

We have chosen to donate to



Dear Friend

February 28 2007

We want to let you know about an exciting grassroots initiative currently underway in your community! This program will connect Toronto youth with communities in Africa afflicted with the HIV/AIDS virus. The message we send is one of hope; the language we use is creative/artistic expression, specifically dance and visual arts. We believe that art has the potential to encourage, inspire, educate, and build community.

**A gala event**, featuring South African gumboot dancing performed by Toronto young people, along with the Ijo Vudu African Dance Company and singers from the MNJCC Choir, will be held at the **AI Green Theatre in the newly renovated Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre on June 18 2007**. A catered reception will follow, where the audience can mingle with performers. We have already raised sufficient funds to cover all event expenses. But we want to do more than raise awareness about the power of art to heal and connect.

**We want to make a concrete difference in the lives of those afflicted with HIV/AIDS.**

To this end, we have chosen the internationally renowned **Stephen Lewis Foundation** as the recipient of all additional funds raised by the event ([www.stephenlewisfoundation.org](http://www.stephenlewisfoundation.org)). This foundation funds over 150 community-based initiatives in 14 sub-Saharan African countries, supporting women, orphans, grandmothers, and associations of people living with HIV/AIDS.

We invite you to share in the excitement and hop on board. We stress that **100% of your donation will go directly to the Stephen Lewis Foundation and you will be issued an official tax receipt for any donation over \$20.00**. Projects funded by the foundation deliver extraordinary results with relatively small amounts of money. For example:

In Swaziland, \$2,000 builds a community garden, complete with reservoir, tools, and seeds. From these earnings, orphan children can attend school.

In South Africa, \$352 funds a sewing workshop for grandmothers: sewing machine and supplies/materials for one year. From these earnings, orphans in her care can be fed so they can go to school.

In Tanzania, \$36 a month provides nutritious food and counseling to an HIV positive woman.

Tickets to the gala are available for a suggested donation of \$50, so any donation of this amount or greater will allow you to see the show! Finally, we are also seeking "in kind" donations in the form of gumboots, T-shirts, printing expenses, and food.

**We look forward to hearing from you!**

For further information, to make a donation, or to find out how you can help, please contact Patricia Patchet-Golubev at **416. 879. 7193** or at [patricia.patchet.golubev@utoronto.ca](mailto:patricia.patchet.golubev@utoronto.ca)

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one h<sup>o</sup>p at a time