

A HAND UP
from POVERTY
to POSSIBILITY

MICROFINANCING PARTNERS IN AFRICA

4949 COLUMBIA AVE.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63139

314-776-1319

MICROFINANCINGAFRICA.ORG



CELEBRATING OUR
11TH
YEAR OF OFFERING A
HAND UP



The midwives of St. Cecilia Clinic put their new training to work in performing an ultrasound analysis for a pregnant woman from the area.

This January 2017, Sharlene Teefey, MD, Sr. Toni Temporiti, CPPS, and Sr. Lucy Meissen, CPPS, travelled to Masaka, Uganda to launch MPA's Safe Birth pilot project. Dr. Teefey brought with her three portable ultrasound machines, donated by Mindray (detailed story to follow), and a thorough training program in ultrasound technology and analysis.

"We anticipated that there would be six midwives, two from each of the three clinics involved in the pilot, and an additional one or two from Kitovu Hospital, where C-sections are performed, who would receive the training. When we arrived, there were over 20 midwives interested in the class!" exclaimed Dr. Teefey. The classroom training included

hands-on experience. Dr. Teefey would scramble the settings and then ask the midwives to reset them. They were more than up to the task.

Sr. Lucy remarked, "This program is so important because women living in rural areas haven't had access to this type of service and the knowledge that comes with it. The women in the pilot program will come to the clinic for the ultrasound, but will leave with so much more. They'll have advice on whether they should seek out Kitovu Hospital to deliver their baby there. They'll have knowledge about the motorcycle ambulances that are now available for transportation to the hospital, and they'll have a professional community encouraging them throughout their

pregnancy. I love this intersection of maternal healthcare and microfinancing."

The pilot program will take much of 2017 as we track 100 women at the three clinics throughout their pregnancies. We hope to see that the incidences of obstetric fistula injuries (A serious injury that happens during delivery) reduced because of the actions of the pilot. Reducing the injury rates means increasing the "staying healthy rates." Says Sr. Toni, "The plan will be to use the results of the pilot to adjust the program before expanding to additional clinics. We also are interested in how the program develops a sustainability model to support itself ongoing, but we understand that this ramp-up can take time."



Mindray is one of the leading global providers of medical devices and solutions, firmly committed to the mission of sharing medical technologies with the world. It is a company with a multinational presence that maintains personal, exceptional service and communication to the medical professional community.

mindray
healthcare within reach

In collaboration with MPA board member Dr. Sherry Teefey, Mindray recently extended its outreach commitment to MPA in Masaka, Uganda, through a vital donation of ultrasound equipment. Three DP-50 model units were delivered to health clinics along with MPA's *Safe Pregnancy, Healthy Birth* instructional curriculum in January 2017. These units will enable midwives to help hundreds of African women by seeing their babies and fostering crucial, high-quality preventative pre-natal care.

LEARNING PROJECT: SAFE BIRTH TRAINING



Sharlene Teefey, MD, (center), presents a MindRay portable ultrasound machine to Bishop John Baptist Kaggwa, on behalf of the Safe Birth Project launched in Masaka, Uganda. With them are Fr. George Ssemmbombwe and the midwives who received Dr. Teefey's specialized training.

LEARNING PROJECT: SAFE BIRTH PILOT PROJECT RECEIVES MOTO-AMBULANCES

In 2016, MPA campaigned to fund three "boda boda" (motorcycle) ambulances for use in the Safe Birth project. These ambulances, originally envisioned to be a

motorcycle equipped with a lay-down side car or tow-behind wagon, would be able to navigate the unpaved, rutted roads endemic in the rural areas that the three clinics serve.

In conducting due diligence when it came time to purchase, Fr. George Ssemmbombwe identified a manufacturer in Kampala who provided a better product at a cost-effective price point. Still motorcycle powered, these vehicles have a full ambulance kit attached, allowing a caregiver to ride in the back with the patient. The vehicle pictured here is assigned to the Lwamaggwa Health Centre, one of the three clinics in the pilot project. The clinic already has processes in place to keep it fueled and ready to drive as needed.



ANIMAL PROJECT: COWS



A drought devastated much of East Africa in the second half of 2016. This was particularly evident when Sr. Toni, Sr. Lucy, and Dr. Teefey visited the breeding center, an integral key to the sustainability of the cow project. With a herd approaching 150 cows, the current pump system was able to provide water for the cows, but not enough to keep the grass growing. The breeding center purchased feed to sustain the cows during the draught.

Thanks to friends of MPA, a deeper well, a stronger pump, and an irrigation system have been installed. We have since received word that the cows are happily feeding on grass that is again growing at the breeding center.

COWS AGAINST MALARIA: USING AN INCOME PROJECT TO ADDRESS COMMUNITY HEALTH

In 2016, Deacon Don Grossnickle of Chicago, Illinois, launched a fundraising campaign in collaboration with MPA.

Having heard of the difficulty of access to prevention and treatment therapies for malaria, Deacon Don proposed that his campaign would fund cows for farmers who promised to "tithe"

income to support their local clinic's anti-malaria efforts. Because the first village is in the Masaka Diocese, the funding for

this campaign is coordinated through MPA.

Deacon Don and his committee have done interviews and made presentations advocating for this program. Most recently, his efforts inspire Girl Scout Troup #41723 to fund a "Cows Against Malaria" cow.

JAN-FEB AFRICA TRAVELERS



Sr. Toni Temporiti, CPPS, Founder of MPA, with member of Yawezekana SACCO



Sharlene Teefey, MD, with Sr. Mary Paul Wamatu, CPS



Sr. CJ Willie, SC, with Ingrid Munro of Jamii Bora/Yawezekana



Sr. Lucy Meissen, CPPS versus an anthill



Heather Cammarata, Executive Director for MPA, (in the middle) with Janet Bett, Manager of the Tumaini (on the left) and Tumaini volunteers in Nairobi



"Deacon Don is a visionary," says Sr. Toni, "and MPA is delighted to support these additional efforts. The connection to address a health care need is amazing."

For more information, visit the Cows Against Malaria campaign page on Gladitood.com:

<https://gladitood.com/projects/cowproject>

Greenhouse Group Income Project

One of the many microfinancing projects run by CPS Partners (the microfinancing effort managed by the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood in East Africa) is a Greenhouse Group Income Project.



Sr. Toni, Sr. Lucy, Sr. CJ Willie, and Heather Cammarata visited this project in February. Located west of Nairobi in Kenya, produce from the greenhouse is used first to feed adult students living at the complex for 12 months. What is left is sold at the local market for a profit. This profit defrays other costs of housing the students. The whole project offers these adult learners an income model to take back with them when they return home.

SMALL LOANS MANY WAYS



Members of the Mamas of Kibuchini provide a report to MPA at a meeting held in Morogoro, Tanzania.

Known as the “Mamas of Kibuchini,” this small group of rural women is similar to several small self-help groups being mentored by CPS Partners.

Sr. Mary Paul Wamatu, CPS, Sr. CJ, Willie, Sr. Lucy, Sr. Toni, and Heather visited these groups in January and February 2017.

“The Mamas are inspiring,” observed Heather Cammarata, MPA’s Executive Director. She continued, “They meet each month and contribute a small amount to a group ‘pot.’ When it grows to a certain amount, they give each member a small loan, to be repaid with 1-2 months with 10% interest. They have a constitution, rules for

attendance and participation, respect for each other, and even an emergency fund. Like many of the groups, this one had disbanded after a time and then reformed with the core members who were truly passionate about their group. I have been inspired to meet so many of these groups on this trip, with members who are so determined.”

In all, CPS Partners has 18 projects underway. Some are group income projects, but many are like this small self-help groups doing microfinancing at the most fundamental level. Heather said, “Even though they are small, they have much in common with our more established partners. There is an emphasis on saving, helping each other, and taking loans for the purpose of generating income. As they see their savings grow, they celebrate the group’s success.”

LEARNING PROJECT: SPOTLIGHT ON UNIFORMS



Members of the Maji ya Chai Uniform Project demonstrate the sewing machine and knitting machine.

The CPS Sisters operate the Upendo Leprosy Home in the village of Maji ya Chai in the outskirts of Arusha, Tanzania. When they originally took on this project, the local Lions Club promised to continue to donate funds to keep the home operating. Circumstances have changed, and the Lions are not able to

continue their support. Even so, the sisters have persisted in providing medical care, room, board, and a community setting for the residents. The sisters challenged themselves to derive a way to support this project themselves and came up with a group income project of making and selling school uniforms. They hire local

workers to knit uniform sweaters and sew shirts, pants, and skirts. These are made to order to the specifications of local schools, and offered for sale at an affordable price. The

project has three benefits: the workers earn income, the parents can get affordable uniforms for their kids, and the sisters have income to support the leprosy home.

Overall, the project is becoming known for high quality at good prices, and that is leading to larger orders.

FIVE YEAR GOALS: MPA LIFTS MORE FROM POVERTY TO POSSIBILITY

By 2022, MPA promises to:



Double the number of people given a hand

To do that, we need to:

- Double the number of donors to MPA.



- Ensure MPA's infrastructure sustains these efforts.

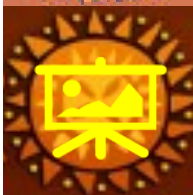
How You Can Join MPA to Offer a Hand Up



MONTHLY GIVING/ TEMBO CIRCLE: Go online and select "monthly" for your donation amount.



DO A FUNDRAISER YOUR WAY with a campaign page through Gladitood.com.



Host an evening for a few friends to learn the latest about MPA.

Call 314-776-1319 to learn more about any of these.

GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF MPA



MPA is thrilled to announce that we exceeded our 2016 goal for grants by securing a total of \$64,400! Our *Healthy Pregnancy, Safe Birth* program in Uganda was our main recipient, garnering \$39,000 in grant support from these vital communities:

Sisters of Charity - Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM)

Sisters of St. Joseph Tabitha Grant (CSJ)

St. Mary's Institute of O'Fallon, Precious Blood Sisters (CPPS)

School Sisters of Notre Dame – Central Pacific Fund (SSND)

Last year, we also added a new funder to our foundation support system, the Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters. They are graciously supporting the Upendo Leprosy Sewing Project in Arusha, Tanzania. And last but not least, we are proud to continue strong funding partnerships with Zonta St. Louis and the Trio Foundation of St. Louis for the BUWEA microfinance program.

We offer our sincere thanks to these foundations for their grants and guidance! We look forward to reporting the good work done through these grants in the coming months.

YOU CAN JOIN MPA'S BAOBAB LEGACY CLUB

Friends of MPA now have the opportunity to join our newest club, the Legacy Club. All are welcome!

The club membership is available to anyone who designates MPA as a beneficiary in his or her estate plan, retirement plan, or makes a donation to MPA as a required minimum distribution from an

Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

Connie Browne, MPA's Development Director, has selected the baobab tree as the symbol for this club. "The baobab tree may live to be thousands of years old. It inhabits a landscape where little else thrives. The baobab tree provides shelter, stores water, and supports life for

countless creatures. Further, the seeds of the baobab are used for coffee, the fruit of the baobab provides Vitamin C, and the bark of the baobab is used for rope and cloth. This remarkable African tree is a welcome sign along a journey." Connie continued, "I can't think of a more wonderful symbol of giving than the baobab tree. We will feature this tree on our

Baobab Legacy Club Certificate which will be an elegant way to show appreciation to Baobab Legacy Club members for their generous and giving spirit. After all, the baobab tree is a lasting gift to its ecosystem. It is a tree that goes on giving, as does a legacy gift to MPA."



Buy these books on MPA's website at <http://microfinancingafrica.org/be-involved/#Buy-The-Books>

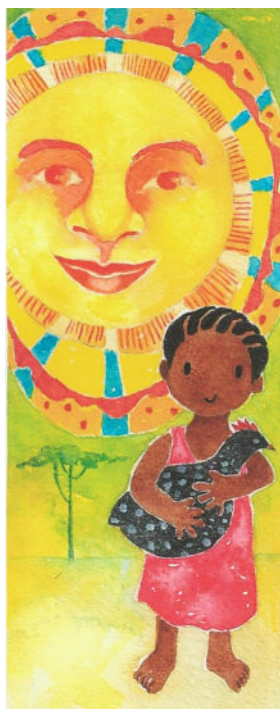
BUY THE BOOK

Holy Cow

Discover the power of one cow changing a farming families life in Uganda .



One Potato Two



Meet Mumbi, a young girl growing up in Kenya where the struggle to overcome extreme poverty is a daily reality. Learn how a small loan creates a big change in the life of her family.

CHALLENGE MATCH: TURN ONE COW INTO TWO COWS



Two anonymous donors have joined forces to lay down a challenge for MPA. If we can raise \$50,000 for cows in 2017, they will match it. If you wish to "buy" a cow, you will actually be putting two cows into the farms of

qualified farmers in the Cow Project. What a difference this will make! To make your donation to the Cow Project, visit <https://microfinancingafrica.opendonorcrm.com/civcrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=2>

TEMBO CIRCLE: MONTHLY GIVERS

We are proud to announce the formation of **The Tembo Circle** which is a very special group of supporters who have joined our monthly giving club. Tembo is the Kiswahili word for elephant due to their extraordinary qualities. They are loyal, loving, nurturing, giving and caring with memories that never forget which is much like our monthly givers. Recurring gifts make an immediate and lasting impact on MPA's projects in Africa. It is also an easy way for supporters to remain active without reminders and for MPA to have the reassurance that the mission continues because of the monthly investment.



TEMBO CIRCLE FOUNDING MEMBERS

Clarice Baum
Mary Lou Bennett
Genevieve Bimslager
Robert & Carla Bolland
Jane Burle

Barbara & Ray Dripps
Ed Kaiser
David Kirchner
David Kirk
Elizabeth Murray

Bob Powers
Mary Jo & Ernie Verhulst
Melissa Wein

TRIBUTE GIFTS IN 2016

We are pleased to share the Tribute Gifts to MPA that were given between January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

IN HONOR

In honor of Kelly Arnoldy from Dick & Nancy Arnoldy

In honor of Matt Arnoldy from Dick & Nancy Arnoldy

In honor of Nancy Arnoldy from Dick Arnoldy

In honor of Sr. Janice Bader and Council Team from Sr. Eileen Schieber, CPPS

In honor of Gary & Pat Balke from Tom & Nicolette Stilwell

In honor of George Bidinger from Walter & Gail Cammarata

In honor of Mary Ann Boschert from Kermit Boschert

In honor of Connie Browne from Kathy Probst

In honor of Kaitlyn Buffington from Dick & Nancy Arnoldy

In honor of Heather & Mark Cammarata from Phil & Cis Merkel

In honor of Heather & Mark Cammarata from Michael Hayden

In honor of Heather & Mark Cammarata from Julie Merkel

In honor of the CPPS Leadership Team from Our Lady Community Group: Sr. Mary Joan Dyer, Sr. Mary George Hellman, Sr. Rose Margaret Wessels

In honor of the CPPS Leadership Team from Visitation Group: Sr. Josepha Bauer, Sr. Carol Boschert, Sr. Alice Falk, Sr. Loretta Sigler

In honor of Bill Halter from Mary Lou Bennett

In honor of Rose Halter from Mary Lou Bennett

In honor of Judith Hoffman from Mary Diane Cummings

In honor of Debbie Koenemann from Judy Rubin

In honor of Mary Kellogg from Annette De Luca

In honor of Mary Kellogg & Bob Powers from Amelia Malick

In honor of Mary Kellogg & Bob Powers from Mary Ottoson

In honor of Sr. Lisa Ann Lazio from Phil & Cis Merkel

In honor of Sr. Mary Margaret Lazio from Phil & Cis Merkel

In honor of Susie Lazio from Phil & Cis Merkel

In honor of the CPPS Leadership Team from Sr. Kas Spletzer & Sr. Dory Obermann

In honor of Elizabeth Arnoldy Pomerence from Dick & Nancy Arnoldy

In honor of Joe Pomerence from Dick & Nancy Arnoldy

In honor of Sr. Carolyn Pozarich's birthday from John & Elise Kalafatic

In honor of Sonny, Jenny & Michael from Suellyn Fahey

In honor of Sr. Toni Temporiti from Sheila Chibnall-Treptow & Eric Treptow

In honor of Sr. Toni Temporiti & Sr. Barb Schlatter from Sr. Lucy Meissen, CPPS

In honor of Sr. Toni Temporiti from Carl & Dena Steiling

In honor of Blake Twisselman from Dick & Nancy Arnoldy

In honor of Christine Arnoldy Twisselman from Dick & Nancy Arnoldy

In honor of C. Uding from Mary Lou Bennett

In honor of Carla Valenti from Patricia Cox

In honor of Marie & Dennis Winschel from Bob Morrison & Margaret Morrison

IN MEMORY

In memory of Randy Blenkinship from Walter & Gail Cammarata

In memory of Lisa Boland from Michael Boland

In memory of John Concannon from Walter & Gail Cammarata

In memory of Paul Meissen from Sr. Lucy Meissen, CPPS

In memory of Sr. Liz Peplow from Jean de Blois

In memory of Sr. Liz Peplow from Kathleen Eagan

All effort has been made to ensure all tribute gifts to MPA are included. Please contact us if you notice an error.

2016 in Review



CPS Partners now operate 17 different group projects across 3 countries, benefitting over 1,000 members.

Over 200 post-fistula women have received piglets as a part of the Piglet Living Loan project.

Since 2009, the Cow Project Living Loan program has loaned 900 cows and 350 pass-on cows to farmers who went through the training and qualified for the program.

BUWEA (Bukoba Women's Empowerment Association) now has over 800 members. In addition to operating group projects for soy flour and soy milk, a bakery, and a daycare, the women operate a revolving loan fund for small income projects, with women going from zero daily income to 97% reporting income of almost or more than \$1 USD daily.

Jamii Bora/Yawezekana reports over 8,000 members, which means over 40,000 people in the extended households benefit from their programs, including savings and small loans, life insurance, health insurance, the Levuka sobriety program, and the Tumaini social worker program to support street beggars transitioning into income projects.



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OUR PROJECTS



**ROUND UP MOVIE
NIGHT:
SATURDAY JUNE
24, 2017
6:00 PM AT MPA
BBQ & MOVIE
ALL ARE
WELCOME. RSVP
TO 314-776-
1319.**



**BACK FROM
AFRICA
GATHERING:
SUNDAY JULY 16
1:00 PM AT
ARCO. ALL ARE
WELCOME. RSVP
TO 314-776-
1319.**



**TRIVIA NIGHT:
SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 23,
DOORS OPEN AT
6:00 PM. \$25/
PERSON, \$200/
TABLE OF 8. CALL
314-776-1319 TO
RESERVE A SPOT.
ALL ARE WELCOME.**

MICROFINANCING
PARTNERS IN AFRICA

**SAVE THE DATE—
MARK YOUR
CALENDARS**

**FOR FULL DETAILS
ON UPCOMING
EVENTS VISIT
ONLINE AT:**

**WWW.
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