check
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AIDS' addresses below**

Learn About African Action on AIDS (AAA)

AAA is a tax exempt non-profit organization registered in the USA and operating under section 501(c) 3 of the IRS code. It is also registered in Cameroon (auth. No 00174/A/MINAT/DAP/SDLP/SAC). It has special consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and the UN Department of Information.

AAA Mission Statement

We believe that no one is alone. We succeed when the youth we serve become agents of their own change and use their knowledge to change their communities.

We reach the youth of sub-saharan Africa whose lives are affected by AIDS.

We affirm that tomorrow's responsible parents are the knowledgeable youth of today.

We educate youth with the knowledge they need to stay alive, and teach them to share that knowledge with their peers

We build extended family support networks in local villages and communities to deliver security, food, education and healthcare to children orphaned by AIDS.

We create healthcare awareness by funding women and children's health.

Progress through networking & partnership

African Action on AIDS opens each year with a Networking Day, drawing attention to Solidarity and Collaboration as essential ingredients to progress and community building. Indeed, communication and cooperation among social actors not only strengthen participation, moral commitment and collective identity, but model such principles for target communities. Dialogue among actors increases knowledge, technical skills and facilitates the sharing of human resources, which all serve to broaden the dissemination of successful strategies, as well as lessons learned from the problems encountered. Dialogue can also safeguard limited financial resources and help resolve conflicts.

This year, we witnessed the creation of a "World without AIDS" Quilt – a collaboration comprised of the Women Quilters of Monterey (Massachusetts, USA), the Monterey Cultural Council, the Center for Peace through Culture (also of Monterey) and visionary youth in Cameroon.

The partnership between African Action on AIDS and the Batonga Foundation allowed us to renew twenty one (21) scholarships for secondary school and university girls, eleven (11) of whom passed the national official exams.

Furthermore, we strengthened AAA's concept and methodology of interpersonal conversations in the fight against HIV/AIDS. This led to the adoption of Mini Health Plans and the formulation of criteria for Mobilized/Responsible Communities with "FEK/PEK" or Wisdom. – This has been the fruit of the long standing partnership formed with UNAIDS, MIFED and members of CVECA (rural banks) in Cameroon.

During this year, we also launched our "Portable Drinking and Hand-Washing Stations" that promote potable water and hand washing as a human right for all. This successful low technology tool cemented different forms of partnerships that included MIFED, CVECAs, Association Camerounaise pour le Marketing Social (ACMS), and the Organization of African Intellectual Properties, making it possible for African Action on AIDS to be included in the report of the Ministry of Justice on human rights activities and also listed as one of the private organizations caring for vulnerable children in Cameroon.

While AAA continues to work in the same direction with all its partners, we would like to thank our dedicated Board Members, our Supporters, Partners and Staff, without whom the achievements of this past year would not have been possible, and who are the ones who will make all of our future work possible.

We wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year 2009!

Ruth Bamela Engo
President of AAA

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**Pictures of
AAA &
partners'
activities, as
well as AAA
innovation**



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