one in a million
One woman.
One change.
One million times and counting...
One Million and Counting

In 2008, Freedom from Hunger— with our partners, our donors, and the women we serve— achieved a major milestone. We are now bringing the powerful and proven combination of microfinance and education to more than a million women who are ending hunger for their families.

The significance of this milestone starts with each individual woman who mustered the courage to embrace self-help. Women in rural areas living on no more than $1 per day regularly summon the determination to end their families' hunger for good... and they are changing the world. Consider the courage it takes to break with tradition to try the new practices taught at regular learning sessions on health, financial management, and business education. If you could neither read nor write, imagine committing to learning basic accounting to improve your business or following health regimens to beat malaria.

We demonstrated long ago that by extending the reach of our innovations and proven programs through in-country partners, we could lift exponentially more families from chronic hunger: In clusters of villages in India, settlements spread across West Africa, and hamlets scattered throughout the Philippines archipelago and Andean Altiplano, 240 organizations have now committed to learn, adapt, and deliver Freedom from Hunger's integrated self-help services for the long term. It is by working with those special partners that we have surpassed the million-woman milestone... and we will multiply that number dramatically in the years ahead.

We achieved this figure because our donors shared our vision. Given how many causes there are, each of our donors can truly be considered one in a million. You recognized the power of our work and supported it. For that, we and the women we serve are forever grateful.

Of course, we are not content to rest on this accomplishment. Next, we must expand our services to reach even more women and share what we have learned with other organizations that want to help people end hunger for themselves and their families... for good. I invite you to learn more about how and where we work by visiting our website at freedomfromhunger.org.

A fight this big needs many friends. Please join us as we continue the work.

Christopher Dunford
President, Freedom from Hunger
More than a million women are now receiving the benefits of microfinance and education, and we are on track to meet the goals of our Reach for Three Million plan. With fully 800 million human beings suffering from chronic hunger, our milestone may not seem significant—even though those million-plus women are bringing the benefits of their participation home to their families, changing the lives of an estimated 7.4 million people.

The significance of this achievement is best understood when one remembers the power of the demonstration effect. By training local partner organizations to implement the programs we develop, we reach exponentially more women than we ever could alone. In addition to directly serving families confronting poverty and hunger, our goals include the extension of this strategy for use by other organizations.

Can we help 800 million people end their hunger for good? We're counting on it!
FREEDOM FROM HUNGER’S mission might be described this way: develop, demonstrate, disseminate. Through innovation, we continually develop new and better ways to support the self-help efforts of very poor families around the globe. We then work with local partners to demonstrate the value of these innovations and train those partners to implement the programs sustainably. We research, evaluate, and monitor impacts to ensure that we’re creating beneficial and sustainable programs. And when we find methods that are most successful, we distribute these programs as widely as possible for others to adopt and adapt in their own anti-hunger, anti-poverty efforts.

INNOVATION

When Freedom from Hunger piloted Credit with Education, a first-of-its-kind integration of health and business education with group-based microfinance, it established us as a pioneer. Credit with Education is now considered a best-practice method for those who want to achieve multiple social goals simultaneously and sustainably. A tradition of innovation defines Freedom from Hunger.
The Microfinance and Health Protection Initiative (MAHP)

BÉNIN, BOLIVIA, BURKINA FASO, INDIA, AND THE PHILIPPINES

When women participating in microfinance programs fall into delinquency, the most common reason is ill health—theirs, their children’s, the family’s. Microfinance institutions that serve these women have a vital interest—a vital financial interest—in helping their clients and their clients’ families get healthy and stay healthy.

With primary support provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Freedom from Hunger is working with five partners through the MAHP initiative in Bénin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, India, and the Philippines to develop and adapt health service packages that address the common health-related needs in their areas.

More than 90,000 clients now receive a tailored package of services such as health loans, health savings, health microinsurance, discounted access to healthcare providers, and improved availability of preventative health products and medicines. Three new health “learning conversations” were also developed and disseminated this year.

COMBINING MICROFINANCE AND HEALTH PROTECTION TO SAVE A CHILD’S LIFE

Four-year-old Joasin was very sick and needed medical care. His mother knew that in their remote community—a nine-hour bus ride from Bolivia’s capital, La Paz—there was none. Not knowing how she would pay for his care, Joasin’s mother carried him onto a bus and into a hospital in La Paz.

But after weeks of trying at a public hospital, they still hadn’t seen a doctor. Payment—in advance—was required for treatment. Joasin’s mother had no money, but her mother and grandmother were microfinance clients of CRECER, Freedom from Hunger’s local partner in Bolivia. As a part of the MAHP initiative, CRECER had recently begun offering health loans, and provided Joasin’s mother credit to cover surgery, treatment, and medicine.

Joasin’s mother is setting aside money each day from her own microenterprise profits to repay her health loan—without sacrificing the family’s delicate financial stability or a normal childhood for Joasin.
The goal of the HealthKeepers initiative is to provide 80 percent of Ghana’s rural villages access to much-needed health protection products and health information by 2012.

Freedom from Hunger is training entrepreneurial, motivated, and friendly women to sell health protection products in their villages. This social business is already showing the potential to transform rural health in Ghana and is creating livelihoods for entrepreneurial women determined to make better lives for their families while they improve the lives of entire communities too distant to be served by retailers.

In FY08, about 16,000 families in Ghana were served by 70 HealthKeepers. Trained to sell health products and educate their customers on the use of health protection products, HealthKeepers are also able to teach their customers to recognize when a doctor’s care is needed.

A PARADE FOR A PROMISE
When Freedom from Hunger’s HealthKeepers program graduated from innovative pilot to nationwide initiative, celebration was in order. The ceremony was held in Bawjiase, one of the first towns to benefit from door-to-door sales by HealthKeepers, and was attended by more than 200 people, including Freedom from Hunger leaders, Ghanaian government officials, the president of Ghana’s national microfinance association, and two tribal Queen Mothers who used the occasion to buy products directly from the baskets of exuberant HealthKeepers.

One of those HealthKeepers was Grace Annobil. Fresh from that festive day, she spent the following afternoon in rural Gomoa District, selling mosquito nets, hand soap, reading glasses, and antiseptic solution to families from the basket atop her head. In only four months, she has transformed herself and her family’s financial security by becoming a HealthKeeper.
Saving for Change
BURKINA FASO, MALI, SÉNÉGAL

In FY08, Freedom from Hunger moved decisively to improve, expand, and replicate savings groups, a centuries-old tradition still popular in very poor, remote areas. Our program, Saving for Change, co-developed with Oxfam America, gives poor women a safe place to save money within a group. They gather to deposit money in a collective box and encourage each other to keep on saving for medical needs, education, emergencies, and growing their businesses. These savings are used to make loans to members on an as-needed basis, with decisions made by the women themselves. More than 3,300 savings groups have been newly formed, serving more than 75,000 members in Burkina Faso and Mali.

With new funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support our collaboration with Oxfam America, Freedom from Hunger is creating simple, picture-based manuals and training curricula to help village women become “replicating agents” to promote and train new savings groups.

Saving for Change embodies the very essence of self-help, and the self-replicating component has the potential to reach as many as a half-million people within three years. The collaboration with Oxfam covers Mali, and Freedom from Hunger is expanding Saving for Change in Burkina Faso and Sénégal, to reach 20,000 women in two years.
Credit with Education

BÉNIN, BOLIVIA, BURKINA FASO, ECUADOR, GHANA, HAITI, MADAGASCAR, MALI, PERU, THE PHILIPPINES, SÉNÉGAL, TOGO

In FY08, more than 750,000 women were participating in Credit with Education programs in 12 countries—more than double the number of women participating just two years ago. In Ecuador and Peru, more than 46,000 women are now participating in Credit with Education programs being delivered by our local partner organizations. Business education is in high demand for Andean women and, thanks to funding from the Citi Foundation, Freedom from Hunger is training local partners in the curriculum so they can adapt it to respond to needs and opportunities.

Credit with Education is also expanding rapidly in African countries where it is long established, such as Bénin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Sénégal, and Togo. Women are taking loans twice as large as they did last year, while maintaining their near-perfect repayment rate. Their savings accounts have also grown by better than 25 percent. In West Africa, one of the world’s poorest regions, women have put approximately $3.1 million into Credit with Education savings accounts.

Credit with Education is now recognized as one of the most effective and high-impact microfinance services available. Piloted 20 years ago, Credit with Education has been proven to better a family’s financial security, improve food security, and promote the health and nutrition of young children.
Reach Global

INDIA, MALI, MEXICO

Reach gathers the most effective self-help services from around the world and uses its training expertise to make them available to local organizations that serve self-help groups of very poor women. Working through offices in India, Mali, and Mexico, Freedom from Hunger equips community-based organizations to deliver nonformal education to thousands of self-help groups in many of the world’s poorest places. It promises to reach millions of poor women.

REACH INDIA

In FY08, six Service Centers trained 582 self-help promoting community-based organizations in several of Freedom from Hunger’s learning modules, including “Plan for a Better Business,” “Preventing HIV/AIDS” and “Confronting Malaria.”

With funding from Nike Foundation, Reach India developed and tested an innovative new education methodology, called “Learning Games for Girls,” addressing the topics of health and nutrition, self-esteem and financial management. With support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Reach trained organizations to work with groups of adolescent girls and young women. “Learning Games for Girls” will soon reach nearly 10,000 girls and as many as 323,000 other women in self-help groups.

AVANÇONS (REACH WEST AFRICA)

Launched in FY08, Avançons established Service Centers in Mali, Burkina Faso, and Bénin, with expansion under way in Ivory Coast, Niger, Sénégal, and Togo. The first trainings focus on how to deliver and sustain Saving for Change and education on how to prevent and manage malaria. Avançons now reaches rural, remote areas with microfinance and health, nutrition, and business education trainings that meet the needs of poor villagers.

ALCANÇE (REACH MEXICO)

Alcance certified its first group of independent trainers to deliver integrated microfinance and health education services throughout Mexico. With funding from ACE INA, community-based organizations learn how to deliver integrated services. They also learn to increase the capacity of organizations to deliver those programs to groups; seven such organizations brought learning sessions to 177,065 women. With new funding from Alcoa Foundation, work is under way to train organizations to deliver education to microfinance groups in the states of Coahuila and Chihuahua.
Training to Adapt, Adopt, and Deliver

By training other organizations, Freedom from Hunger can reach vastly more women than it could ever hope to do alone. Freedom from Hunger is renowned for its dialog-based approach to adult education, emphasizing relevance and practical application of the learning. Based on market research and testing, we develop education modules to meet the needs of the target population and train partner organizations how to train their own members.

In FY08, Freedom from Hunger used funds from the Citi Foundation, USTDA/Bansefi Mexico, and others to launch a training program in poverty-focused financial education co-created with Microfinance Opportunities. Families learn how to create and manage a household budget, use remittances, tap into financial services, save money, and manage debt. A special module focuses on consumer education for microfinance clients.

Research, Evaluation, and Monitoring

We are committed to rigorous evaluation of our efforts to help people lift themselves out of poverty and hunger. We do it with sound research that stands the test of scientific discipline. In past studies we have explored questions of how our programs affect poverty, food security, health, nutrition, and client satisfaction (these studies are posted at freedomfromhunger.org/publications).

We train our partners to use evaluation and monitoring tools and systems that collect feedback from the women who participate in our programs, and other data that can enhance program management and results for the client. We use this information to strengthen management and adjust product and service delivery.
Financial Highlights

**Statements of Unrestricted Operating Activities and Changes in Unrestricted Operating Net Assets**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>UNRESTRICTED OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT:</td>
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<td>Individuals and Planned Gifts</td>
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<td>Corporate and Foundation Grants and Gifts</td>
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<td>Public Sector/NGOs/Other Sources</td>
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<td>Contributed In-kind Materials and Services</td>
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<td>178,506</td>
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<td>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</td>
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<td>575,692</td>
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<td>Other Income (Investment and Miscellaneous)</td>
<td>(159,011)</td>
<td>183,651</td>
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<td><strong>Total Unrestricted Operating Revenue and Support</strong></td>
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<td>UNRESTRICTED OPERATING EXPENSES:</td>
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<td>Africa Programs</td>
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<td>Central &amp; South America Programs</td>
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<td>Southeast Asia Programs</td>
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<td>Global Programs</td>
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<td>Program Information/Hunger Awareness</td>
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<td>1,102,527</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>610,645</td>
<td>506,909</td>
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<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>1,074,279</td>
<td>754,531</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Unrestricted Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td>8,539,333</td>
<td>7,357,513</td>
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<td>CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED OPERATING NET ASSETS</td>
<td>(769,759)</td>
<td>(1,410)</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNRESTRICTED OPERATING NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR</td>
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<td>(197,057)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer of Net Assets from Board-Reserved Fund</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UNRESTRICTED OPERATING NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td>$(752,226)</td>
<td>$1,533</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Statements of Financial Position**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASSETS:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>$4,107,230</td>
<td>$3,950,808</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pledges Receivable—Nonconcurrent</td>
<td>217,715</td>
<td>251,514</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash Surrender Value of Life Insurance</td>
<td>136,752</td>
<td>147,339</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment, net</td>
<td>739,899</td>
<td>752,338</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$5,279,374</td>
<td>$5,217,547</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>$2,114,325</td>
<td>$1,788,810</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noncurrent Liabilities</td>
<td>200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>2,314,325</td>
<td>1,788,810</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>(752,226)</td>
<td>1,533</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Reserved</td>
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<td>3,096,482</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>TEMPOARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS</td>
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<td>77,778</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>2,965,049</td>
<td>3,428,737</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$5,279,374</td>
<td>$5,217,547</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Freedom from Hunger has been honored by Charity Navigator for the second consecutive year with its highest, four-star rating. This distinction was offered to only one in six U.S. nonprofit organizations this year, and we are proud to have gained recognition for the integrity of our work. In addition, the Wise Giving Alliance of the Better Business Bureau gave us another year of approval, and the American Institute of Philanthropy again named us one of its “Top-Rated Charities.” Williams & Olds Certified Public Accountants audited our financial performance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. To receive a copy of the audit report, please send an email to info@freedomfromhunger.org.*
Managing Resources Wisely

In FY 2008, Freedom from Hunger allocated 80 percent of expenses to program services and information, which include in-country partner training and technical assistance; the development, publication, and dissemination of education modules and materials; impact research, evaluation, and monitoring; and peer education and hunger-awareness activities. To supplement this year’s revenue, we drew down from our net assets to invest in Freedom from Hunger’s capacity to grow toward our goal of reaching three million chronically hungry families by June 30, 2010.

IN FISCAL YEAR 2008, EACH DOLLAR DONATED TO FREEDOM FROM HUNGER’S ANNUAL FUND PROVIDED $30.71 IN LIFESAVING HELP.

When donors choose to support Freedom from Hunger through their charitable giving, their donations are leveraged for even greater impact. In FY 2008, individuals donated $4,123,301 to our work. Those funds attracted $2,856,056 in corporate and foundation grants and gifts, helped generate $883,403 in additional revenue, and supported $118,934,429 in loan capital, the funds that are borrowed by the women who participate in Freedom from Hunger’s work in the field.
Our Donors are One in a Million

Fiscal Year 2008 was the most aggressive year yet for Freedom from Hunger in its drive to “Reach for Three Million,” the five-year strategic growth plan that guides and inspires our work. The collective enterprise of committed individuals and institutions makes our work a shared undertaking, with accomplishments in the field made possible by your generous donations.

We are grateful for the support of the donors named below who made gifts of $500 or more between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008.

$1,000,000+
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
John and Jacque Webber

$250,000-999,999
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Nike Foundation
United States Trade and Development Agency
Anonymous

$100,000-249,999
ACE INA Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin T. Baldridge
Citi Foundation
Doe Run Peru, Ltd.
Microfinance Opportunities
O’Melveny & Myers LLP
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Scheide

$50,000-99,999
Alcoa Foundation
Charities Aid Foundation
MicroCredit Enterprises
Microsoft
Skees Family Foundation
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
Zodiac Fund

$25,000-49,999
Jenny Austin and Eric Friedman
Breyer Family Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
Five Talents International
Global Impact
Margaret Kelly
Charles and Mary Liebman
Linked Foundation
New Field Foundation
Evelyn Stern
J. Grover and Catherine Thomas
Eleanor and Weldon Wasson
Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation
Anonymous

$10,000-24,999
The A.H.A. Family Fund
Ansara Family Fund at The Boston Foundation
Jonathan A. Budd
Caridad Partners
Charles and Helen Schwab Foundation
William and Stella Coker

Dining for Women
Tom Dodd
Sean Foote
The Friedland Foundation
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Frederick and Lynn Hanna
Peter Hays
Linda Parker Hudson
Institute of Development Studies
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Leatherman Family Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
Joanne Leslie and Walter Johnson
Peter J. Mayer
Thomas R. and Barbara McBurney
Maurice R. Meslans and Margaret E. Holyfield
Microcredit Summit Campaign
Dennis Monroe and Patricia Weller
North American Energy Credit & Clearing Corp.
Patricia L. Kimball Endowment of the Shasta Regional Community Foundation
Physicians Against World Hunger
Susan and David Plimpton
Dennis and Theres Rohan
Alison and Mark Russell
Barbara and Harvey Sigelbaum
Mary Lou K. Stevenson
United Health Cares, Inc.
Western Union Foundation
Parker-Worley
Anonymous (4)

$5,000-9,999
Marian Arens
Richard C. Auger and Mary E. Radu
Biedenharn Foundation
Andrew and Lee Botham
Clifford Foundation, Inc.
David P. Cohen
Theresa and Robert Davis
Richard and Sheila Desrochers
Gerald and Gail Eiselman
Cam Pelz Elbow and Peter Elbow
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Susan Cleary Garratt in memory of Bill Garratt and Anne Addington
Hahn Family Foundation
Jane M. Sheehan Charitable Foundation
Jewish Federation of Omaha Foundation
Mark and Maureen Marosits
David and Alice Noble in honor of Marianne Udow and Bill Phillips
One Great Hour of Sharing, Wider Church Ministries, United Church of Christ
Open Society Matching Gifts Program
Jimmy Pan
Duane and Patricia Paul
The Pauley-Trudeau Foundation
The Phantom Laboratory, Inc.
The Richard J. & Patricia M. Stitcher Family Foundation
Sharon K. Ricketts
Steve Rifea
John A. Shoemaker
Cyrus and Joanne Spurlino
Grover and Cristina Thomas
Marianne Udow-Phillips and William Phillips
Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program
Timothy and Mary Jo Wainwright
Weissman Family Foundation
Cornie and Betty Ann Wienes
Mary and Redwood Wright Fund of The Cape Cod Foundation
Anonymous (4)

$2,500-4,999
Linda K. Ashworth
Bioneneing Corporation
Catherine Caneau
The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation
James Allen Carroll
Judith and Richard Corson
Robb and Nancy Davis
Davis High School Freedom from Hunger Club
The Doebening Foundation
William J. and Joan K. Dooley
Eart and Its People Family Foundation
Friends Academy of Locust Valley, NY, 6th Grade Read-a-thon
Tacy and Holger Hahn
Dr. Thomas L. Hall
Kathleen and Bill Hamm
Christopher Hest
Gal en and Leah Hoskin
Kareli Authors, Inc. in honor of Gladys Munoz and Betty Christian
Jason and Andrea Knipschild in memory of Gary Knipschild
Marta Jo Lawrence
Lawyers Against World Hunger
Lester Consulting Group, Inc.
Peter and Helen Molloy in memory of Chester Swiderski
Betty Peters in memory of Jerry Peters L. Ralph Pothel and Michelle Williams
Dr. Barbara L. Rees
Ed Michael Reggie
Bill and Cheri Robinson
Catherine and David Roth
Edward A. Seebol
Frances Stewart
Nicholas and Marilyn Tikvica
TRW Employee’s Charity Organization
The Trull Foundation
Steven P. Willner and Carol J. Jensen
Daniel Wolfson and Diana Gonzalez Gandolfi
Larry and Katherine Youngblood
Anonymous (7)

$1,000-2,499
Sultan Al Essa
Bill and Joan Allen
American Endowment Foundation’s Thanksgiving Fund
Nancy C. Atherton
John Barker and Anne Witkowsky
Charles and Jean Barnett in memory of Margaret B. Barnett
Grace and Marc Bartoo
Jim and Jill Bennett
Sally Bergman in honor of Nancy Kay Dutton
Peter and Helena Benstock
Arthur L. and Trudi E. Black
Martin L. Bolas
Shari K. Bryan
Susan Oke Bush
C. Maude Wrigley Foundation
Barbara and Michael Chang
ChangingThePresent.org
David and Kris Chatfield
Nirmal and Ellen Chatterjee
Sheila C. Cheston
Julia Chin*
Belinda Chua
The Clorox Company Foundation
Code Blue Charitable Foundation
Pamela A. Cook*
Leland and Stacey Crawford
Lucy H. Dailey
Sam Daube
Joan M. Davis
Elspeth A. Davis in memory of Elsie H. Hill
Laureen De Buono*
Karen DeBenedictis
Denise DeConcini and Robert Ramin
Mary and Bob Devore in memory of Malcolm and Edythe Devore
Mark and Tobey Dichter in honor of our clients
Elizabeth J. Dooley and Thomas C. Williams
Dr. and Mrs. Christopher Dunford
Traci Eckels*
J.D. and Mary Kay Eliard
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Ellis
Engineered Monitoring Systems, Inc.
Debra Farb*
Sarah D.K. Faulkner
First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo
First United Methodist Church, St. Cloud, MN
Marvin M. Fischer
Lawrence B. Fitzgerald
Pamela J. Ford and L. Kenneth Alford in memory of Lloyd H. Alford
Karen M. Forecki
Gustin and Erin Fox-Smith
Edward and Karen Frawley
GE Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Bob and Myra Gencar
Mark D. Gizzi and Elizabeth Ann Goetting
GlaxoSmithKline’s Positive Action Programme
The Glickerun Foundation in honor of Nancy Kay Dutton
Tracey and Gary Gmoser
Robert and Maria Goldstein
Samuel & Grace Gorlitz Foundation
George A. Grant
Megan McNealy Graves*
Donald and Rosalie Gray
James I. and Patricia A. Grieshop
Lilian B. Griffith
Louis E. and Georgette Grivetti
Leigh Hallingby
Hallmark Inn, Davis
James and Ingrid Halstead
Anne Hamilton
Lee Hapa
Barbara S. Haroldson
Tanig and Huma Hashmy
Healthcare Frontier, LLC
John Heyman
Martha Holman and Wayne Guzy
Herbert Horvitz
Edward and Lin House
Robert and Christine Husson
Stephen Jackson in memory of Clifford Jackson
Theodore Johnson, Jr.
Mary B. Kasbohm
Felix Kaufman
Nancy J. King
Virginia H. King
Laura J. King
Robert Krum and Hans-Michael Vermeersch
Marcus and Donna Krupp in honor of Stuart L. Dautoff
Neoklis A. Kyperos
Tyler Latinen and Lisa Heinze
Dr. Kathy J. Lang
Robert E. Leach and Donna Caley Leach
S. J. and Barbara Levy
Walter and Conny Lindley
Elise B. Lufkin
Elise G.B. Lufkin
Sally R. Marrell
Mary R. and Joseph R. Payden Foundation in memory of Mary and Joseph Payden
Judith A. McCartney
Laura J. McGrath
Robert and Helga Medearis
Carolyn A. Megal
Charles Menill
The Mitzvah Foundation
Modular Mining Systems, Inc.
Elmer and Mary Moore
John and Evelyn Morrison
Elise Murray
Robert and Carolyn Nelson
Shirley S. Ober
Miriam Osherman
Benedict and Margarite O’Brien
Dr. Mark and Mary Odell
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Elie Wiesel
“Before, I could not produce enough clothing to add more than a little money to our household. We used this money for food and school uniforms. And I could not save. Now, I save, and I keep putting money into my business so it grows. I am also saving for hard times so that we are safe.”

Patience is One in a Million

In her rural village in Ghana, Patience Ameyaw did what every other young woman in her village did: marry, have children, and work every day to feed them.

To help her family, Patience used a foot-powered sewing machine to make simple shirts and skirts that she sold to others in her village. She couldn’t afford to buy anything fancier than plain cotton fabric; zippers and buttons, which would make her clothes more valuable, were out of the question. Still, the few pennies she earned on each sale were desperately needed in her household.

Then life changed.

Patience heard that a group of women in her village were joining Freedom from Hunger’s Credit with Education program. Patience joined the group and received her first loan, the equivalent of $100. With it she bought a small electric sewing machine and a generator. She started working faster and earning greater profits with the improved quality and quantity of the clothes she made. Three years and six loans later, Patience has three machines and employs three apprentices. Inspired by Patience’s example, two of the apprentices have already established their own small businesses.

Reflecting on the sisterhood that has formed in her community, Patience said, “The other women help, too. The dressmakers encouraged me to save more and we talk about what our customers want. We help each other even though we are in the same business.”

Patience has made the most of the learning sessions provided at her regular group meetings. “My favorite was about malaria. I did not know where malaria came from and about nets. Now my children and my husband and I sleep under nets.”
Founded in 1946, Freedom from Hunger brings innovative and sustainable self-help solutions to the fight against chronic hunger and poverty. Together with local partners, we equip families with resources they need to build futures of health, hope and dignity.

Learn more at: freedomfromhunger.org

Freedom from Hunger is bringing self-help solutions to rural areas in some of the world’s poorest countries. In 2008, we were able to reach 1.2 million women in 16 countries, working with over 240 in-country partners. We believe that an end to hunger is possible...for good and for all.