



Charlotte's VISION

World Vision

w o m e n o f v i s i o n

Women of Vision Charlotte Chapter www.womenofvision.org

Winter 2005

Reflections

Dear Partners,

As we move into the New Year, we find ourselves more than half way through a full, eventful and informative year! Our theme, *Focus on the Vision*, has hopefully given us all a clearer image of the big picture of the incredible role the entire World Vision organization has in transforming lives. Never could we have imagined the impact and image World Vision has all over the world if not for the reports about their work with the victims of the tsunami in Southeast Asia. World Vision has worked in that region for over 40 years and was assisting victims within hours of the devastating earthquake and resulting storm surges. Your prayers for relief and your contributions of dollars have made a difference. How powerful it is to know that an organization in which we are involved can make such a difference.

The remainder of our year for the Charlotte Women of Vision is very important, especially the *Fundraiser* in February and the *Fundraiser* in April. Be thinking now of friends you can bring to each of these events. Our partnership has committed \$110,000 for our projects in Ethiopia and Charlotte this year, and we need your commitment to fulfill this pledge! Your invitations to each of these special gatherings will come to you soon.

Mark your calendars now for the remaining meetings this year, get informed, and get engaged. Most of all, thanks for everything you do.

Love to each of you,
Ginny and Velva

WORLD VISION UPDATE:

Tsunami Response Focuses On Relief Effort, Re-Development And Ongoing Involvement In The Many Affected Areas

Having just returned from a World Vision Board Meeting, Charlotte WOV founding partner and WV Board Member Deborah Harris shared the latest WV response to the international tsunami disaster at the January partnership meeting. As the death toll continues to rise, it is estimated that more than 5 million people have had their lives turned upside down by the earthquake and ensuing tidal waves that followed. World Vision has pledged to raise \$100 million for disaster relief.

Thankfully, World Vision already works in 10 of the affected countries, and with 40 years of experience in the region, World Vision workers come alongside struggling villages with sustainable, long-term, transformational community development programs supported by life-changing child sponsorships. The staff around the world has been mobilized to respond to this horrendous disaster, with close to 4,000 WV employees working tirelessly to help hurting children and families. WV was able to begin responding within hours, providing food, shelter and care.

Airlifts are scheduled for Indonesia and Sri Lanka, and three already have landed carrying hundreds of tons of relief supplies. It is estimated that approximately 1.8 million people are in need of food aid. The hardest-hit countries are Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, and Thailand.

The response is beginning to shift from the basic necessities to cleanup, prevention of disease, rehabilitation, and importantly, the protection of children who have been made vulnerable by this tragedy. World Vision is establishing children's centers in each country to help meet the physical and psychological needs of young people.

Other needs to be met in the coming weeks and months include providing temporary and long-term shelter, repairing water supplies, rebuilding schools, helping families with income-generating activities, and providing for health care needs. World Vision differs



Chairmen Ginny Shaw and Velva Woollen welcome Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam to the October gathering.

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Knoxville Mayor Shares WV International Perspective at November Gathering

On November 10, Charlotte's Women of Vision gathered at Queens University to explore God's vision for His people through World Vision, from the international perspective. The evening began with a reception for partners, husbands and invited guests.

Deborah Harris introduced speaker Bill Haslam, Mayor of Knoxville, Tennessee and fellow US World Vision Board member, and his wife, Chrissy, as people who had allowed themselves to "step in and be swept away in the currents of God's purpose to change our lives."



Catherine and Quincy Collins attended the reception before Mayor Haslam's address.

Mayor Haslam recounted how he first learned of World Vision at age 19 when he read a magazine advertisement for child sponsorship. He began sponsoring a child, and after many years of involvement

and increasing support, he eventually became a World Vision Board member. Haslam explained that World Vision seeks true transformation where children, families, and their communities become healthy, productive and self-sufficient.

He identified five reasons why he believes in World Vision:

1. **"It works and it's effective."** Haslam explained that in many organizations, there is too much distance between intention and action. At World Vision, Mayor Haslam stated, "there is no waste . . . Lives get changed and a real difference happens."
2. **"The philosophy makes sense."** World Vision looks at changing lives holistically. "There is no point in providing health care without clean water. There is no point in having clean water without a food supply." Haslam believes that this holistic view of how to attack problems is what makes World Vision successful in not only providing for immediate needs but in making positive change sustainable.

"The mind, once expanded to the dimensions of larger ideas, never returns to its original size."

- Oliver Wendall Holmes

3. **"They deal with real problems."** "The problems addressed by World Vision are too serious to avoid," stated Haslam. "HIV/AIDS in Africa is the biggest health issue in modern history. There are three 9/11's every day in Africa."

4. **"They can see around corners."** "They skate to where the puck is going to be," he said, using a sports analogy. "World Vision has a lot of people on the ground who can see how to get ahead of the next issue."
5. **"The people of World Vision are committed to the big story and it's not about them."** "As a Christian, there's good news and bad news. The story is not about us, but we're part of a way bigger story. The people of World Vision are committed to the big story and it's not about them. They are part of the bigger picture [God's plan]," Mayor Haslam explained.

Dr. Leighton Ford, a fellow World Vision Board member, and Mayor Haslam closed the program with a brief question and answer session, followed by a closing prayer led by Dr. Ford.



Lynne Gregory, Virginia Davis and Ann Thomas share fellowship at Queens University in October.

Tsunami Relief

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from some other relief organizations in that it will stay in these affected areas to ensure that relief efforts and re-development occur in a responsible, effective manner over the months and years to come.

How You Can Help:

1. Pray!
2. Contribute, and also write letters and ask others to contribute to World Vision:

Make checks payable to World Vision and mail to:
World Vision

Incoming Mail MS110

PO Box 9716

Federal Way, WA 98063-9716

When using a credit card:

1-888-562-4453

Sharing the Good News:

2005 PROJECT/TEAM UPDATES

Ethiopian Trip Team:

Deborah Harris commissioned the Trip Team at the January 12 partnership meeting, asking team members to "keep a quiet center" during their 10 day journey, and asking all partners to keep the team in their prayers each day.

Trip team members each shared one word to represent the emotions they were feeling as they embark on what is sure to be a life-changing experience. During the trip they will visit the World Vision/Ethiopia office, travel to the Bosset ADP, see an urban ADP in Addis, and visit the Fistula Hospital. They also hope to meet with their sponsored children in the area. Partners also shared specific prayers for the team, and will look forward to hearing their full report at the March Partnership meeting.

Fistula Hospital-Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

How you can help: Mail a Joy Box!

New partner Sue Makepeace shared the idea of Joy Boxes with friends that she invited to her Christmas party, and asked that they bring contributions to her party. The results were overwhelming!! Sue now has LOTS of worthwhile things to fill joy boxes, but needs all of our help to get them mailed. So, be sure to come to the March partnership meeting, take a filled box that Sue will have there, and mail it on to Ethiopia. This will be a great way for all to participate in this very important effort. All mailing information will be provided at the meeting. Thank you, Sue, for making all this happen!

Harvest Center, Charlotte

The Harvest Center -- a place of HOPE, encouragement and nourishment! The January partnership meeting focused on the many uplifting things that are



Ethiopian Trip Team Members Terri Hart and Toler Edwards, Co-Chairs; Virginia Davis, Sue Makepeace, Bitsy Martin, Peggy McBryde, Leah Semones, and Ginny Shaw are commissioned at the January meeting.

taking place in this inspiring ministry, where currently 30 WOV partners serve!

Dawn Barnes of the Harvest Center (and also a WOV partner) introduced a new DVD presentation, sharing the powerful, personal testimonies of men and women who attend the Center. Their lives are truly changed through God and through this ministry, as faith, hope and love are shared with all who come.

Hot meals are served to 200 three days a week, bagged groceries are distributed, a clothes closet helps those in need and classes and tutoring are offered to both adults and children. The greatest needs are donations, financial support, volunteer help, and always -- our prayers. Rosa Marion, for whom Rosa's House is named, introduced current House resident Lugenia McCall, who shared her inspiring life story and testimony through a beautiful, heartfelt song.

What's New: The knitting classes being held in January and February will be followed by sewing classes beginning in March.

How you can Help: Donate knitting needles (size 10 1/2 to size 16), yarn (worsted or medium weight), thread, fabric scissors, a sewing machine (loan or donation). Help teach the classes on Tuesdays from 10:30-12 (any help is appreciated!).

Call: Linde Mullis (704/552-8005) or Theresa Hall (704/759-1576).

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Sharing the Good News:

2005 PROJECT/TEAM UPDATES

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Vision Appalachia, West Virginia

Marion Philpott, Co-Chair of the Vision Appalachia Task Force, announced in January that the Task Force recommends the Charlotte partnership support the Kid Reach program and the Teen Reach program that are part of World Vision's Vision Appalachia work in West Virginia. The programs will include mentoring, establishing a nursery and teaching classes to young mothers.

Ruston Seamon, Executive Director, Vision Appalachia, shared with the partnership at the January meeting that the basic approach of the program is "development through people, finding root causes and working from the ground up to solve them." "Women's ministries," he added, "can play a big role in helping the community."

Donna Seamon, Ruston's wife, also traveled to Charlotte in January to share with the partnership. She spoke movingly of how at 33 she was a "new Christian" and found herself on a mission trip in Chestnut Ridge. She got to know the residents personally, and felt that God wanted her to enter into deeper relationships with them, but not take on all of their problems on her own shoulders.

"The ordinary things are what's important,"

Donna said, and Women of Vision provides lots of extra support, letting she and Ruston do the work they do in the area. "I cover your prayers," she said. "They bring hope, and sustain us in our work."

How you can Help: Donate children's clothing, ages 5-12, and coats, hats and backpacks. Call Marion Philpott (704/377-1280) or Anne Dowd (704/843-5968) with questions, or to see how you can become involved in this project.



Vision Appalachia Co-Chairs Anne Dowd and Marion Philpott welcome West Virginia's Vision Appalachia leaders Ruston and Donna Seamon to Charlotte.

Welcome new Partners!

Congratulations and welcome to the following women, who upon completion of the Fall Cross Cultural Study have accepted the invitation to become Charlotte Women of Vision Partners: Dawn Barnes, Donna Beatty, JilJane Brace, Nan Bracy, Barret Butler, Cathy Campau, Marilyn Chambers, Jo Clark, Dixie Denney, Stewart Gordon, Jane Grosse, Lyness Henson, Lou Jones, Scottie Lindsay, Sue Makepeace, Kay Norris, Isabel Owen, Jackie Pitts, Barbara Poovey, Shane Randle, Marion Shields, Laura Stevens, Irene Trotter, Agnes Weisiger, Julie White, and Bindy Woerner.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Fundraiser

February 16, 2005 - Noon
Quail Hollow Club
Speaker: Kimberly Tegarden
National Director, Corporate Responsibility
World Vision

Partnership Meeting

March 16, 2005, 1-2:30 p.m.
Myers Park Presbyterian Church
Luncheon before meeting at home of
Esten Mason, 1550 Queens Road
Ethiopian Trip Team report

Fundraiser

April 12, 2005, evening
Myers Park Country Club
Speaker: Steve Stirling
Children in Crisis Advocate
World Vision, and former
Sponsored Child

Child Sponsorship Focus Of October Partner Meeting

Continuing with the overall theme for the year — “Focus on the Vision”, the October Partnership meeting stressed the importance of Child Sponsorship. Houston WOV Co-Chair and Child Sponsorship Chair Anne Grizzle spoke movingly of her visit to El Salvador where she had the opportunity to see first hand how well World Vision investments and resources are used in Area Development Projects (ADP’s).

“Child sponsorship is the engine that makes the ADP’s run,” Anne said. “They are the heart of what World Vision truly is. It has to do with relationships, and offers all of us the opportunity to participate. Relationships are at the heart of the gospel.”

“By sponsoring a child we can write and the child can write back. We can pray for them and we can visit them, if possible.” Anne continued, “Like the ‘Narnia Tales,’ we soon become part of the story.” She challenged us to not only sponsor a child ourselves, but to think who else we know that we can share the “good news” of child sponsorship with and then encourage them to participate: “God’s mystery of multiplication.” By giving just \$30 a month — not much for us — a child’s life will be changed.

Several Charlotte partners shared their personal stories with child sponsorship involvement: Catherine Collins, who has sponsored a Chinese girl for 2 ½ years, Velva Woollen, who sponsors two children in Mali and has gotten her own grandchildren involved, and Barrett Ranson, who helped obtain medical help and special schooling for her child.

Marcy Choate and Bev Hance chair Charlotte’s Child Sponsorship committee. As of January, 2005, the Charlotte WOV partnership sponsors 151 children in Ethiopia and Mali.



Bev Hance and Marcy Choate, Child Sponsorship Co-Chairs.

If you currently sponsor a child, you can keep in touch by email! Just log on to www.worldvision.org/emailmychild — have your child’s full name and ID number handy. Write your message and click “submit”. It will arrive at World Vision’s national office in your sponsored child’s country. There the staff will translate and deliver your message to your sponsored child.

How you can help: To learn more about becoming a sponsor, contact Marcy (704/347-1189) or Bev (704/366-1599).



Anne Grizzle shared the importance of Child Sponsorship.

World Vision/Charlotte Women of Vision 2004-2005 Board

Chairmen
Ginny Shaw
Velva Woollen

Harvest Center
Theresa Hall
Linde Mullis

Vice Chairmen
Betsy Brand
Frannie Martin

Fundraising Event
Posey Mealy
Susan Rankin

Secretary
Esten Mason

International Ministry
Toler Edwards
Terri Hart

Assistant Secretary
Peggy McBryde

Nominating
Peggy McBryde
Ann Thomas

Treasurer
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Partnership
Mary Clifford Boyd
Anne Ranson

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WOV Newsletter
Carolyn Killingsworth
Allison Callicott Ortlip

Spiritual Nurture and Prayer
Gaye Law
Suzanne Sloan

Child Sponsorship
Marcy Choate
Bev Hance

Charlotte WOV Chapter
Consultant
Joan Wright

Cross Cultural Study
Abbie Boggs

World Vision Representative
Deborah Harris

Education
Catherine Collins
Katy Shoemaker

Christmas Message Shared At Holiday Coffee



Jean Ford shared personal thoughts and a message of Christmas faith and hope at the Charlotte WOV Holiday coffee on December 8.



Posey Mealy, (L.) graciously opened her lovely home to coffee guests. Co-Chairs Velva Woollen and Ginny Shaw thank her for her generous hospitality.



WOV partners gathered in Posey's living room and listened attentively as Jean Ford spoke.