



Featured Program Monthly Theme

Women are Key to Creating a Sustainable World

The mission of **CREATE! Center for Renewable Energy and Appropriate Technology for the Environment** is to help rural populations in the developing world cope with water, food and fuel shortages resulting from the impact of climate change on their communities; reduce dependency on fossil fuels; and foster sustainable human needs-based development at the village level.

Project - "Self-Sufficiency for Village Women" – Thieneba, Senegal

CREATE!'s program in Thieneba addresses some of the most urgent needs of women and girls in the village by reducing the amount of time and effort required to obtain water and firewood, two of the most difficult and time consuming tasks they perform. Women may have to walk miles--often arising before dawn to begin the trek. They may be with other women or alone, leaving them vulnerable to rape and other forms of assault, including attack by wild animals.

CREATE! will work with the community to install a solar powered pump in their hand-dug well. The pump will raise abundant quantities of free, pure water for garden and community. Members of the community will also be taught to design, construct and use a gravity-fed irrigation system to store and distribute water, allowing for year-round sustainable agriculture. Additionally, the women will be taught to build, use and maintain their own fuel-efficient cook stoves from free, local materials, thereby reducing their household firewood consumption by at least 50 percent.

DFW's grant of \$50,000 over 2 years will directly impact 358 women and girls who will participate in cooperative agricultural, environmental, and income-generating activities, and will also indirectly benefit the entire community of 1,200.

Sustained Program Funding

Village Enterprise – Uganda

Village Enterprise's mission is to equip people living in extreme poverty with resources to create sustainable businesses.

Village Enterprise will receive sustained funding for the Budongo Forest women-led businesses project in Western Uganda. This is part of Village Enterprise's larger Integrated Conservation and Microenterprise Development Program. Through a partnership with conservation organizations such as the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), the project uses an integrated approach providing women-led entrepreneurs the means to create sustainable businesses, alleviating poverty and reducing habitat destruction.

Over the next three years, Dining for Women will support **Seed capital for 180 women-led businesses**. Each business supports three women and affects an average of 45 people (15 per household), impacting 2,700 total.

Grant requested: \$15,000 in 2013; \$15,000 will also be granted in 2014 and in 2015 based on fulfillment of progress reporting requirements.

2012 Program Grant Totals

\$47,177 to **Nepal Youth Foundation** - January
\$47,382 to **Starfish One by One** - February
\$60,158 to **Women's Earth Alliance** - March
\$72,638 to **Afghan Friends Network** - April (over 2 years)
\$60,098 to **Children of Vietnam** - May (over 2 years)
\$32,718 to **Maassai Girls Education Fund** - June (over 2 years)
\$32,718 to **Huru International** - June
\$50,000 to **Transitions Global**- July
\$50,000 to **Global Grassroots** – August
\$33,000 to **Health in Harmony** – September Featured
\$15,000 to **INMED** – September Sustained
\$49,377 to **Anchal Project** – October Featured
\$15,000 to **13 Threads** – October Sustained
\$40,000 to **Pachamama Alliance** – November Featured
\$15,000 to **Rubia** – November Sustained

Grants are awarded after all donations for the month have been received and processed which takes 60-90 days.

Meeting Ideas

- Visit the Fair Trade, Books, Films, and Music recommendations page and select some music from Senegal to play at your meeting.
- Announce the Featured Program for May, and enlist a volunteer (or two) to purchase a fair trade product from Guatemala to bring to next month's meeting. Visit <http://www.mayaworks.org>
- Recruit a member to prepare a recipe from Senegal for this month's meeting (or a recipe from Guatemala for May).
- Encourage all members who shop at Amazon.com to use DFW's link to Amazon (found on our Marketplace page, in the Get Involved menu). DFW earns sales commissions on purchases. Explain the process of creating a shortcut on your computer's desktop.
- Bring a jerry can to your meeting and fill it with water. Encourage members to lift it briefly (use caution to avoid injury) in order to appreciate one of the challenges women in Thieneba face daily. *Thank you to Donna Shaver from the Vancouver, WA chapter for this idea!*



10th Anniversary Celebration

2013 marks Dining for Women's 10th anniversary and we're celebrating with a national conference to be held in Greenville, SC, the weekend of June 21-23. The weekend will include a full length showing of ***Girl Rising***, a groundbreaking film and the centerpiece of the 10x10 global social action campaign. We will have guests from some of our funded programs -- Children of Vietnam, Maasai Girls Education Fund, and Anchal Project - who you'll meet and who will talk to us about the impact we are having on their programs. Early Bird registration offers discounts through April 30. Visit the website for details.

Hillary Clinton proud to be "partner in progress" with Dining for Women

DFW is delighted to announce that former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton applauded the efforts of Dining for Women in a letter sent to the organization and released at an event in Manchester, NH, on Tuesday March 26. *"The efforts that Dining for Women have undertaken in New Hampshire and all across the country over the past ten years provide a powerful example of how individual acts of giving, when aggregated, can make a deep and transformational impact,"* said Clinton. Visit our home page for a link to the news item and the full letter.

Next Month's Featured Program - Maya Works - Guatemala

In May we'll feature Maya Works, an organization that empowers indigenous women of Guatemala to end their cycle of poverty, achieve economic security, and create a brighter future for themselves and their families by providing markets for their handcrafted products, access to microcredit loans and expanded educational opportunities.

Textiles are an integral part of Mayan culture and weaving is often passed down from mother to daughter and young girls often learn to weave even before they start school. The Maya Works social venture seeks to open U.S. markets for traditional Guatemalan handicrafts, providing a source of income for women. DFW's grant of \$50,000 will directly impact 125 women and indirectly impact 750 individuals.

Monthly Program Materials

Additional education materials to enrich your meetings are available on our website. Please make sure your

By educating members, DFW inspires us to make a difference through the power of collective giving. [Please donate to support our programs as we change the world one dinner at a time!](#)

members and upcoming program presenters are aware of this. From the home page menu, click 'Programs', then 'Current & Past'. The Program page has links each month's Featured Program and Sustained Program pages.

<http://www.diningforwomen.org/ProgramsPanelPage>.

Note: We are now using Dropbox only to provide access to the current featured month's video file. At the end of each month we'll replace it with the next month's video file. All other files are available on the current featured month's Program page.

New Meeting Evaluation Form

We've made it easier for you to let us know how your meetings go, how we can assist you as a chapter leader or presenter, and to help us improve our processes and support to chapters, members and the organizations we serve. On each month's Program Page, on the Chapter Resources page, and in Chapter Leader Newsletters you'll now find a link to an online [Meeting Evaluation Form](#). Please make it a habit to complete one after your meeting each month. We've made it short and easy, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Our Mission

Dining for Women's mission is to empower women and girls living in extreme poverty by funding programs that foster good health, education, and economic self-sufficiency and to cultivate educational giving circles that inspire individuals to make a positive difference through the power of collective giving.

Our Vision

Our vision is to create a new paradigm for giving – collective giving on an immense scale while maintaining the intimacy of small groups with a focus on education and engaged giving.