



HIV/AIDS PREVENTION: THE CONCEPT OF 21ST CENTURY DONOR

Your contributions keep us going! Please send a tax-exempt check payable to one of African Action on 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/SD LP/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" MA YEM, MA BO":

- 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 medicin

"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.

The 21st Century Donor, a concept forged by AAA, emphasizes individual and collective responsibility of members of each community. It clarifies that, whereas community poverty aggravates the vulnerability of each member, a small contribution from each member aids in the removal of common barriers to well being and sustainable development. This perception leads to self-respect, self confidence, community honour and dignity. By placing the contribution of each community member at a minimum of 10 CFA francs or 2 US cents, per day for 365 days, the 21st Century Donor concept allows **Anyone** to **Donate** and be part of the **Solution**. We chose to bring up this concept for the beginning of a new academic year, because parents and communities in charge of sending vulnerable children back to school are going through extreme anxiety. At the time I write this page, I am holding a list of **23 books for a fourth year secondary school child (3^{ème})**. The cheapest book on the list costs 3200CFA francs, while others go up to 10 000 CFA francs. This huge book cost is in addition to the Tuition and others essential school furniture.

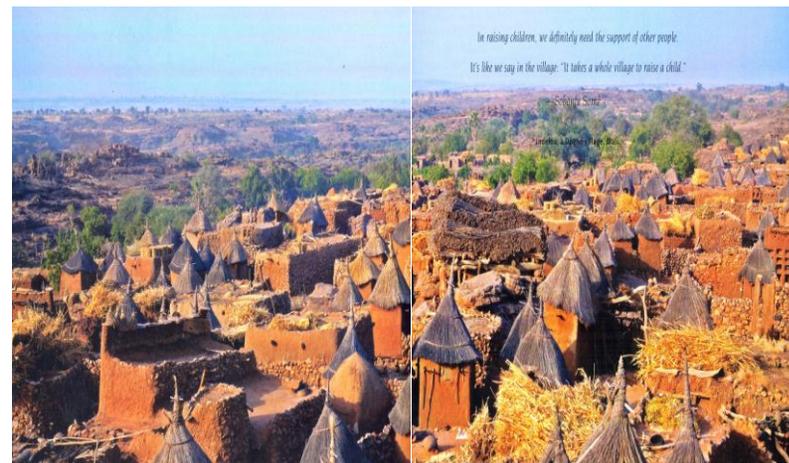
While we advocate for a shorter book list and the development of more well-run libraries in schools where children could find the majority of books needed for their education, we still believe that communities could use the 21st Century Donor concept as described above, to buy books/note books/pens/pencils etc... in BULK, ensuring that many more children leave the street!!! Fortunately certain groups like **Work and Philanthropy Foundation in Donga Mantung** are not only buying into this concept, but actually implementing it (See Table below July 20 16)

LAUNCHING OF THE TWENTY FIRST (21ST) CENTURY DONOR

Drawing inspiration from the African Action On Aids, we thought it wise to create a network of donors (which is an inclusive network of people from all the strata of the society), who will be willing to donate ten francs (10)FCFA a day to support the vulnerable in enclave communities, refugee camps and disaster stricken areas. Going by this, an individual will be able to contribute 3650FCFA in one year. Imagine a network of 1000 members, we can be able to raise 3.650. 000FCFA. This can assist in many ways in community development. This will also cause many to participate effectively and directly in development and not only point accusing fingers at others.

HAPPY NEW ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017

Ruth Bamela Engo, President, African Action on AIDS



LESSONS FROM AFRICA'S WISDOM:

- 1) In raising children, we definitely need the support of other people: "It takes a whole village to raise a child" (Sobanfu Some);
- 2) In African societies, the pauper is the individual without a community, since the spirit of family and principle of reciprocity work to mitigate economic structures via network of social relations (Jean-Marc Ela);
- 3) When you don't have community, you are not listen to. You don't have people to affirm who you are and to support you in bringing forward your gifts. This disempowers the psyche, making you vulnerable....(Sobonfu Some) .

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