



Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

In support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation
Awareness ✦ Fundraising ✦ Solidarity

NEWSLETTER

News from the Co-Chairs

April 2020

Volume 10, Issue 4

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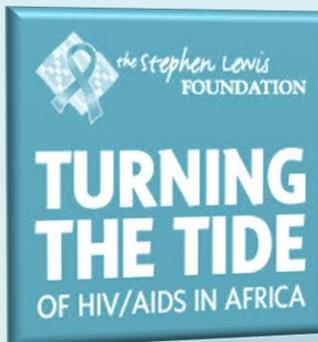
Links to Grands 'n' More Winnipeg:

[Webpage](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

**All Events are Cancelled
until further notice**



Keeping safe and staying apart is challenging for a couple of weeks. But we are well beyond that now, and if you are like us, you are craving hugs from your loved ones. While we wait for those days of normal interactions to come again (and they will) please keep each other in mind and check in with a fellow member from time to time.

We were pleased to learn that some of our sewers have turned their talents toward helping hospital frontline workers by making hospital caps. Read Sharon's write up to learn how you can help with needed materials.

The Province has just extended public health orders until April 28 so we may or may not be holding our Annual Meeting in June. Although we are hopeful, we still don't know if Art From the Attic will go ahead as planned or Comedy Night later in the fall. But stay tuned!

What we do know is that this Coronavirus is just hitting the continent of Africa. If we fail to take strong action, the virus will be devastating to the continent. To remain mindful of this we have included a short article on what the SLF supported groups are doing to prepare.

Barb Fletcher has provided a summary of this year's fundraising efforts and a copy of the May 8th, 2010, MANZINI STATEMENT to remind us of why we work to fundraise for these courageous people. To facilitate easy online donations to Grands 'n' More Winnipeg, a fundraising page has been set up through the Grandmothers Campaign website. You will note that there are many ways to give - from online financial Institution to gifting AEROPLAN miles to providing sewing materials for making hospital supplies.

Remember that maintaining our own support systems help us to extend help to the Grands 'n' More and SLF Objectives.

Submitted by Fran Gropp and Donnie Fridfinnson

Grands 'n' More Winnipeg Fundraising Page

Have you ever been working at a sale and had someone tell you that they don't want to buy anything, but would still like to donate to the Stephen Lewis Foundation? Perhaps they don't have a cheque handy, or like me, have come to prefer online transactions. Now you can direct them to donate directly to a Grands 'n' More Winnipeg fundraising page and the funds will go directly to the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Grandmothers Campaign.

The **Donate** button at the top of our Grands 'n' More Winnipeg website (grandsnmore.com) will take the donor directly to the Grands 'n' More Winnipeg Fundraising Page. Each donation will be visible, but the donor may opt to show as anonymous. The donor may also leave a short note.

The advantage of this group fundraising page is that the SLF immediately issues a tax receipt electronically to the donor. As well, Grands 'n' More Winnipeg is automatically notified of the donation, and we can then thank the donor personally.

This page is for donations only. We cannot use it to sell goods. However, if you are making masks or medical caps, or jewelry, or providing a service, and only asking that the recipient makes a donation to SLF, this is an excellent way for Grands 'n' More to receive credit for the donation.

Donate button found at the top of every page of the grandsnmore.com website



The Grands 'n' More Winnipeg fundraising page can also be found through www.grandmotherscampaignpledges.ca and by following the online prompts.

Submitted by Donnie Fridfinnson

COVID-19 Appeal from the Stephen Lewis Foundation

The Stephen Lewis Foundation [needs your support](#) to make sure that our grassroots partners have the resources they need to keep vulnerable communities healthy and safe during these challenging times. With lockdowns in place, access to food and medicine limited, people cut off from support groups, and under-resourced healthcare systems under strain, our community-based partners provide a lifeline to people affected by HIV and AIDS. They're the critical support systems that vulnerable communities need, and they're well positioned to adapt to emerging challenges posed by COVID-19. Please consider [making a donation](#) if you are able.

Our partners are telling us about how they're working to address needs arising from the emergency response to COVID-19:

Grandmothers Against Poverty and AIDS in South Africa is providing food parcels, along with gloves and hand sanitizer to their members. They're also providing a safe space and nutritious meals to support children's wellbeing while schools are closed.

Health Development Initiative in Rwanda has launched a hotline to provide counselling services for their clients. Using local radio, Whats App, and social media they're sharing accurate information about how to stay safe and protected from COVID-19.

Kiambu People Living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya has advised all clients to report to their clinic for a 3-month supply of HIV antiretroviral medication, so that they may remain on treatment while there are enforced restrictions on movement.

(Excerpt from SLF webpage <https://www.stephenlewisfoundation.org/covid-19-appeal>)

Treasurer's Report

The Grands 'n' More Winnipeg financial year is from April to March. In the 2019-2020 year just ended Grands 'n' More Winnipeg forwarded **\$45,039.44** to the Grandmothers Campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF) (see following information).

- The first table shows income, expenses, and amount sent to the SLF by project, event, or donation.
- The second table shows income received through cheques made payable to the SLF and sent by me to the SLF (these cheques do not go through the Grands 'n' More Winnipeg bank account as they are payable to the SLF).

Full financial statements will be available in the Annual Report.

GRANDS 'N' MORE WINNIPEG PROJECTS/DONATIONS AS AT MARCH 31, 2020

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>SENT TO S.L.F.</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Crafts	90.00	0.00	90.00	0.00
Dare to Dine	318.80	0.00	318.80	0.00
Donations	5,208.43	0.00	5,208.43	0.00
Granny Jars	15.70	0.00	15.70	0.00
Members' Coffee Fund (net)	105.75	0.00	105.75	0.00
Events: Scrabble	5,049.40	417.65	4,631.75	0.00
Events: Spring Luncheon	1,740.75	0.00	1,740.75	0.00
Events: <i>Art From the Attic 2019/20</i>	20,285.00	2,312.07	17,972.93	0.00
Potlucks	352.20	0.00	352.20	0.00
Tote Bags, etc.	9,631.00	618.84	9,012.16	0.00
Warm Up to Winnipeg	<u>3,005.00</u>	<u>9.03</u>	<u>2,995.97</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTALS	45,802.03	3,357.59	42,444.44	0.00

CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO SLF AND SENT DIRECT TO SLF (not through Grands 'n' More Winnipeg Bank Account) AS AT MARCH 31, 2020

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>SENT TO S.L.F.</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Donations	1,395.00	1,395.00	0.00
Art from the Attic	20.00	20.00	0.00
Scrabble	<u>180.00</u>	<u>180.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTALS	1,595.00	1,595.00	0.00

NOTE: Total amount contributed to the Stephen Lewis Foundation in 2019-2020 (as at March 31, 2020)

From Grands 'n' More Winnipeg Fundraising (see above)	42,444.44
From Grands 'n' More Winnipeg previous year's surplus	1,000.00
Cheques made payable to Stephen Lewis Foundation (see above)	<u>1,595.00</u>
	45,039.44

Submitted by Barb Fletcher

Africa

The World Health Organization (WHO) has been helping African countries around COVID-19.

Since the start of the outbreak the WHO has been supporting African governments with early detection by providing thousands of COVID-19 testing kits to countries, training dozens of health workers and strengthening surveillance in communities. Forty-seven countries in the WHO African region can now test for COVID-19. At the start of the outbreak only two could do so.

The WHO has issued guidance to countries, which is regularly updated to take into account the evolving situation. The guidelines include measures such as quarantine, repatriations of citizens and preparedness at workplaces. The Organization is also working with a network of experts to coordinate regional surveillance efforts, epidemiology, modelling, diagnostics, clinical care and treatment, and other ways to identify, manage the disease and limit widespread transmission.

WHO is providing remote support to affected countries on the use of electronic data tools, so national health authorities can better understand the outbreak in their countries. Preparedness and response to previous epidemics is providing a firm foundation for many African countries to tackle the spread of COVID-19.

Stephen Lewis was interviewed on The Current on March 25

<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/the-current-for-march-25-2020-1.5509214/world-will-survive-covid-19-only-if-swift-action-taken-to-help-africa-un-humanitarian-says-1.5509728>

Submitted by Frances Molaro

Membership Fees

If there is no objection, it would be best if members would not date their cheques for membership. I have been self-isolating for 3-1/2 weeks so would not be able to mail the cheques or deliver them to Barb until it is deemed safe to be out. I have about 18-20 cheques in my possession. Membership fee is still \$25.00 payable to Grands 'n' More Winnipeg. They can be mailed to me at:

821 Parkhill St. Wpg. MB. R2Y 0V4

Submitted by Agnes Brydon 837-7346

Surgical Caps for Frontline Health Care Staff

Members may be interested in this information:

I note that according to their Facebook posts a number of Canadian grandmothers groups are sewing facemasks for use by the general public. They are not selling them but asking people to donate to SLF as an option.

As you may have seen in the Free Press there is also a very active group in Winnipeg sewing surgical-style caps for nurses (and long term care staff are asking for them now too) to reduce the chance of contaminating hair during procedures and otherwise. Hospitals are short of their usual surgical caps and are rationing them. A couple of Grands 'n' More Winnipeg sewers have made some but are low on fabric.



Fabric is needed across the city and in other places where sewers or new term - 'sewists' are eager to contribute to this initiative, and the sooner the supply of caps increases the better. Fabric must be quite lightweight and 100% cotton if possible, as it will be worn next to the skin for hours at a time. Any colours and patterns are okay that are appropriate for patients of all ages to see. Thread and buttons are also needed. Buttons need not match. They are used to hold mask elastics and relieve strain on ears.

Any member who has fabric, thread and/or buttons to donate may call or email me for contactless pickup.

Or join the Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/231924958190806>

(search: Surgical caps for frontline health care staff...winnipeg) for ongoing information about material donation and to download the sewing pattern to print it.

I can also email the pattern and directions.

Submitted by Sharon Twilley

204-257-4886 or twilleys@gmail.com





MANZINI STATEMENT

MAY 8TH, 2010

We are gathered here in Manzini, Swaziland - 500 grandmothers from fourteen countries, sharing our experience and knowledge, and celebrating our progress in beating back the ravages of HIV and AIDS. In 2006, at the first Grandmothers' Gathering in Toronto, we heralded the dawn of a new movement. Four years later, the strength and momentum of our movement are undeniable. We, the grandmothers of Africa, issue this clarion call to the world.

In 2006 we were battered by grief, devastated by the deaths of our beloved sons and daughters, and deeply concerned for the futures of our grandchildren. We stand here today battered, but not broken. We are resilient, and stand unwavering in our resolve to move beyond basic survival, to forge a vibrant future for the orphans and grandmothers of Africa.

We are the backbones of our communities. We form the core of community-based care. With our love and commitment we protect and nurture our orphan grandchildren. Africa cannot survive without us.

Integrity and autonomy are at the heart of our agenda.

We demand the economic independence to support our families, to provide nutritious food; decent housing; access to ongoing quality education for our grandchildren; and a richer quality of life for us all.

We must have the resources to build our own capacity to raise healthy families and assist one another. We call for more training in critical areas such as home-based care, HIV/AIDS education, on parenting orphaned children and adolescents, health care, literacy, and financial management.

We have lived through the enormity of AIDS in our communities, and have played our part in helping our nations survive the devastation. Without us, the toll on orphans and our communities would have been incalculable. Equal urgency and passion must now come from our Governments around the provision of services, and the guarantee and delivery of our rights. Urgent action must be taken in these priority areas:

- 1) Violence against grandmothers. These egregious acts, whether domestic violence, elder abuse, or accusations of witchcraft, must cease and be sanctioned.
- 2) Grandmothers must have meaningful support in the form of pensions and social security.
- 3) Laws must be passed and implemented ensuring the safety and rights of grandmothers and their grandchildren.

We will continue to provide a protective embrace around our grandchildren and communities. Our hope, indeed, our expectation, is that our governments will provide our families with the social and legal protections – from inheritance laws to educational opportunities for our grandchildren.

To the international community we say: true sustainability is in the hands of grandmothers and other community activists. We call on you to deliver on your promises. We have reached a real turning point in the struggle to subdue the AIDS pandemic. Now we are seeing the growing impact of our joint efforts, the need for increased and consistent resources is greater than ever.

We are leaders in our communities and countries. We have come together in this historic moment to lay the groundwork for greater support from our friends, our governments and the international community. We will continue to come together until such time as we and our grandchildren are secure and able to thrive. We will continue to stand in solidarity with one another throughout Africa and with our Canadian sisters.

We are strong, we are visionary, we have faith and we are not alone. Together we will turn the tide of AIDS.

Viva!

Grannies marching in
Swaziland
Photo by Andrea Chow

