Happy New Year. Our 2008 annual fundraising campaign was a rousing success! A total of $12,000 was raised for the Build A Library project. That sum was matched by donors of our partner organization Room to Read dollar for dollar. Thanks to all who supported this effort, six libraries will be built in existing Room to Read schools in 2009.

Save the Date - The 2nd AllPeopleBeHappy foundation annual meeting will be in Houston on 15 March 2009.

Our On-Going Work
In addition to the Room to Read grant, this past quarter we made a grant of $10,000 to Village Health Works:

Village Health Works (VHW) operates a health clinic in the village of Kiguta, Burundi. Since its opening in December of 2007, the clinic has seen over 20,000 patients. The Nutrition and Food Security Project is a new initiative of VHW to link the treatment of malnutrition with long-term food security. The $10,000 grant from the AllPeopleBeHappy foundation will be used to initiate the Food Security Project. During its inaugural year, in addition to buying needed supplies and equipment, 8 Agricultural Assistant Workers will be hired and trained to teach villagers how to establish and maintain home gardens which will provide them with sustainable sources of nutritious food.

Updates from our 2008 grant recipients

Over the coming year we hope to be able to report back to you about what our grant recipients have accomplished thanks at least in part, to their AllPeopleBeHappy grants. In this issue we are highlighting the One Acre Fund and Support for International Change (SIC).
One Acre Fund
- Doubled its program size to 4,000 farm families, now serving more than 16,000 children.
- The program had its fifth harvest, increasing take-home farm income by 100%, with 85% of farmers repaying program fees.
- Covered 30% of field costs through farmer repayments.
- Families that previously spent all of their time and resources on finding food are now investing in school fees, better housing, and clothes for their children.

Support for International Change
Between September 1 and November 15, SIC tested 1,313 people. Of these 2.1% were HIV positive. Testing took place in secondary schools, village offices, churches, orphanages, “anywhere they would let us set up a lab and a counseling room!” September was a big month for SIC because they reached their goal of testing 10,000 people by the end of 2008. Already they have tested twice as many people as in 2007. Support from organizations like AllPeopleBeHappy foundation made it all possible.

Meet Our Directors

Timm and Liz Paxson. Liz grew up in Madera, California, graduated from UC Riverside, completed an MA in education at Claremont Graduate School, and taught elementary school in Riverside, CA, Garmisch Germany, and Houston, TX. Timm was born in Colorado, but his family moved to Brawley, California when he was 9. He graduated from Pomona College, and after serving two years in the US Army returned to California to earn a Ph.D. in Chemistry from UCLA. Timm and Liz married and moved to Houston when Timm accepted a job. They toiled in Houston, Timm for Shell and Liz in the real estate and mortgage businesses, for 30+ years and raised their son Matt. In 2004, they retired and moved to Vail, Colorado with their dog Zelda, where they ski, backpack, and volunteer for many community organizations.

Timm and Liz have been friends with the Tangs since 1975, and enjoyed seeing Eric grow from a lively child into a fine young man. They admired and share his desire to help those less fortunate and have been inspired by the projects supported by the AllPeopleBeHappy foundation.

AllPeopleBeHappy foundation can be reached at info@allpeoplebehappy.org or by mail at 10777 Westheimer Rd, Ste 1070, Houston, TX 77042.