Issue #7 Fall 2014 CHW PROGRESS REPORT



Our Biggest Shipment Yet! 88 Cartons Delivered to Malawi, Africa

In looking for the significance of the number 88, it was discovered that there are many meanings that various people have attached to this number. Aside from 88 being the number of keys on the piano keyboard, it appears that research shows that 88% of working parents suffer from stress related health problems... not exactly news to most people. Author David Cain has written about 88 important truths that he has learned in his life i.e. nobody has it all figured out. Also, it is apparently a hundred times more difficult to burn 88 calories than it is to refrain from eating them in the first place, who knew, and a particular favorite...in Morse Code—messages often end with tapping 88 which mean love and kisses.

As startling as all this is, it was not nearly as startling as the discovery made when all the donations were packed and the total number of cartons came to 88! Yes, 88 X 67 L Rubbermaid cartons! The last shipment sent in November 2013 was 43 cartons.

What does this mean? Well, simply put, Change Her World is growing as you, our supporters, become more aware of and responsive to the needs of the girls and women in our projects.

Our hearts are overwhelmed with gratitude to those of you who bought school supplies, storybooks, flip-flops and searched for new little dresses for our 26 new girls who will start Grade One this fall. Each one will receive a new dress, a CHW bracelet, a pair of flip-flops, underwear, her very first storybook and a little coin purse with a mirror so she can see who she is! There were 204 nightgowns donated in sizes 2, 3 and 4 - a first for many, many girls who have never had nightwear.

To those wonderful women who sewed sanitary protection, you will never know what this means not just to us, but more urgently, to the girls who can now attend school regularly. Some schools have asked for pails, wash basins and cloths so the girls can attend to their personal hygiene needs. Suffice to say, we will take as many sanitary protection kits as we can for the foreseeable future. Some of you varied the pattern influenced by your own personal wisdom and experience which was wonderful to see. We did have some shields that arrived without Velcro or fasteners so please do not overlook this key aspect. To those of you who sewed simple skirts, you can see how many we received. What a gift! Thanks to all of you who care and have a heart for the girl child.Continue on Page 2







Some of the CHW Sewers L to R: Marilyn Binns (Stratford, ON), Marilynn Skimkus (Birch River, Manitoba) and Odra Riedl (Wallaceburg, ON) and friends.





Above left: Keara, an innovative teenager who has collected 1000's of pairs of underwear for CHW making a delivery. Above right: Carolyn and her son Matthew dropping off donations of teaching resources.



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Our Biggest Shipment Yet

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Here is a breakdown of some of the key items that were sent in the 88 cartons.

- \Rightarrow 114 dresses
- \Rightarrow 741 tops (including girls & women's T-shirts donated for all sizes)
- \Rightarrow 241 sanitary protection kits
- \Rightarrow 294 nightgowns
- \Rightarrow 214 flip flops
- \Rightarrow 194 skirts
- \Rightarrow 192 bras
- \Rightarrow 3,375 pairs of underwear
- \Rightarrow 124 dresses
- \Rightarrow 17 cartons of school supplies (including storybooks and assorted balls)
- \Rightarrow 150 toothbrushes
- \Rightarrow 218 tubes of toothpaste (more as some were small tubes)

In addition we also shipped medical supplies, and 100 x 3 pound bags of dried soup mix and dried food for use during the hunger season and also to feed the nursery school children at our new school.

Some Cautions Regarding Donations:

<u>Clothing</u>-

Fabrics should be sturdy and washable. Linens, silks, filmy layers do not stand up well when washed on the rocks at the lake. Modesty is to be respected. Items showing cleavage, short skirts, etc. are not culturally accepted. At least half of the clothing donated is brand new and this is so appreciated!

School Supplies-

Pens are preferable to pencils not only because the quality of paper in Malawi does not provide a good clear result with a lead pencil but also because pencils must come with erasers and small individual sharpeners. **Do not donate paper please.** It is heavy to ship and the girls are provided by CHW with small exercise books which are the norm in the schools in Malawi.

<u>Underwear –</u>

It must be 100% cotton, a full brief as much as possible and it must be **new.** We need girls' underwear sizes 2-16 and ladies small in particular.

Special thanks to Lorraine Stevenson (CHW Director) and her husband Terry for recruiting firefighters who made the job of running up and down stairs with 40 pound cartons look easy and then for loading them on the truck for the trip to Kitchener.



- 1. Great news! All cartons arrived in Malawi in early September with Nimrod (CHW Committee member) helping to carry.
- 2.Mr. Douglas Ndindi (CHW Vice Chair) helped to unload the shipment into the Chilumba office
- 3.Distribution of shipment takes place on October 4, 2014 with Mrs. Fiskani Chirwa (CHW Chair) and many happy girls!



4. A very happy CHW girl with her new uniform and provisions supplied by CHW.

INITIATIVES SET TO BEGIN **FALL 2014**

FIRST NURSERY SCHOOL/DAYCARE PROGRAM IS READY **TO GO....**

At last our nursery school/daycare program will be up and running this fall! A rental location has been found and we have two newly trained teachers to implement the program (both CHW girls who completed secondary school). Both teachers recently returned from an ECE training program thanks to the generous contribution of a Canadian CHW supporter. There will be ongoing training sessions for these two teachers. Did you know that most workers in the nursery school/daycare settings in Malawi are volunteers and work with very little teaching materials or food to give the children? This will not be the case for this new early childhood learning centre! There are cartons of toys, games and wall charts to equip the nursery school stored in our CHW office which were sent last year. Mats, cups, spoons, a cooking pot and water contain-

ers are also available. Part of the shipment that was sent in August 2014 included dried soup mix and dried fruits snacks for the children. The soup will be fed to the children at noon while the dried fruit will be given as a mid-morning and mid-afternoon snack. It is wonderful to know that this food will have more nutrition in it than anything most of the children would have had in their short lives. It is hoped that by providing a nutritious feeding program, learning materials to promote intellectual and social stimulation and trained teachers, that the young children who attend this school will have a better chance of success when they enter the formal education system in Standard 1. We cannot wait for our



next visit in 2016 when we can see this program in action!

BREAKING GROUND FOR SCHOOL GARDENS!

At the CHW April 2014 Fundraising Dinner in Stratford, there was an appeal for funds to plant school gardens. As was mentioned that evening, the decision was

made to begin with two small gardens and assess how the school community responded to the planting, caring and harvesting of the vegetables. Some may plant fruit trees as well depending on how they choose to use their funds. Each school will receive \$500 to begin—with a majority of these funds allocated to fencing the garden property.

The foods produced from the gardens will be used to augment the noon meal of corn por-



ridge each school child receives with the hope that increased nutrition will result in healthier children and more productive learning. Any excess food will be sold by the school to purchase needed materials, such as desks, sporting equipment etc.

This is a pilot project but one, which if successful, Change Her World hopes to replicate in 26 other primary schools. Please keep this ground breaking project in mind as we will need significant financial contributions to maintain and expand this critical initiative in this region.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! usic Con Sacred! eculo Sing Along St Andrew's **Presbyterian Church** 25 St Andrew Street, Stratford Sunday November 2, 2014 7:00 PM Cake Buffet After the Concert! AN EVENT THE WHOLE FAMILY WILL ENJOY! Collection taken during intermission will be used to support the work of Change Her World. . _ . _ . _ . _ . . **Education Event** February 3, 2015 in Stratford Watch our website for details! <u>_____</u> **5th Annual Stratford Fundraising Dinner** Saturday April 11, 2015 **Mark Your Calendar NOW!** WINDOW ON **THE WORLD** CONFERENCE October 23 & 24, 2015 Arden Park Hotel, Stratford Grassroots Organizations Are Making A Difference For The Developing World **Come And Find Out How!!**

We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give. -Sir Winston Churchill-

CAN YOU HELP US?

As our project work continues to expand and grow, the Board of Directors is aware that current funding strategies are not capable of keeping up with our need for funds. Wanting to allocate as much as our funding as possible to our projects, we have limited our contact with Canadian donors to twice a year. This means that our funds do fall short before we can alert you via the CHW Progress Report. We need your help! Hear are a couple of ways you can help us:

- 1. Provide a monthly donation. This allows funds to be allocated to special needs in our project more readily.
- **2.** Do you wish to continue to receive these CHW Progress Reports by mail or e-mail? Let us know by <u>sending in the</u> <u>form below</u> and pass this report on to others. We all know with the "click of a mouse" reports disappear. Help spread the word about this charity by passing on this hard copy to someone else or taking it to work with you and having it circulated.
- 3. Inform us if your email or mailing address changes so we can keep our data base as current as possible.

Donations are vital to the operation of this charity. Thank you for allowing 150 girls to attend school! We could not do this work without YOU!

I authorize Change Her Worl	d to make a monthly withdrawal on my credit card VISA MASTERCARD
Postdated Cheques (enclosed here) in the amount of \$ per month.
CARD NO	EXPIRY DATE/
Cardholder Name (Print)	
Signature	Phone
Please make Post	dated Cheques to: CHANGE HER WORLD and mail to the address below!
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se continue to keep me ir	nformed of the work of Change Her World by: MAIL E-MAIL
General Gift:	Please accept my general gift of \$
n to make this contribution b	y: Cheque (payable to Change Her World) VISA MASTERCA
CARD NO.	EXPIRY DATE/
Cardholder Name (Print)	
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Signature	



CHANGE HER WORLD PRESENTS.... "WINDOW on the WORLD" CONFERENCE

Extraordinary acts by ordinary people for the developing world

Date: October 23 & 24, 2015

Place: Arden Park Hotel, 552 Ontario St., Stratford, ON

Conference Goals:

(1) To highlight global issues pertaining to poverty and social justice

(2) to raise awareness and educate the community about the work that ordinary local people (grassroots organizations in Southwestern Ontario) are doing for the developing world

As Change Her World prepares to enter it's 5th year of operations, we are pleased to announce that the initial planning of this ground-breaking education conference is now underway. This is not a fundraising event for Change Her World but rather an opportunity to celebrate and network with Canadians residing in Southwestern Ontario who work or volunteer with small grass-roots organizations. This event will allow grassroots organizations to gather on Friday Evening with a special program of celebration and offer the general public an opportunity to attend a day-long event on Saturday with workshops and presentations culminating in a Saturday night banquet and keynote speaker (soon to be announced).



Donna Milbrandt- Mid-West Regional Coordinator

Donna is a recently retired Registered Nurse who enjoyed a rewarding career in Acute Care bedside nursing and management positions. Her lifelong interest in reading, travel and women's justice issues led her to consider a "made in Canada" charity which supported women and girls as she contemplated opportunities for a fulfilling post-career life. Change Her World was the perfect fit for making a difference in the lives of girls in poverty-stricken areas of the world—one girl, one school and one community at a time. She looks forward to sharing how Canadians can become involved in empowering girls in the developing world through education!

Come and meet Donna and the Co-founders at two events being held in Regina and Yorkton, SK on October 25 and 27, 2014. For more information, contact Donna at <u>dmilbrandt@changeherworld.ca</u> or by calling 306 782-71822 or Text/Cell at 306 621-6816. (See Page 6 for more information)

Welcome Donnal

DARE TO CARE- DYE YOUR HAIR CONTEST

Anyone can participate! With your CHALLENGER KIT (for individuals or groups-schools, churches, social

organizations), you are asked to go to family and friends, neighbours and co-workers and ask for donations for Change Her World to help support the continuing goal of educating girls in the developing world. When you raise \$300.00 or more, you qualify to enter the **DARE TO CARE- DYE YOUR HAIR** contest. To enter, you must sub-

mit a photo of yourself with your hair dyed. (coloured wigs, tem-



porary colour, and hair extensions all qualify). Judges will evaluate each en-

try and the winners in various categories will be announced each year at our annual fundraising dinner. Prizes include gift cards, restaurant vouchers, spa packages and a **special grand prize** for the highest amount raised in the individual and group category.

WATCH OUR WEBSITE for more information! www.changeherworld.ca or contact Carol at 519 949-8701.

CHANGE HER WORLD

Founded in 2010, this organization is dedicated to removing the barriers that prevent girls and women from being educated in the developing world.

Currently, girls and women in our project in Northern Malawi are receiving support but the need is great.

Our Corporate Objects include:

- \diamond Education of girls
- \diamond Relief of poverty
- \diamond Clean water and sanitation
- \diamond Promotion of Health
- **Oracle Provision of micro financing**

If you want to change the world...start with her

We wish to thank Kevin Hill, Commercial Printers Stratford, for the charity discount provided for the quality printing of this report.

Change Her World

P.O. Box 1057 Stratford, Ontario N5A 6W4

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www.changeherworld.ca



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS FOR CHANGE HER WORLD CO-FOUNDERS

SPREAD THE WORD TO SASKATCHEWAN!!!

Saturday October 25, 2014 4:00 PM Delta Regina Hotel - Regina, SK

Monday October 27, 2014 7:00 PM Home Inn and Suites - Yorkton, SK

All are invited to attend these free events where Linda and Carol will introduce Donna Milbrandt— NEW Mid-West Regional Coordinator and share the latest news about CHW!

KNOW people living in Saskatchewan? — Tell Them ABOUT THESE EVENTS!

COMING TO ONTARIO!

Thursday November 6, 2014 St Paul's Presbyterian Church Burlington. ON 1:00PM Contact: Karen Brice at <u>Ibrice@reachoutministries.net</u>

Friday November 21, 2014 Graceview Presbyterian Church Toronto, ON 6:00 PM Fundraising Dinner for CHW—French-Canadian Meal Tickets \$15.00 Contact: Graceview Church Office <u>graceview@bellnet.ca</u> or call (416) 621-0888

ALL ARE WARMLY INVITED TO THESE EVENTS!

DONATION OF WAREHOUSE SPACE IN STRATFORD-NEEDED NOW !!

Space is needed for the CHW collection items to be delivered, sorted and stored in anticipation of our ongoing shipments to Malawi, Africa. If you know of space available in the Stratford area which has heat/air and is easy to access—ground floor entry, please contact Linda Willis at 519.271.5598 or www.uki.com Linda Willis at 519.271.5598 or www.uki.com Space available in the Stratford area which has heat/air and is easy to access—ground floor entry, please contact Linda Willis at 519.271.5598 or www.uki.com Space available in the Stratford area which has heat/air and is easy to access—ground floor entry, please contact Linda Willis at 519.271.5598 or www.uki.com Space available in the Stratford area which has heat/air and is easy to access—ground floor entry, please contact Linda Willis at 519.271.5598 or www.uki.com Space available in the Stratford area which has heat/air and is easy to access—ground floor entry, please contact Linda Willis at 519.271.5598 or www.uki.com Space available in the Stratford area which has heat/air and is easy to access—ground floor entry, please contact Linda Willis at 519.271.5598 or www.uki.com Space available in the Stratford area which has heat/air and is easy to access.

PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE

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