The Close of Summer Brings a New Fall

As schools start and vacations end, Labor Day draws a close to summer and welcomes in fall, while Rosh Hashanah ushers in a new year. The beginning of fall is the traditional time to say goodbye to the laid-back pace of summer, and kick off a new beginning. As an organization, WFF works throughout the year to bring new beginnings to women across Africa who, for some, have spent years of their lives battling the stigmas associated with having Obstetric Fistula.

This summer was a busy time for us here at WFF. As many of you know, WFF was featured in the New York Times in a beautiful and moving article by Nicholas Kristof. We were also honored by our upcoming inclusion in the Giving Library's collection of organizations, and their wonderful video production of our Board of Director's Chair, Nancy Muller, BA, MBA, PhD. And finally, Dr. Lewis Wall, the founder of WFF, was featured in an article in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and also appeared in a piece on the FIGO website, where he was quoted as saying:

"Helping women with Obstetric Fistula is a matter of social justice."

While much attention has focused on the Danja Fistula Center in Niger, WFF has also several other important programs that we support across Africa. Our work is to prevent and repair Obstetric Fistulas, and to develop programs to assist women with their new lives after fistula. What we want is a world without fistula, and a world where women who have suffered the injury in the past can live successful, dignified lives.

This need stretches beyond Niger. Therefore, our attention and assistance stretch as well. In the coming months, we will include information and new voices from our programs and projects in our newsletters, letting you meet and know the wonderful partners with whom WFF works, and the ways in which we offer assistance to women across Africa, such as Terrewode, an organization which assists women with Obstetric Fistula in Eastern Uganda to receive counseling, support and treatment. In Ethiopia, WFF has established relationships with Hamlin Hospital in Addis Ababa and Makalle University College of Health Science. There is also an ongoing need for better understanding effective pre- and post-operative therapy for the pelvic floor muscles and other effects of obstructed labor.

WFF is fortunate to have a wide variety of generous, dedicated supporters, and we look forward to
introducing these programs and people to our many supporters throughout the world. One of the joys we have at WFF is being able to read all the notes and emails that arrive in our mailbox daily. It is a pure joy to know that we are supported by such a wide variety of generous and dedicated people, and that we are then able to extend that generosity and dedication to help women across Africa. If you would like to share your story of supporting WFF, we encourage you to send us an email. Selected stories may be included as excerpts in future newsletters.

All of WFF's Blog Entries Can Be Found Online!

For questions and donations by mail, contact us at:
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