



# *American Friends of Cecily's Fund*

Educating Zambian Children Orphaned by AIDS

## **Annual Report**

for the year to 31 December 2009

### Contents

- Reference and administrative details of the corporation, its Directors and advisers
- Directors' Annual Report
- Details of Directors and Statement of Directors' responsibilities
- Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet

# *American Friends of Cecily's Fund inc.*

## **Reference and Administrative Details**

### **Directors**

**President :** the Hon. Wyche Fowler, Jr. (until 23 April 2009)  
Gregory Eckersley (from 23 April 2009)

**Development Officer:** Sue Skaf

**Secretary:** Philippa Eastwood

**Treasurer :** Jessica Boyd

### **Directors :**

H. Clay Black  
Basil Eastwood  
Christina Hunt  
Jessica Moulton  
Sue Skaf  
Richard Fursland (from April 2009)

### **Office Address**

120 Boston Post Road, Rye, NY 10580  
Email: [tudorgrp97@aol.com](mailto:tudorgrp97@aol.com)

### **Incorporation**

22 November 2005 in the State of Delaware.

### **Registration as 501(c)3**

24 January 2006.

### **Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number**

86-1151401.

### **Bankers**

Citibank, 1000 Connecticut Ave, NW, Washington DC 20006,  
HSBC BANK USA, 1130 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1201, Washington DC, 20036

### **Advisers**

Chapel and York, PMB 293, 601 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 900 South Building, Washington DC 20004

# *American Friends of Cecily's Fund inc. (AFCF)*

## **DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT**

The Directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2009.

### **Summary of Our Achievements in 2009 and Our Targets for 2010**

In 2009 we raised \$64,212 - well up on the \$20,336 in 2008. Our conscious focus to strengthen our Board with new Directors and to lay the foundations for future growth was beginning to pay off – despite the difficult economic climate. We were fortunate to attract one grant from a foundation for \$30,000. The remainder was from our faithful individual supporters.

In 2009, with our support, Cecily's Fund was able with our Zambian partners to :

- teach and feed 756 children at Bwafwano;
- support 1,273 children in government schools in Lusaka;
- supported 7,595 children in primary and high school in Kitwe;
- provide 4,700 pairs of shoes and 2,700 uniforms to pupils;
- recruit and train 50 young people as peer health educators;
- support our peer health educators to run school workshops for over 7,000 children; and
- support 36 young people in training to become teachers, eight of whom graduated in April 09.



In the autumn Sue Skaf, our Development Officer and Director, was able to brief HE Rupiah Banda, the Zambian President when he was in New York for the UN General Assembly . He expressed great praise and gratitude for our work and encouraged us in our plans.

In 2010 we aim to raise \$80,000 to increase our support for the programs in Zambia. It is planned that these will in 2010

- continue to run Bwafwano's community school at full capacity;
- support 1,350 former Bwafwano children at government schools in Lusaka, 200 of whom are moving up

from the community school this year;

- support 7,600 children to go to school in Kitwe;
- train another 50 orphaned school-leavers as peer health educators and support them to run awareness-raising sessions for at least 7,000 children in 25 schools in Kitwe;
- support 36 orphaned school-leavers in teacher training colleges
- work with our partners to strengthen their skills ability and resources to deliver the program;
- work with our partners to improve monitoring and evaluation of the programs; and
- support partners in lobbying decision-makers to improve services and prospects for orphans and vulnerable children.

A group of our Directors plan to visit the programs in Zambia in July 2010.

### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to ensure that Zambian children orphaned or made vulnerable as a result of HIV<sup>1</sup> can go to primary and high school, have post-school opportunities, and receive health information to reduce their vulnerability.

### **Our Vision**

Our vision is of a Zambia in which all children orphaned or made vulnerable as a result of HIV can go to school. Education will empower them to reach their full potential and become self-respecting, independent adults. This will enable them to escape the cycle of poverty and vulnerability and contribute to Zambia's economic, political and social development.

### **What we do**

Working through Cecily's Fund (UK) and in partnership with three Zambian organisations; CHEP, Hodi and Bwafwano, we enable orphans<sup>2</sup> to go to school by

- encouraging government schools to make provision for them;
- providing them with school uniforms, shoes and other materials;
- paying examination and school fees at high school level; and
- supporting a community school near Lusaka.

In addition we support some of our school leavers to go on to teacher training college (thereby providing role models for others and supporting Zambia's school system) and we train and support others as peer health educators to return to local schools to teach the next student generation how to stay healthy and free from HIV.

### **Why we do it**

Zambia is one of the world's poorest countries, 164<sup>th</sup> out of 182 on the 2009 Human Development Index<sup>3</sup>. HIV has added huge obstacles for people who are already struggling to

---

<sup>1</sup> HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus - which causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

<sup>2</sup> In this report, we use the term 'orphans' to mean 'orphans and other vulnerable children' (OVC). The Zambian definition of OVC includes children under 18 who have lost one or both natural parents, as well as children who are at risk, for example because one or both parents are dying, seriously ill or unable or unwilling to care for them.

survive, and the recession has exacerbated this. Children whose parents are sick or have died are some of the most vulnerable. Research<sup>4</sup>, shows that going to school dramatically reduces a child's risk of becoming HIV positive and increases his or her chance of survival. School gives a child emotional support, skills to earn a living, information about how to stay healthy, and the confidence to act on that information. We are convinced that if we can give them education these young people are not just part of the AIDS problem; they are part of the solution.



A child at Kabanana School, Lusaka where we support 1,273 children).

*"In addition to the trauma of losing one or both parents, being orphaned as a result of HIV can increase vulnerability in many ways. Loss of a parent may result in a significant decline in standard of living; it also potentially increases the likelihood of exploitation. Especially where both parents have died, a child may become head of the household, assuming enormous burdens at an early age. The impact of orphanhood may be especially severe for girls, who are generally more likely than boys not to be in school."*  
Source: UNAIDS Global HIV Report '08

### **Structure, governance and management**

AFCF's activities are conducted mainly by email correspondence between the Directors. Formal decisions are taken either by physical meetings or through the Unanimous Written Consent procedure. Fundraising activities are coordinated by the Development Officer from the Rye, New York office address.

The AFCF's formal records and accounts are maintained by Chapel & York, its advisors.

Directors hold at least one physical meeting a year to approve the Report and Accounts and discuss plans and targets for the coming year.

---

<sup>3</sup> The Human Development Index (HDI) is produced by the United Nations. It measures and compares the level of human development in all countries, taking into consideration factors such as income, life expectancy, access to education, medical care and clean water, maternal mortality rates, gender equality etc.

<sup>4</sup> Including UNAIDS (Global HIV Report '08) and ActionAid ('Girl power- The impact of girls' education on HIV and sexual behaviour' By James Hargreaves and Tania Boler 2006)

At our meeting in April 2009 we sadly accepted the resignation of Wyche Fowler, our founder President. Fortunately he has agreed to serve as our Patron and is also a member of the International Advisory Panel for Cecily's Fund (UK). At that meeting we also elected Greg Eckersley to replace him as President and we invited Richard Fursland to join the board.. (see notes on our Directors at the end of this report)

AFCF has no salaried staff but provides the Development Officer (who is also a Director) \$1,000 per annum for her expenses.

AFCF's sister organization, Cecily's Fund (CF) is a small and efficient British not-for-profit founded in 1998, that shares our vision and mission together with our detailed aims and standards of governance. In terms of the number of children supported, CF is one of the largest educational facilitators in Zambia, despite its small administrative base of six staff in the UK. AFCF presently works exclusively through CF since it has built a strong monitoring and evaluation framework and established partnerships with non-governmental organizations in Zambia that run programs in line with our vision and mission. CF has a small office in the UK but uses our money exclusively for program expenditure (ie expenditure to further charitable objectives as defined by the Charity Commission for England and Wales) and not for its governance and fundraising costs. Its accounts are subject to full professional audit and are available within ten weeks of the end of its financial year, June 30th.

When making grants to CF the AFCF Directors decide which programs they wish to support. These decisions reflect those of the original donors where they have opted to support a specific program. CF then restricts such funding to the programs concerned.

Currently, CF works with three non-governmental partners in Zambia to achieve our shared mission and vision. It signs and annually reviews memoranda of understanding with each of them. The partners are the Copperbelt Health Education Project (CHEP) in Kitwe, the main city of Zambia's Copperbelt, Bwafwano (an integrated health- and orphan-care project outside Lusaka, the Zambian capital), and Hodi (which has its head office in Lusaka but maintains an office in Kitwe to run the CF school and teacher training programs there.

As a condition for transfers to fund these programs, CF insists that the partners are subject to full professional audit and that the audited full-entity accounts are submitted within six months of the end of the partner's financial year. These accounts are available to AFCF on request.

### **Activities in 2009**

Early in 2009 the Directors specified that the bulk of a grant to CF of \$29,000 should be used to support the Teacher Training program in 2009. We report on this program in more detail later in this Report. A transfer of \$51,400 initiated in November 2009 was split between all our programs but the largest share went to meet the running and governance costs of Hodi, our most important implementing partner – as specified by the donor.

It did not prove possible for any AFCF Directors to visit Zambia in 2009 but it is planned that three should do so in 2010. Each year CF's (Executive) Director makes at least two monitoring visits to Zambia and CF's trustees at least one. The outcomes of these visits feed into CF's reporting to the AFCF's Directors on grant implementation.

In 2009, we helped CF to support 650 children in grades 1 to 4 (first four years of elementary school) plus 106 in a pre-school class by funding the community school run by Bwafwano, a local non-governmental organization (NGO) in an informal settlement area outside the capital Lusaka. CF's financial support to Bwafwano included teachers' salaries and lunch for children at the community school. It also allowed a further 1,273 children to move on from Bwafwano to continue their education in government schools.

In Kitwe we helped CF to support 4,726 children in Grades 1-7 and 2,869 in Grades 8-12 working through our partner Hodi.

Hodi also runs CF's teacher training program in Kitwe under which we helped CF to support 35 young people. We believe passionately that OVCs can make a significant contribution to Zambia's development and the fight against HIV and AIDS if they are given the education. This is particularly true if they can be trained as teachers since Zambia is desperately short of teachers.



CF Director Caroline Horne reports "During my recent monitoring visit to Zambia, I was privileged to attend the graduation of Brave Lukwesa (left) whom we supported through school and teacher training college. On graduation, Brave got a job in a private school which has enabled him to pay the school fees of one of his aunt's children.

He has now been recruited by the Ministry of Education to teach at a high school in Kitwe and will soon earn enough to support all three of his younger relations through school.

As well as transforming his life and helping to replenish the number of qualified teachers in Zambia, Brave will provide a wonderful role model to the orphans in his classes. He told me that his next ambition is to be selected as the school's 'contact teacher' responsible for overseeing the orphaned and vulnerable children whom we support in that school."

We also contributed to CF's funding of the Copperbelt Health Education Project in Kitwe to train 50 of our high school graduates as peer health educators in January 2009 and to teach life skills and HIV awareness to their peers in schools throughout the year. These were young people whom we had supported through the end of high school. In the course of the year they ran health workshops for 7,000 children.

## **The Pandemic in Zambia**

In Zambia the situation created by the HIV pandemic remains desperate. An estimated 15.2% of all Zambians between the ages of 15 and 49 are HIV positive. This is one of the highest rates in world. In the urbanized areas (where our programs are located) the rates are particularly high. It is mainly the parents who die, and out of a total population of 11.9 million there are estimated to be 1.1 million children who have lost one or both parents, of which over half are estimated to have been orphaned as a result of AIDS.

The US President's Emergency Program for AIDS Relief estimates that 27% of those needing Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) in Zambia are now receiving it. The number of those dying is certainly decreasing. ART will enable those infected to live with the disease and to continue to support their families, but ART is neither a cure for the disease nor a solution to the massive and growing problem of the orphans who are left behind when the parents die.

## **Looking Ahead**

For the foreseeable future neither the cumulative total of orphans and vulnerable children nor the need for our carefully targeted support are likely to decrease. Indeed they may well increase. Meeting those needs is likely to become more expensive: we support the children that we bring into our programs through to at least high school graduation, and education at the higher levels is more expensive.

CF with AFCF assistance intends gradually to increase its support for existing programs. Bwafwano's community school is full to capacity, but the total number of children it supports in government schools will increase. Similarly the total number of children supported in government schools in Kitwe will go up and within that total the proportion in high school. Unless we can achieve a step change in funding the peer health education scheme will continue on the existing scale. The number of teacher trainees will increase since the courses have been extended and more of our students are gaining admission.

American Friends of Cecily's Fund is still very small but it now has a firm organizational basis. With the encouragement of Zambia's President and our track record of significant major donations we can move ahead in the coming year and attract more support from individuals and foundations who appreciate the importance of what we are doing. We offer donors a direct and effective way to help some of the poorest and most vulnerable people in one of the poorest countries in the world. By giving education, we are giving them a ladder to climb out of the destitution to which they are otherwise condemned.

*Report approved by the Board of Directors of American Friends of Cecily's Fund on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2010*



Greg Eckersley, President

## Who we are

Patron: the Hon. Wyche Fowler, Jr. Wyche served as US Ambassador to Saudi Arabia (1996-2001), U.S. Senator from Georgia (1986-1993) (member of the Senate Appropriations, Budget, Energy and Agriculture Committees), and U.S. Congressman from Atlanta, Georgia (1977-86). He also served as President of the Atlanta City Council. He is currently President of the Middle East Institute, Visiting Professor at Harvard University's Kennedy School of International Affairs, and board member of the Carter Center. His visit to Cecily's Fund programs in Zambia in 2005 inspired the creation of the American Friends of Cecily's Fund.

President: Gregory Eckersley. Greg was born in Zambia. He received his BA and MA at Oxford (UK) where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He has worked for 18 years in asset management in the UK, South Africa and, currently, New York. He is a Senior Vice President with Alliance Bernstein.

Director & Development Officer: Sue Skaf. Sue was born in the UK where she was educated to graduate level in French, Spanish and German. She has lived in New York for 20 years, where she runs a recruitment firm, with a specialty in bilingual staffing for European companies. She is also Chairperson of a PTA committee in her Westchester school district providing support for non-English speaking families.

Secretary: Philippa Eastwood. Philippa is the younger sister of Cecily in whose memory Cecily's Fund was established. She is an attorney in a leading London office specializing in criminal defense. She has visited the Zambian programs on many occasions, including in May of this reporting period.

Treasurer: Jessica Boyd. Jess was a close friend and contemporary of Cecily. She graduated from Cambridge (UK), wrote her doctoral thesis at Princeton, and is now an attorney in a leading London office. She has visited Cecily's Fund programs on several occasions and has made two promotional films about them.

Director: H. Clay Black. Clay is a retired US Foreign Service officer. He and his wife live in Washington, DC where he continues to work part-time for the U.S. Department of State.

Director: Basil Eastwood. Cecily's father. Basil was British Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein and, before that, Syria. He retired from the British diplomatic service in 2004. He was Founder Chairman of Cecily's Fund (UK) for ten years and is now Chair of its International Advisory Panel.

Director: Richard Fursland. Richard is Chief Executive Officer of both British American Business (BABI) and the British-American Business Council (BABC) the leading transatlantic business support and networking organizations. He has a first-class honors Degree from Cambridge, and held a Henry Fellowship at Harvard. He has been living and working in New York since 1981.

Director: Christina Hunt. Christina is an Attorney (Bar, State of Texas) having taken her LLM at the University of Houston. She specializes in international taxation and now lives in New York City with her husband, who is a partner with Bracewell & Giuliani.

Director: Jessica Moulton. Jessica was educated at Duke and Harvard, where she received her MBA. She is a Partner with McKinsey & Co. She and her husband are avid supporters of children's charities and have traveled extensively in Africa. In July 2008 they visited Zambia where they experienced the work of our programs first hand as well as meeting with our Zambian partners.

### **Statement of Directors' responsibilities**

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. In preparing these financial statements, they are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent, and to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis

They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the corporation and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the relevant legislation. They have a general responsibility for safeguarding the corporation's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and breaches of law and regulations.

They are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity's website.

By order of the Directors

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PE', written over a horizontal line.

Philippa Eastwood, *Secretary*