



### Happy New Year!

Thanks to your support of BoldeReach, we are looking forward to another banner year!

### 2009 Beneficiary Selected

For 2009, BoldeReach has turned our attention to the issue of displaced children – orphans of disease and conflict. We have selected as our 2009 beneficiary, **Global Education Fund (GEF)**. The mission of GEF is to improve the lives of orphans and vulnerable children around the world through education. GEF programs are based on the principles of listening to local need, developing individualized solutions, forming partnerships with experienced and trusted community leaders – a core success factor – and monitoring existing projects on an ongoing basis.

#### Accomplishments of GEF include:

- Establishing more than 60 libraries in orphanage homes, community centers and schools
- Delivering nearly \$2 million worth of books to thousands of orphans and vulnerable children.
- Providing scholarships to students who would not otherwise have the opportunity to attend high school, along with community service experiences and leadership training.
- Purchasing textbooks and funding teacher training to improve the quality of education in slum schools
- Working with American school children to teach them about the educational needs of extremely poor children around the world and giving them an opportunity to make a difference through book drives and service projects.

Look for more information about our 2009 plans to support GEF soon.

### Conversations

Our 2009 Conversations series begins on **Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**. We hope to see you there! Details below.

**Feb. 10: Revi Sterling** presents an intimate conversation about communication technology and how it can improve the lives of women. Revi's research focuses on the role of information and communication technologies in gender empowerment. She is currently developing custom hardware and software solutions for specific development issues, and is conducting fieldwork in Africa and India.

Conversations is held in the Guild for Structural Integration, 3107 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Boulder, **beginning at 6:00 PM.**

If you would like to be added to our mailing list for Conversations, reply to this email with 'Conversations' in the subject line.

If you would like to make a contribution to BoldeReach projects, go online to [www.boldereach.org/donate](http://www.boldereach.org/donate) or send a check to: BoldeReach, PO Box 17544, Boulder, CO 80308

### Update on 2008 Beneficiary - Urgent Action Fund



The 2008 Around the World with BoldeReach Gala raised funds for Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights (UAF). In December, we presented a check to UAF for \$72,436.10, which is already in use. Some of the grants that your generosity has funded include:

#### 1. Ruta Pacifica de las Mujeres (RPM) – Colombia, Oct. 2008

RPM is a women's rights organization that held a peaceful protest on behalf of Indigenous rights. Thousands of people marched to draw attention to the Colombian government's unfulfilled agreements to Indigenous communities, including demilitarizing Indigenous territories and greater protection of Indigenous leaders who had come under attack. The Colombian Armed Forces violently attacked the peaceful protesters, resulting in 60 wounded, 2 dead and various people disappeared and detained. In response, RPM requested a Rapid Response Grant to organize a march alongside other human and women's rights organization to continue efforts and to prevent the violent attack from halting their mobilization.



#### 2. Women and Development (WD) – Georgia, October 2008

WD is an organization that focuses on the rights of women and girls in Georgia. Russia's violent invasion and occupation of Georgia was partially halted due to international pressure; however, the Russian military created "buffer zones" under their control. Approximately 150,000 inhabitants live in this buffer area; two-thirds are women and girls. WD, understanding the increased risk for violence against women by the Russian military, requested a Rapid Response Grant to launch a campaign focused on women and girls, consisting of educational posters and booklets. Materials included information on international responsibilities and laws surrounding women's human rights, advice for increasing individual security while living in an occupied territory, and methods to report rights violations.

Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights made a record **124 Rapid Response Grants in 2008** - 55% more than any previous year! For more information: <http://www.urgentactionfund.org>

### Update on 2007 Beneficiaries – Microcredit

The 2007 Around the World with BoldeReach Gala raised funds to open Village Banks in poor communities desperately in need of access to credit. BoldeReach beneficiaries were Friendship Bridge and TIAW's Microenterprise Development Program.

Friendship Bridge opened nine village banks in Guatemala using funds raised by BoldeReach. TIAW opened seven banks in one in Ghana, three in Peru, one in Mexico and two in Nicaragua.



Most of these banks are on their 3<sup>rd</sup> loan cycle, so your donations keep on giving!!