

Dear friends,

Greetings from the Firelight Foundation! This week's Newsflash! has many articles covering a variety of topics: from the power of grandmothers to a fun, educational and philanthropic website, to an informative timeline regarding pregnancy. We hope this is helpful to the many of you that read the Newsflash!

All the best as you make children's futures brighter in 2010!

Blessings from The Firelight Team

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## **(Article) AFRICA NEEDS BOOST TO FIGHT POVERTY AND HIV/AIDS**

UNAIDS and the Millennium Village project(MVP) are calling on the international community to increase their funding in the fight against mother-to-child (MTCT) HIV transmission in sub-Saharan Africa.

[Article link](#)

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## **(Article) PRESIDENT FOR A DAY: BBC OPINION ENTRY**

Imagine you are your country's newly-elected head of state. The BBC's Network Africa programme is giving you the opportunity to broadcast your inaugural speech. What would you change? What policies would you pursue? Who would you work with and who would you sack? What solutions would you bring to your country's problems. Who would be your allies in the international community and

why? How much would you want to be paid? What would you contribute to Africa as a leader?

[Article link](#)

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### **(Article) SANITARY PADS HELP GHANA GIRLS TO GO SCHOOL**

Schoolgirl absenteeism in Ghana could be cut by half by providing free sanitary towels, a study has shown.

[Article link](#)

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### **(Article) GATES SAYS MALARIA VACCINE MAY BE READY IN THREE YEARS**

Microsoft founder Bill Gates has told the BBC that a vaccine for malaria could be just three years away.

[Article link](#)

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### **(Article) PREGNANCY TIMELINE**

Great article that gives a comprehensive, yet compact, overview of the milestones of pregnancy and child development.

[Article link](#)

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### **PEER ORGANIZATION FEATURED ON AJWS CAMPAIGN PAGE**

From the Ground Up is a campaign of American Jewish World Service to help end global hunger. We created this campaign because too many people are unnecessarily dying of hunger each day and because, as Jews, we can't accept a world that's so needlessly broken.

Unlike many organizations involved in fighting hunger, AJWS generally doesn't provide food handouts. While this might appear to be a good short-term solution – and we do give food relief during times of disaster, such as the 2004 tsunami or the cyclone in Burma in spring 2008 – it's an ineffective way to end global hunger and, in some ways, actually perpetuates it.

AJWS's philosophy is predicated on the highest rung of Maimonides' ladder

of tzedakah, which is designed to make the recipient self-sufficient. Or drawing on other traditions, our approach is aligned with the Chinese proverb: Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

Of course, it's not just about men and it's not just about fishing. But people want to be able to feed themselves and need to do so if they have any hope of breaking out of the cycle of poverty and oppression that leads to hunger, generation after generation.

AJWS supports more than 80 projects in Africa, Asia and Latin and Central America that are fighting hunger themselves – from the ground up.

[Link](#)

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## **UN WORLD FOOD PROGRAM FREERICE WEBSITE**

FreeRice is a non-profit website run by the United Nations World Food Program. Our partner is the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University.

FreeRice has two goals:

- Provide education to everyone for free.
- Help end world hunger by providing rice to hungry people for free.

This is made possible by the generosity of the sponsors who advertise on this site. Whether you are CEO of a large corporation or a street child in a poor country, improving your education can improve your life. It is a great investment in yourself. Perhaps even greater is the investment your donated rice makes in hungry human beings, enabling them to function and be productive. Somewhere in the world, a person is eating rice that you helped provide. Thank you.

[Freerice site](#)

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## **STEPHEN LEWIS FOUNDATION VIDEO SERIES AND CAMPAIGN- "GRANDMOTHERS: THE UNSUNG HEROES OF AFRICA"**

Grandmothers: The unsung heroes of Africa is a moving half-hour film highlighting the crucial role grandmothers play in caring for AIDS orphans and in holding their families and communities together. Through intimate portraits of four African grandmothers — Salome, Catarina, Karmela and Matilda — the film invites the world to listen to their stories and take action.

Four remarkable grassroots organizations in South Africa, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia are profiled in the film. These are just a few examples of the projects supported by the Stephen Lewis Foundation. The film premiered at the Grandmothers' Gathering in Toronto (August 11-13, 2006) and was also shown at the Global Village at the XVI International AIDS Conference.

Click the link below for more information about the campaign, contact information and how to order the film.

[Link](#)

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As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website: <http://www.firelightfoundation.org/newsflash.php>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at [newsletter@firelightfoundation.org](mailto:newsletter@firelightfoundation.org).