



## Chapter Leader Talking Points September 2014

**Featured Program – Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project, Uganda- \$45,000 grant – Grandmother Training of Trainers (TOT)**  
**Sustained Program – INMED, Peru - \$15,000 – third and final year of sustained funding**

### **Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project**

- Of the 32 million people living in Uganda, there are an estimated 2.2 million AIDS orphans. Most of these children live in the care of their elderly grandmothers.
- The number of new infections of HIV/AIDS had decreased dramatically, but the number of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS is expected to rise as the estimated 1.5 million individuals who currently live with the disease in Uganda succumb to the disease.
- This epidemic has resulted in a serious population crisis. Nearly half the population of Uganda is younger than 14. The country has more youth and older adults than they can support.
- Dining for Women's \$45,000 grant will help Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project equip 273 elderly grandmothers raising orphaned children with the business, life, and empowerment skills necessary to improve their lives. Nyaka also brings micro-finance loans to encourage economic security. But that is just the beginning. When the grandmothers complete their training, they'll return to their 'granny groups' (91 self-organized groups) and spend the next three months training their neighbors. **Our grant will directly benefit 7,000 women and indirectly benefit the 43,000 children in their care.**

### **Key Points**

- "Never before in human history has such a vast number of orphans been left with little or no adult protection and care." - Kofi Annan – former Secretary-General of the United Nations
- To learn more about the impact of AIDS in Uganda, and who is carrying the burden there, see this month's Food for Thought.

### **Sustained Program – INMED, Peru**

This is the final year of a three-year grant. With sustained funding of \$45,000 over 3 years, Dining for Women supports the Healthy Babies Program - a continuation of the program we supported in March 2010. This program will continue to strengthen local capacity to improve maternal and neonatal health in three remote Amazon jungle communities in the Ucayali region of Peru, with a special focus on indigenous populations.

**Meeting Ideas - Take it and make it your own** – (You can adapt any idea to suit your chapter’s needs and interests. Please share YOUR ideas through the [Online Meeting Evaluation Form](#) on each Program page.)

Sue Fernbach’s DFW chapter in Asheville enjoys a creative component a member dreamed up. Renee Melchiorre shares information from the news or other sources (sometimes a book or film) that relates to the featured program (or to one recently featured). It's an excellent way to remind members of the continuing challenges faced by the women and girls we support. Sue says Renee does a great presentation, and everyone enjoys it. “It's quite informal - she just sits on a stool and presents for 5 - 10 minutes while we are eating dessert! We don't do this at every meeting, but it's always well received.”

This is a great reminder that the more we incorporate the ideas and participation of our members, the more we strengthen our chapter and transform our members.

Do your meetings include a little extra something that brings our connections to life? Please **do** share in your meeting evaluation!

### **We’re so Glad You Asked!**

A chapter leader asked whether there was incompatibility between the goals of RAIN (our Featured Program for July) and the traditional pastoralist culture. Our answer was no, and it’s a great question. One of the reasons Bess Palmisciano, the founder, is so successful with RAIN is that she has a deep and abiding respect for traditional nomadic cultures, and no agenda to change anything other than their ability to respond to challenges. There’s some great information in July’s Food for Thought about the sustainability of pastoral societies, and how effective and productive they are, along with an explanation of the attempts by some governments to force them to ‘villagize’. RAIN works to bring solutions that fit within nomadic traditions – helping women develop income-producing enterprises that fit – herding and craftsmanship. Their work with gardens just creates more productive food gardens to support the schools.

Remember that you can always send a question to [Education@DiningForWomen.org](mailto:Education@DiningForWomen.org).

Check your Chapter Leader Newsletter  
for upcoming Google Hangouts!

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Please mail chapter donations within  
five days of meeting.

Note: Grants are awarded after all donations for  
the month have been received and processed  
which takes 90-120 days.

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Please remember to complete your Meeting Evaluation  
Form. It doesn’t have to be completed by  
the Chapter Leader. Each month’s Presenter can  
complete the form.

#### **Our Vision**

*We envision a world where millions of people’s lives  
have been transformed and extreme poverty has  
been reduced because Dining for Women connected  
people in creative, powerful ways that assure gender  
equality.*

#### **Our Mission**

*Through collective giving, Dining for Women  
inspires, educates, and engages people to invest in  
programs that make a meaningful difference for  
women and girls living in extreme poverty*

#### **Our Culture**

*In all we do, we model our deep belief in  
collaboration, education, inspiration, and  
transformation.*