



Dining for Women

Changing the World One Dinner at a Time.

INSIDE DFW PROGRAMS: YOUR FEBRUARY UPDATE

February Featured Program

Midwives Save Lives, Midwives for Haiti

Training for skilled birth attendants to reduce the high rate of maternal and neonatal mortality



Marie-Ange Esaie, a midwife educated by Midwives for Haiti, gives medication instructions to a young mother. The medicine is for the pregnant woman on the right who is blind.

Haiti has the highest maternal mortality rate in the Western Hemisphere. **Midwives for Haiti** focuses on maternal and neonatal health, addressing a real need in Haiti while providing training and a well-respected vocation for many women. Graduates of the 10-month training course are taught to identify and treat many complications of pregnancy and birth, and are in very high demand in rural villages and local hospitals. They are also the health care providers of the mobile clinics operated by Midwives for Haiti which serve 400+ women a month.

The DFW grant of \$50,000 will support:

- Training for 10 new skilled birth attendants
- Prenatal care and delivery for 1,520 women from new skilled birth attendants
- Prenatal exams for 3,000 women in rural villages
- Identification and referral to obstetrical care of 43 high-risk pregnant women
- Emergency transport to hospital for 16 pregnant women
- Malaria treatment for 15 pregnant women
- Intestinal parasites treatment for 768 women

Every month, our program team produces detailed information on the featured program including a program presentation, detailed fact sheet and key issues for discussion, content to help you understand the country and culture including recipes, books, films, music and art and native crafts and products. Often, a video from the featured program is available for streaming or download.

For a more in-depth look, see all our excellent educational materials.

FEBRUARY SUSTAINED PROGRAM FUNDING

Matrichaya, India

Training of women for self-sustenance

Matrichaya is dedicated to bringing about socio-economic change through the education of women and children living in slums and rural tribal areas of Ranchi district, in the state of Jharkhand, India. DFW's sustained funding grant will support Matrichaya's Health, Occupational Preparedness and Education (HOPE) initiative. The health awareness programs will target health challenges faced by women through educational outreach, including health awareness camps and free outpatient clinic services. Vocational training programs include a variety of trainings including garment making and fashion design. Literacy education is geared toward legal empowerment.



Matrichaya has been supported by DFW as a Featured Program since 2005 receiving six grants for a total of \$90,928. Matrichaya was last featured in January 2011.

DFW will provide a grant of \$15,000 each year for 3 years, totaling \$45,000 of Sustained Program Funding.

OUR IMPACT

In 2012, Starfish One by One launched the BRIDGE Program with DFW's support of a **\$47,382 grant**. This project creates job-readiness among indigenous high school girls whose families have never held roles in the formal economy. To date, over 30 young women of the 76 anticipated now have experienced their "first job" in a formal setting through the DFW-supported "Foot in the Door" program that matches students with local non-profits. In 2013, they will continue to pioneer new paths for indigenous women in Guatemala.



To read more about Starfish's interim progress, please [click here](#).

HESHIMA KENYA - UPDATE

We are distressed to learn of the recent action taken by the Kenyan government with regard to refugees in Kenya. Although our grant funds have not yet been disbursed to Heshima Kenya, our January 2013 program, we asked Anne Sweeney Co-Executive Director of Development & Advocacy for Heshima Kenya, to tell us how these changes are impacting Heshima Kenya. Anne writes from Kenya:



"Kenya is home to the largest refugee population in the world. The conditions in the refugee camps are devastating, and over 100,000 refugees have found their way to Nairobi where only a handful of organizations like Heshima Kenya exist to support their needs. Due to growing insecurity in Kenya, the Government of Kenya issued a directive in December that all refugees should relocate to the camps.

More than ever, Heshima Kenya's programs continue to be a lifeline for the girls we support. Our staff is working overtime to ensure that all the girls and young women are protected and have remained safe. As of early February, the hostility against urban refugees has mitigated and we are working with the United Nations, partner organizations, and the Government of Kenya to support recognition that extremely vulnerable children and young women are a population that should be exempted from relocation. The High Court of Kenya also believes the directive to be unconstitutional and is currently reviewing whether the directive will hold. Despite the directive, all girls have attended our programs on a daily basis and it is business as usual -- participants relayed that they are not going to let this stop them from receiving an education."

DFW will remain in close communication with Heshima Kenya prior to disbursing grant funds.

MEETING IDEAS

Need some new ideas for your chapter meetings?

- Quiz your chapter about the program before you begin your presentation (that will really keep them engaged!) Or quiz them at the end of the presentation by making it fun or competitive to keep your members on their toes!
- Face these challenging issues through storytelling. Using a Food for Thought discussion question, start your meeting off by reading the question and answering in the form of a life story about a girl/woman being served. Use information from the document that addresses the issues and circumstances she is facing to make the issues feel real to your audience.
- Spark discussions at each dining table or eating area, using one of the Food for Thought discussion questions. For each table or area, print a question on a slip of paper and ask members to read and share their thoughts. This is a great opportunity to discuss issues the women and girls we are supporting face in their lives. Time permitting, share at the end of the meeting.
- Bring the women's and girls' experiences to life. At the end of your presentation, have each of the 'Voices' or stories in the Program Fact Sheet read by a different member. The story for Midwives For Haiti is very moving.

PROGRAM DVDs

Who creates the video clips that accompany our monthly educational program material? The answer: our selected programs are required to submit a video clip.

Some already have suitable video clips available, while others need to create one for specifically for us. For small organizations, creating a video clip can be a challenge based on staffing, capacity and accessibility to editing software. After being reviewed by the DFW Program Team, video clips are then sent to a vendor for DFW's quarterly DVD production and mailing to Chapter Leaders.

All program video clips are also available on DFW's website for online viewing and downloading.

PROGRAM TEAM SPOTLIGHT

Our **DFW Writing Team** each month spends an average of 70 hours researching, writing, editing and publishing our materials. Without the work of these volunteers our program education would not be possible.

"Just wanted to take a moment to thank the team of volunteers for the incredible job done every month putting the program education materials together. I will be the presenter at a chapter I am visiting this afternoon and going through this information I am just so speechless at this impressive and compelling body of work. Please know that more than 10,000 people get a super education every month because of the work the team does." Jamye Cooper, Executive Director, DFW

A special thank you to our volunteers for their outstanding work in 2012

Chris Byrnes, Marcie Christensen, Karen Frederick, Karen O'Brien, Lynn O'Connell, Donna Shaver, Cindy Ballaro, Jennie Goldstone, Marianna Sullivan and our additional editors Ruth Bates and Jennifer Moyer-Logan.

"I'm pleased that my presentation on Heshima Kenya was so well received...just goes to show what can be accomplished with good material. Honestly, I was inspired by the quality of information provided. The discussion questions dovetailed beautifully."
Yvonne Ryan, DFW Member

Through the dedicated effort and professional talent of our volunteer Writing Team, our unique monthly educational materials are created for members to learn more about the supported programs, the issues women and girls face, different cultures, recommended books, films and music, fair trade products and cuisine. The materials provide a wealth of program information which can be used in a variety of ways to educate chapters.

ABOUT DINING FOR WOMEN

Dining for Women is a giving circle. Through our members' combined dinner donations, we

fund international programs for women living in extreme poverty. By educating our members about the circumstances of women in some of the poorest countries in the world, our members become agents of change.

Our Mission is to empower women and girls living in extreme poverty by funding programs that foster good health, education, and economic self-sufficiency and to cultivate educational giving circles that inspire individuals to make a positive difference through the power of collective giving.

Our Vision is to create a new paradigm for giving - collective giving on an immense scale while maintaining the intimacy of small groups with a focus on education and engaged giving.

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