
The SHARE Institute Newsletter – Summer 2008
(Social, Health, Assessment, Research, & Education)

A Quarterly Newsletter Written for the SHARE Community:

Please feel free to share this newsletter by forwarding it to those who may be interested in learning about making a positive difference in people's lives. We are proud to include *you* as part of our community and plan on incorporating *you* in future SHARE Institute mailings. We respect the privacy of your email address and do not share such information with any other organizations. If you wish to be taken off the mailing list, contact sstolba@aol.com.

Visit our website at www.theshareinstitute.org.

A Few Words from the SHARE Institute's President

Dear SHARE supporters:

Since the beginning of the year, SHARE has launched seven new international projects. These projects fund organizations that assist women in Nigeria, Nicaragua, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and Kenya. Our local projects were expanded this year to include the support of an artist, several book scholarships, and scholarships to deserving students. I want to thank you all for your support and wish you a great summer

Sincerely,

Soheir Stolba

Past International Speakers' Event

On April 10, 2008 The SHARE Institute welcomed Dr. Rudy Pearson and Dr. Soheir Stolba for an International Speakers' event entitled, "Winds of Change in South Africa." Following a delicious dinner, Dr. Stolba and Dr. Pearson treated us to a fascinating lecture and slide show. Both speakers have both traveled extensively in South Africa and shared their experiences relative to the historical and political dimensions of life in South Africa. Following the lecture, participants were invited into the SHARE Institute's office to enjoy dessert and browse our selection of international jewelry.

Interns Going Places

The SHARE Institute is pleased to have several interns and former interns partaking in international opportunities during the year.

Hilary Thomson, a SHARE intern, will be traveling to India for three and a half months this summer to work as an intern for The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts at their Sangam center in India. She will be working with a variety of Non Governmental Organizations in the state of Maharashtra and running programs for international guests at Sangam.

SHARE Intern Jessica West will be traveling in Egypt this summer and will be attending the Monterey Institute of language in the fall.

Boris Golub will be traveling, as a SHARE intern, to Nicaragua in August. He will be serving at Compas de Nicaragua (a SHARE-sponsored N.G.O.) for three weeks.

Kate Fisher, a former SHARE associate, is planning on traveling to several African countries.

Ian Davis, a former SHARE intern, recently received a prestigious JET scholarship, offered by the Consulate-General of Japan. He will be teaching English to Japanese students in the coming year.

Aashika Damodar, a former SHARE intern, will be graduating from U.C. Berkeley with a prestigious "Zimmerman Award." She will be participating in a year-long leadership program in Washington D.C. focusing on trafficking in women. She will receive a certificate in non-profit management upon completion of the program. Following this, she will be traveling to Egypt with a grant from the the U.C. Berkeley Near Eastern Studies department where she will focus on H.I.V. education.

Recently Attended Conferences

Dr. Soheir Stolba, president of The SHARE Institute, has had a busy spring doing guest lectures throughout the area. Locally, Dr. Stolba spoke at both Sacramento State University and Consumnes River College on the topic of "Recent International Issues and Women." Both talks were very well received. Dr. Stolba also spoke to the South Sacramento AAUW branch about Middle Eastern Women's issues. On April 25, 2008, Dr. Stolba also spoke to members of Soroptomist International about The SHARE Institute's projects. On April 6, Dr. Stolba participated in a panel discussion on the topic of "education in action around the world" at the American Association of University Women California Conference. Dr. Stolba spoke to the conference attendees about the

importance of increasing funding for women's health and literacy projects on a global scale.

Recently Funded International Mini-Grants

A Mini-Grant in Afghanistan

The New Afghan Women's Association (NAWA)

The SHARE Institute has once again funded women's literacy programs in Afghanistan through NAWA. The classes take illiterate women and girls and bring them up to a 3rd grade reading level over the course of one year, which will allow them to enter the public school system. Since 2001, The SHARE Institute has provided funding for hundreds of Afghan women and girls to become literate. This mini-grant is for the implementation of two women's literacy programs in home-based schools.

A Mini-Grant in Nicaragua

Compas de Nicaragua

Compas de Nicaragua is a non-profit that supports Women in Action, a group of forty women living in the poor settlement of the La Primavera neighborhood of Managua, Nicaragua. WIA carries out health, nutrition, education, and income-generating programs for women, adolescents, and children. Along with these programs, small micro-loans are also given to women to start their own businesses. A mini-grant was provided to Compas de Nicaragua for a micro-credit lending project for Women in Action, their partner N.G.O., which will provide no-interest starter loans to poor women in Nicaragua so that they can start their own businesses.

A Mini-Grant in Cambodia

Journeys Within Our Community (JWOC)

Journeys Within Our Community is a non-governmental agency that is responsible for the opening of language schools for disadvantaged youth, building water wells in rural villages, and providing low interest rate loans for small businesses in Cambodia. The SHARE Institute has provided JWOC with a mini-grant to distribute new loans to deserving poverty stricken women in order to aid them in implementing their own businesses. Another mini-grant was provided for the purchase of cameras and the implementation of photography classes to teach youth how to take photographs of tourists as a means of income.

A Mini-Grant in Nigeria

The Center for Health Work, Development, and Research (CHEDRES)

CHEDRES provides programs that address women's sexual and reproductive health problems. Through sexual education and mobile health care, this nongovernmental organization works toward reducing maternal and infant mortality, violence against women, and the spread of HIV/AIDS among rural populations of Nigeria. The SHARE Institute provided funding for midwife training as part of CHEDRES goal to ensure that every woman has a healthy pregnancy and safe childbirth.

Recently Funded Local Mini-Grants

An Art Scholarship

The SHARE Institute provided a mini-grant to a deserving artist from the Sacramento area to be used to purchase art supplies.

My Sister's House and Citrus Heights Domestic Violence Center

My Sister's House and the Citrus Heights Domestic Violence center provide counseling and a safe haven for women and children seeking to escape from domestic violence. Upon arrival, many of the abused women and children arrive with only the clothes on their backs. Interns from The SHARE Institute assembled welcoming bags for these women and children containing a variety of necessities such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, and brushes and a few comforts such as makeup for the women and coloring books for the children.

Gift Donation Cards and Gifts

Many friends of the Institute send gift donation cards to family and friends. Gift donation cards are a great way to celebrate a holiday, accomplishment, or special occasion by giving to those who are less fortunate. By giving a tax-deductible gift donation, the "gift recipient" will receive a beautiful card acknowledging the donation in her/his name, and health and well-being projects around the world will receive the funds that they so desperately need. Gift donations can be earmarked for a certain project, or be used for the projects that most need funds.

Other ways to help:

**Donate money to the mini-grant program. Tax-deductible donations of any amount will help local people further improve their lives. Contributors may suggest types of projects for the Institute to launch.

**Spread the word. Let others know about the SHARE Institute and how they can help.

**Get involved. We would love to have you make a difference in international and domestic issues. Let us know your interests and how you can share your skill

The SHARE Institute

WEBSITE: www.theshareinstitute.org

8370 Sunset Avenue

Fair Oaks, CA 95628

TEL: (916) 966-7482

FAX: (916) 863-0665

EMAIL: SStolba@aol.com