



Photo credit: Alexis MacDonald

PRAIRIE REGION UPDATE

The Prairie Region Update is intended to keep grandmothers groups across the Prairies connected to each other and informed about the SLF Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign.

January 2015

Happy New Year everyone. We hope that you had a joyful holiday season full of memory making times with family and friends.

Sheila & Deb

NEWS FROM THE STEPHEN LEWIS FOUNDATION

2015 SLF Calendars

Just a reminder – now that it's January, you are welcome to sell the calendar for up to \$10 (we just ask that it doesn't go lower than \$5, to make sure we are able to recoup production and shipping costs). When you have sold your calendars, simply submit a cheque 'payable to the SLF' for the total amount you received. And if you need more calendars, please let Laura know at lfraser@stephenlewisfoundation.org. She can arrange for prompt shipping right to you.

The Offer from Barbara Coloroso

Several Grandmothers groups, in a variety of communities across the country, have taken up Barbara's offer of attending and presenting at a local event. It's not too late to book her, although spots are limited, so if your group still wants to have visit your area, please be in touch with Gerri at glutaaya@stephenlewisfoundation.org.

Ida's next Canadian visit

Ida will be back in Canada this year. She is already booked to be in Regina to speak at G4G Regina's annual dinner on April 24th. If your group would like to have a visit from Ida, please contact Yasmin at ymussa@stephenlewisfoundation.org.

Celebrating Ten Years of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign

Discussions and planning are getting underway for the fall lead-up to the 10th anniversary in March 2016. Watch this space and the Granny Bulletin for news!



Book: *Grandmothers: Africa's Unsung Heroes*

In the December 2014 edition of the Prairie Region Update, we showcased this exciting new emerging book which is now ready to go to the printers. You'll soon be able to pre-order, once the shipment arrives. Think about someone in your group becoming your local contact for this wonderful book when it is ready to be distributed. More news to follow...

NEWS FROM OUR PRAIRIE REGION

Grandmothers Giving, Portage la Prairie

No report from us. We're taking a break, and will meet again in April.

Grandmothers 4 Grandmothers Moose Jaw



G4G member, Dagny Marshall, and a visiting member of the Red Hat Society, at the G4G Moose Jaw Tea, Bake, Craft, and Knick Knack Sale on November 22nd.

Grandmothers 4 Grandmothers Regina

Tribunal Film Screening

On Monday, March 9th, we'll celebrate International Women's Day with a public screening of the film "African Grandmothers Tribunal: Seeking justice at the frontlines of the AIDS crisis". The event will be held at Campion College, University of Regina, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The planning team will be promoting the event to various faculties and student groups on campus, to high school students in the area, and to the wider community in general.

Jabula! A Fundraising Evening



Plans are well underway for G4G Regina's signature event, Jabula! A Fundraising Evening, to be held at the Queensbury Convention Centre on Friday, April 24th. This is the group's 9th annual fundraising dinner, and features Ida Nambeya as guest speaker, entertainment by Inyamamare Dance Group of Rwanda, a silent auction, and raffle. The MC for the evening will be Ruth Smillie, Artistic Director and CEO of Globe Theatre. And of course, we'll have the silent auction and raffle to round things out.

Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

A Movie-Reflection Night

Members have been invited to come to a movie night, Tuesday Jan 13th (with popcorn to be purchased at the community centre).

We are viewing the DVD, "A Grandmother's Tale" – a belated Christmas story: grandmothers, one rural, one from a poor urban area, as they prepare to offer "something special" to the kids in their care. The film will orient us after the gift-giving season in our culture.

Grannies Go2Gether

Hello from Grannies Go2Gether in Treherne/Rathwell/Holland, MB. We have no updates since our busy pre-Christmas run. Some of us will be taking breaks in warmer spots!

Nipawin and District Grandmothers

The final count on donations is in, and we're excited to let you know the Nipawin and District G4G raised approximately \$1900 for the SLF at their annual Carol festival held December 1st in Nipawin!

NEWS FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

From New Westminster, BC, comes this new and interesting event: The Glamoramas Ethiopian Dinner, January 16, 2015 at Lalibela Ethiopian Restaurant. This is the first in a series of "Friend Building" small events to promote the work of the Glamoramas. They are organizing events appealing to a younger demographic (30-50 years), as well as sourcing potential businesses and other organization supporters. For more information, contact Carol Wylie at carole@cwylie.ca.



SHARING A SUGGESTION FROM YOUR CO-LIAISONS

As a new tax year begins, you may want to give consideration to becoming a monthly donor to the SLF, if you aren't already. The following information is taken from the Charity Village website. You would make your own arrangements directly with the SLF.

What's in it for donors?

- √ It's easy! Regular donations can be made in affordable monthly payments
- √ Giving options include: Pre-authorized chequing (PAC) or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT); credit card transactions, and least likely now but not obsolete, post-dated cheques
- √ Save postage and time with automatic transactions
- √ Flexibility. You can easily increase, decrease, pause or stop your gift at any time
- √ A cumulative tax receipt is issued annually
- √ Staying informed through regular progress updates

What's in it for the Stephen Lewis Foundation? Well, through monthly giving charities can:

- Increase their annual income
- Reduce attrition rates
- Strengthen long-term relationships with donors and the lifetime value of their support
- Set more predictable budgets
- Forecast cash flow more effectively
- Keep postage and administrative costs down
- Reduce the volume of fundraising requests

Please let us know of any events your group is holding, or has held recently, and we'll post it here.

Disclaimer: we try to get the information accurate – but please be sure to check with the local group before you venture out to an event in case there are any errors or changes.

If you would like more information on any of this material, please do let us know. We are here to support you and your groups with information sharing and connections, so please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Deb Radi
Co-liaison, Prairie Region
Winnipeg, MB
204-254-1889
dradi@mymts.net

Sheila Fahlman
Co-liaison, Prairie Region
Regina, SK
306-781-2946
sfahlman@sasktel.net