



Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

In support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation
Awareness ✦ Fundraising ✦ Global Issues

NEWSLETTER

February 2019
Volume 9, Issue 2

Contacts:

Barb Linklater

barb111@mymts.net

Donnie Fridfinnson

dfridfinnson@gmail.com

Links to Grands 'n' More Winnipeg:

[Webpage](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

Events:

Member Meeting

Supper with Grannies Gone Global

Thurs., March 7 6 to 8 pm

St. John's High School,

401 Church Avenue

6th Annual Scrabble Fundraiser

Sat., April 13 1 to 3pm

St. Andrew's Church,

2700 Portage Ave.



MEMBER MEETING

Well folks, we hope you are keeping warm this chilly February and we wish you well with our second Newsletter of the year.

As you know, there is a concern about the future of AFTA. There is progress being made; however we still need more of you to be involved in order for AFTA to go ahead. Please give this your consideration.

That having been said, it is on to other news. As many of you have been made aware, Ilana Landsberg-Lewis has stepped down from her position as Executive Director of SLF and Zahra Mohamed has been appointed the Interim Executive Director.

Frances and her team brought us a very nice introduction to Zahra at the Member Meeting on February 7th. They showed us a video of Zahra speaking about a girls' school project in Tanzania that is funded by the SLF. After the film, Frances's energy was contagious as she and Kim led us through activities bringing the realization that our funding of SLF is enabling important projects, such as the one in the film.

After the break there was a short art activity in preparation for the March 7th Member Meeting with Grannies Gone Global. A quick reminder, if you are planning to attend the meeting please RSVP to either our face book page or to Debbie Radi, Donnie Fridfinnson, or Barb Linklater. We need to know numbers in order for the food and activity preparation. This meeting is at St. John's High School, 401 Church Ave. at 6:00 pm. If you require a ride please let us know.

Fundraising has also been very busy with sales and event planning. SCRABBLE...so much Fun ... and with great gifts to be won!!! Please keep in mind that if you have any treasures at home that need a new home, Nina and her fundraising team's Scrabble event is always willing to accept them with assurances that they will go to a very good cause, You! The Scrabble day is April 13th ...keep it open. You will be happy you did.

Two luncheons are in the works for April and May as is a movie night and of course many sales opportunities. More on this in the near future and from the Committees involved.

Submitted by Barb Linklater

**GRANDMOTHERS REGIONAL LIAISON
MEETING
February 4-6, 2019
STEPHEN LEWIS FOUNDATION OFFICE
TORONTO, ONTARIO**

It is my hope that the following notes will capture the essence of the amazing several days I experienced in Toronto. Cathie Hiller asked if I would attend in her stead, not as a future GRL, but to ensure Manitoba's voice was heard around the table.

I was ready, willing and able to leave on Sunday, but Air Canada and the weather had other ideas. Due to mechanical and weather delays I arrived at the SLF office on Monday just in time to have dinner! It was disappointing as Monday's agenda was full and very interesting. I will receive the notes in the next while to see what I missed!

Tuesday started with a breakfast with the staff. It was so nice to put faces to names and emails! The first order of business was relationship building. We broke into small groups to discuss the following ideas:

- How does your group reach out and recruit new members?
- How does your group encourage leadership and capacity building?

The discussion focused on how groups began and how they built their membership. Several GRLS in my discussion group were in small organizations - 25 or less. They were started through religious and family connections. The bigger groups started with a nucleus of friends and extended outward, much like Grands 'n' More Winnipeg.

As for ideas on how to recruit, it could be summed up by saying that whatever your group chooses to do make it fun, interesting and reach out to those people that attend your events. Each sale or event is an opportunity to engage with others and to share your passion as to why you support the SLF. The increased use of Facebook and other social media platforms is also another great venue to promote interest in your group. Ideas for seeking new members included reaching out to 'soon to be retired' groups of nurses, teachers, community workers, faith-based organizations, unions and to attend trade shows as well as media events. As for

the last option, it was agreed that these can be quite expensive unless one has a connection!

As for capacity building and leadership development, it is important to understand and accept what each member brings to the organization. Reach out and ask people to help; use the 'co' model to ensure that new members are paired with more experienced members for events/sales/leadership roles. Recognize and incorporate social times into meetings and events. One group has coffee first to allow members time to visit and connect. Experiment with various meeting times and venues, make meetings accessible and offer rides to meetings. If an event is planned, ensure that the tasks are well defined and outlined with exact expectations.

The following session was the Fundraising Exchange. I took \$200.00 worth of merchandise (not bad for carry on luggage) and sold every piece! Two groups brought infinity scarves, really pretty material, and they too were quite popular. The cookbook *African Food for Thought* was for sale as well as some items just for show.

Ideas that were shared included:

- Hatitude! Crazy hat contest with a lunch and fundraising
- Having a donation table: items that are not selling
- Granny Services: sewing, mending, reading services, etc.
- Collaborating with Ten Thousand Villages, Boston Pizza and already existing entities
- Calendars
- Wellness Day with guest speakers
- Car Rallies
- For the love of grandmothers fitness challenge (see poster next page).

To close the discussion on fundraising, the idea of encouraging regional fundraising efforts was raised. For some regions geography gets in the way. However, this may very well be a workable idea for the Manitoba Region. We are clustered in the south fairly close to Winnipeg...food for thought. The money raised all goes to the same place!

Lunchtime on Tuesday brought Ilana's surprising announcement of her impending departure as Executive Director of the SLF. After the shock and surprise settled, I came to see this decision as an

indication of the strength and organizational health of the SLF. The SLF is about the community-based organizations and solidarity with those that continue to be affected by HIV & AIDS. The Foundation will continue with the strong leadership of the Board of Directors and Zahra Mohamed. Ilana will remain for a year to ensure a seamless transition and in her words 'raise a gazillion dollars'. The GRLs gave her a warm round of applause for her inspiration and leadership since the inception of the Foundation.

Part of organizing a big event is registration and managing donations. If you go the SLF website, you can register and fundraise to join the National Stride Campaign without even touching the money! Easy peasy! Check out the Stride page and join in the fun.

[Stride to Turn the Tide](#)

Our days were full. I will pass all the information to Cathie for her perusal, but I also want to share our discussion about social media and the expanded fundraising platform of the SLF website. We discussed that when an article or photo is posted, shared and liked, the exponential effect is huge. Think of when AFTA posts of popular paintings are shared and liked. It increases our exposure tremendously. This is so important for those that are not able to get out to meetings or help at fundraisers - just click and share the SLF and Grands 'n' More Winnipeg on Facebook! You are promoting awareness and advertising for fundraising!

For space sake, I will end here. I thoroughly enjoyed my trip to Toronto. The retreat was superbly organized and executed. There was a fair bit of juggling given the weather but, all in all, it was an awesome couple of days.

Submitted by Thelma Hanson

For the love of grandmothers fitness challenge

Anytime between International Women's Day March 8 and Grandparents' Day September 8, 2019...

- design a challenge for yourself
- register your challenge at forthe loveofgrandmothers.weebly.com
- dedicate your challenge to a grandmother you love
- ask friends and family to sponsor your efforts on a secure webpage
- join participants in a celebration on Sept. 14, 2019
- help African grandmothers raise a generation of orphans





solidaritycycle.weebly.com
is one option for cyclists





the
STEPHEN LEWIS
FOUNDATION



grandmothers
campaign





Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

6th Annual SCRABBLE FOR AFRICA

You are invited to our 6th Annual **Scrabble for Africa** fundraiser for the Stephen Lewis Foundation, which supports the Grandmothers and orphans in sub-Saharan Africa. We are one of 250 grandmother groups across Canada. We are **Grands' n' More Winnipeg** and we would love to see you.

The game is on **Saturday, April 13** at **St. Andrew's Church Hall, 2700 Portage Avenue**. Registration, refreshments and shopping begin at 1:00 pm. Play lasts to 3:00 pm. There will be lots of door prizes, refreshments, sales and raffles. You can buy "cheats" for a toonie. Every time you cheat, you will be entered to win a prize.

Entrance by voluntary donation to the Stephen Lewis Foundation (all donations of \$20.00 or over will receive a tax receipt). Invite your friends to play as well. All registrants will receive a confirmation email (or snail mail if needed) as well as a poster, pledge sheet and instructions for on-line pledging if you wish to email family and friends to support you in that way.

You will have a lot of fun as you support this very important cause.

Space is limited, so get your friends together and register to guarantee your spot!

Nina Logan

ninalogan@shaw.ca

204-832-5569



Raffle Prizes

First prize - 'It Takes a Village' wall hanging
and third prize - Baby Quilt by Sue Hudson

Thanks to those who picked up raffle tickets to sell at our meeting on Thursday. We will be bringing them to subsequent meetings and hope that everyone will at least try to sell a book or even a few tickets.

Big thanks to everyone who brought Scrabble prizes to the meeting. The missing prize from our Raffle is the wine basket. We have received a beautiful carafe and wine glasses, but so far, no wine.

Please consider donating a bottle for the raffle.

Thanks, Nina Logan and Pat van Herksen

Bag Connections



L to R: Nina Logan, Heather Colquhoun, Betty Nesbitt, Dianne Blewett, Sylvia Gunn.

I'm forwarding to you a message we received today from Elka who is the owner of Elkabee Fabric Paradise in Connecticut. We buy a lot of cotton from her and have done so for several years now. We used it for the tote bags and now we use it to line the three new bags. She ships our order to Pembina, ND and Deb picks it up for us on her many trips to Grand Forks. Ordering from Elka gives us access to beautiful fabrics we would never see here and she is an absolutely delightful person to deal with. She is very supportive of our project -- often displaying items we have made on her website and from time to time donating leftover pieces of fabric that she thinks we might be able to use.

This past Fall she went the extra mile in getting us the first 5 yards of cork fabric and just before Christmas Betty and I took a deep breath and ordered an additional 10 yards. I don't think there are many suppliers out there who would go to the trouble she has for one of their customers!

Betty and I wanted to let her know how much we appreciated all that she does for us and so we recently sent her a red Boutique bag with lining fabric that we had purchased from her. Her reply was so gracious that we wanted you to see it. Just another example of the many wonderful people that we have encountered over the life of the bag project.

Submitted by Laurel Garvie

Dear Laurel, Deb and Betty,

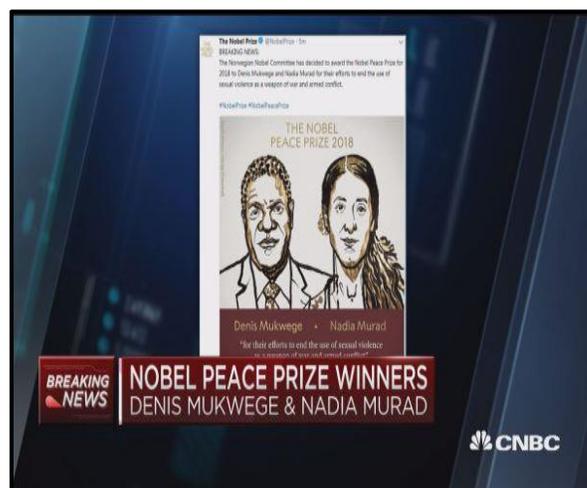
What a delightful surprise in today's mail! This bag is just beautiful. The design, the fabrics, the hardware and of course the stitching - all just fantastic! That was so kind and thoughtful of you.

I, too, love doing business with you and it's so satisfying to know that these lovely creations are changing lives. I'm happy to be part of your 'team'! And of course, I humbly thank you for your business.

Thank you again for the unexpected (but much appreciated) gift. I will use it often, proudly and think of you all fondly.

Warmest regards,

Elka



The Stephen Lewis Foundation is one of many funders of the "City of Joy" in Bukavu, D.R.C. On Netflix there is a full length documentary about the 'City of Joy'. Look under documentaries, then 'City of Joy'.

Submitted by Frances Molaro



Our emphasis this year is grasping the 'areas of work' of SLF so... we have selected some where the 'area' is identified in the name. Then a second section - guess if you can, of projects whose names are in other languages.

Women Against Rape (WAR) (Botswana)	Retired Nurses Society (Botswana)
Maasai Women Development Organization (Tanzania)	Swaziland Positive Living
Chiedza Child Care Centre (Zimbabwe)	Rwanda Women's Development Network
Kared-Fod Women Development Programme (Kenya)	Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project
Mozambican Treatment Access Movement	Ember Kenya Grandparents Empowerment (Kenya)
Action for Rural Women's Development (Uganda)	Nyimbwa Multi-Purpose Organization of People Living with HIV/AIDS (Uganda)
Living Positive Kenya	Young, Happy, Healthy and Safe (Zambia)
Phoebe Education Fund for AIDS Orphans and Vulnerable Children	Ekwendeni Hospital HIV/AIDS Programme (EHAP) (Malawi)
Midlands AIDS Service Organization	Wits Palliative Care (Wits Health Consortium) (South Africa)
Destitute Elders' Welfare & Development Association (Ethiopia)	Rights Institute for Social Empowerment (RISE) (Malawi)
Children in Distress (CINDI Kitwe) (Zambia)	Women's Legal Resources Centre (Malawi)
Ranchhod Community Services and Hospice Limited (Zambia)	Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE) (Uganda)

But from the name it is sometimes difficult to know the area of work. Try your hand at guessing.

Okoa Maisha Ya Watoto (OMAWA) (Tanzania)	
Pendeza Africa (Kenya)	
dlalanathi (South Africa)	
Ripples International (Kenya)	
Izimbali Zee (South Africa)	

Answers p. 7

Submitted by Kim Taylor, Charleen Gustafson and Frances Molaro

Photo by:
Alexis MacDonald





Project name	Area of work as per their websites....
Okoa Maisha Ya Watoto (OMAWA) (Tanzania)	"needs and rights of orphaned and vulnerable children"
Pendeza Africa (Kenya)	"envision communities where all children, youths and elderly citizens are healthy and secure".
dlalanathi (South Africa)	"provide psychosocial support for children through play by training and supporting caregivers"
Ripples International (Kenya)	"champion children's rights. Our key objective is the rescue and rehabilitation of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC)"
Izimbali Zezwe (South Africa)	"fight women and child abuse"



Grands' n' More
Winnipeg

**Invites you to a
Potluck Luncheon**

Video:
Stephen Lewis

**Tuesday, April 16, 2019
12:00 noon**

**St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church
3 St. Vital Road**

Tickets: \$10.00 each plus a Potluck item

For tickets, contact: Barb (204) 257-7511 or barbfletcher@shaw.ca



Proceeds go to the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation