



AAA e-NEWS BRIEF –JUNE 2013

DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD: EMPOWERING GIRLS TO BE AGENTS OF CHANGE NOT OBJECTS OF AID

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. No00174/A/MINAT/DAP/SDLP/SAC). It has special consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and the UN Department of Information.

AAA's work is based on 3 programmes:

"JUST KNOW" Campaign emphasizes:

- Knowledge of one's body
- Knowledge that leads to behavior change
- Knowledge that helps to visualize a future without AIDS

"Health before Wealth" Concept promotes:

- Testing for HIV
- Clean hands (hand washing stations)
- Clean water (drinking stations)
- Dignified toilets
- Fighting against Malaria (treated mosquito bed nets)
- Vaccination
- Anti worms medicine

"Women's economic autonomy" through our Scholarship Programme. This scholarship enables each teenage orphan girl to complete at least a secondary, general or technical education that will lead to financial and economic autonomy, greatly reducing the risk of being infected with HIV through sexual abuse and violence.

Girls' Rights are Human Rights! Growing up healthy and educated has a direct effect on girls' ability to become effective caretakers and providers for their families, while positively affecting communities locally and globally. Consequently, investing in girls at an early age has become an extremely effective development strategy. A World Bank study coordinated by George Psacharopoulos and H.A. Patrinos on *Returns to Investment in Education (2002)* highlights the tremendous impact of girls' education. For example, girls who have more access to educational opportunities will ultimately increase their chances for higher earnings. Also, it has been found that an extra year of education for a girl can lead to an increase in wages of up to 20%. Other studies have found that countries where women are paid salaries closer to or equal to that of men have stronger economies and respond better to development indicators. The increase in wage means a decrease in sexual abuse and violence based on economic needs. Sending vulnerable girls to school is AAA priority because not only is it a big part of HIV/AIDS prevention, it is an effective development strategy. Join us to make a difference!

Ruth Bamela Engo, President, AAA



Highlighting the bold advocacy of NGONO ONDOUA (Ecole Primaire Bilingue Noula, Yaoundé) and her friends on Children's Rights /Droits des Enfants: **a) Le droit à l'égalité sans distinction fondé sur race, religion ou sexe; b) Droit à une éducation gratuite et sans discrimination; c) droits à une alimentation saine, à un logement et aux soins médicaux.**



Girls as agents of change (Ecole Primaire Publique, Mengang) contributing to keeping their school beautiful and clean – They call themselves Camionneurs /Truck drivers!



NDIFOR SYLVIE (PNEU School, Yaoundé) ends primary school education with 98% in Maths!

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