

FOIA MARKER

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World Education

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April 12, 2000

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
Director – Office of National AIDS Policy
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Sandy:

A couple of days after our conversation at the FINCA reception, I got an annual report from “World Education” with an accompanying letter, including a direct quote from you. (Both are enclosed.)

“World Education,” if you hadn’t heard of it, is a nonprofit with a worldwide focus on adult functional literacy and special attention to girls and women, including HIV/AIDS.

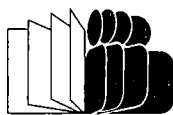
I have served on World Education’s board for many years, including a term as chairman. The president, Joel Lamstein, is also president of John Snow Inc., (JSI) which has as its focus public health internationally. Joel is frequently in Washington and, I am sure, would be delighted to call on you if you would like more information.

Just so you won’t run out of reading material, I am also enclosing a booklet about the NESC. I told you briefly about the work we will be doing with AMFAR, and I will keep you informed about our progress.

All the best,


Gerald D. Levy
Executive Vice President

cc: Monte Allen
Joel Lamstein



WORLD EDUCATION

April 6, 2000

Mr. Gerald Dun Levy
333 East 68th Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Gerry,

I want to tell you about Esther Daiton.

Esther Daiton sold her TV, her only valuable possession, so she could travel several hundreds of miles by bus and then by foot to find her sister's orphaned children and bring them home. After a heroic effort, she found them - seven among the millions of AIDS orphans. Esther does her best to care for them, but she worries about the future because she knows something the children don't know yet. Esther Daiton, herself, has AIDS.*

Esther Daiton is not alone. As the tragedy spreads - family by family, community by community, the infrastructure of the countries of southern Africa is crumbling. Agricultural production is down because fields are being left unplowed. Sometimes three people are being hired for a single job opening. And teachers are dying faster than new teachers can be trained.

The scene changes. We are in a Senate hearing room and Sandra Thurman, Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy is testifying before a Foreign Relations subcommittee.

"By any and every measure, AIDS is a plague of Biblical proportions. An entire generation of children is in jeopardy. In some sub-Saharan African countries, between one-fifth and one-third of all children have already been orphaned by AIDS. Over the next decade, more than 40 million children in Africa will have lost one or both parents to AIDS. That is almost the same number as all the children in public school in our country. Child mortality is tripling, and life expectancy is plummeting by as much as 30 years."

In 1998, one in seven Namibians was HIV positive. Now it's one in four.

We must be realistic. In the absence of a cure, is there any hope? The answer is **"Yes!"** And as people who have something to offer, our answer must be "Yes!" Here's what we have to do:

- 1) prevent transmission of the disease, and
- 2) provide adequate services for those already infected.

Prevention = behavior change. And the behaviors that propel the HIV/AIDS epidemic are deeply rooted. They will be changed only by education efforts that are well-targeted, large scale, and sustained. World Education has proven expertise in HIV/AIDS prevention education.

World Education, Inc.

44 Farnsworth Street	617 482 • 9485	Voice
Boston • Massachusetts	617 482 • 0617	Fax
02210 • 1211	wei@WorldEd.org	Email

A Non-Profit Organization

We can maximize our impact in three ways:

- 1) we will focus our efforts where the greatest gains can be made: on the youth;
- 2) we will use our expertise to train and equip AIDS educators from government agencies and in-country NGOs to work in local communities; and
- 3) we will offer more services by working shoulder to shoulder with our sister organization, the JSI Research and Training Institute. We provide education and training. They provide technical assistance ranging from condom distribution logistics to HIV testing and case management.

The young people of southern Africa represent the future. They are the ones who will benefit the most from AIDS prevention information. And, frankly, they are the ones who still have a chance. They are vulnerable, but they are open to change.

With so many people carrying the HIV virus, there is a huge need for counseling and home-based care services. Here, too, World Education is responding to the need. By the end of this year, we expect to have trained an army of 600 counselors and home-based care workers in Namibia alone.

But meanwhile, *the entire region* desperately needs these services. We know what to do and we know how to do it. But we have to act on a much grander scale. And we have to commit for the long haul.

We can make the extraordinary response that is needed - *if* we can depend on your extraordinary generosity.

Please. Let us hear from you right away.

Thanks so much,

Joel Lamstein
President

P.S. In the absence of a cure, the hope lies in education. Please make the biggest gift you can to help World Education fight the AIDS epidemic.

* Esther Daiton's story was first told by Wil Haygood in the astonishing series "AIDS and the African" that appeared in the Boston *Globe* last October.

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The fight against AIDS is everyone's fight. Here is my part.

I wish to donate ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other.

☐ My check is enclosed, payable to World Education.

☐ Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX

Acct. #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Mr. Charles H. Trout
211 North Queen Street
Chestertown, MD 21620

My e-mail address is: _____ (*see back of form for an explanation)

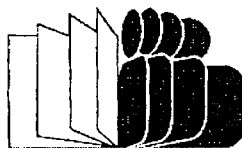
This is what matters the most to me. (Please check all that apply)

Program Focus:

- ☐ Girls and Women's Education
- ☐ Health Programs (including HIV/AIDS)
- ☐ Small Business Development
- ☐ Basic Literacy and Job Skills

Geographic Focus:

- ☐ Africa
- ☐ Asia
- ☐ Latin America
- ☐ United States



WORLD EDUCATION

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