

Ujamaa Grandmas



2010 Annual Report

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Members of the Ujamaa Grandmas with Stephen Lewis, October 22, 2010

President's Report

2010 has been a year of inspiration and change for the Ujamaa Grandmas.

- Inspiration due to our many members whose enthusiastic and passionate involvement has raised many more funds for the African Grandmothers this year than ever before in our six-year history.
- Inspiration delivered by Stephen Lewis speaking to us on the still dire situation in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Inspiration from hearing 450 African women talk about the projects in their communities, their growing awareness of their rights, and their dreams for the future in the first ever Grandmothers' Conference in Swaziland.
- Inspiration on hearing the life stories of grandmother Tsabele and granddaughter Thandeka as the AfriGrand Caravan sponsored by the Stephen Lewis Foundation swept through Calgary.
- Inspiration to keep on raising awareness and funds about the African Grandmothers and orphans because we are more convinced than ever that our money is being used in incredible ways to benefit whole communities.

We have also had a year of dramatic change as Ujamaa Grandmas became incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta, giving us a more formal status and, incidentally, enabling us to achieve a credit/debit capacity for our sales. And through all the change we continue to attract new members who bring new talents to our devoted, dynamic group of women.

To everyone who has contributed in so many ways to Ujamaa Grandmas, I say a truly heartfelt "Thank You." Without each and every one of you this would not be the very happily productive Grandmothers and 'Grand Others' group that it is. May we all continue to work with the Grandmothers of Africa for a better world for their orphaned grandchildren and themselves. As the African women at the Swazi gathering proclaimed:

"We are strong, we are visionary, we have faith and we are not alone. Together we will turn the tide of AIDS – VIVA! (Manzini Statement, May 2010).

Submitted by Ellen Monaghan

Report from the Handcrafts Committee

2010 was effectively the first year for the Handcrafts Committee, which was formed in November, 2009. Our members, as of December 31, 2010, were Leslie Buckle (chair), Ellen Monaghan, Edna Gardner, Sharon Kimmel, Joan Benedict, Joyce Goddard, Liz Leroux, Heather Hachey, and Patti Cucman.

The Handcrafts Committee is responsible for the annual handcrafts sale, and all associated activities, including providing ideas, support, and guidance to our members to ensure that we get sufficient, high quality merchandise that will raise the maximum amount of money for the Grandmothers' Campaign.

We organized several workshops during the year, including:

- sewing simple fabric bags (Joyce Goddard and Ellen Monaghan)
- colour (Susan Knapp)
- making scrubbies (Barb Langlois)
- embellishments (Trudy Cowan and Marilyn Samuels)
- finishing techniques for knitters (Barb Stuart)

Monthly get-togethers were held on a regular schedule, and were well attended. Daytime meetings have alternated with evening ones, and we have both North side and South side meetings each month. The gatherings provide opportunities for “show and tell,” allow for participants to pick up yarn or kits, drop off finished product, and get ideas from others. Information about the many Ujamaa Grandmas projects is shared at these meetings.

Our *Bags, Babies, and Beyond Sale* was a huge success, raising just under \$30,000. The Handcrafts Committee put a lot of effort into improving the overall look and feel of the sale in 2010, and made several one-time expenditures for design and display. For example, in an effort to make our decor look more professional, we purchased black fabric to cover all the tables, and had laminated signs made for the hall. We also purchased and received as donations, some excellent display stands and props. The publicity was very effective.

Each year brings more and better products to be sold, and our range of items has expanded to pet accessories and household goods, as well as our traditional purses, book bags, children's items, and accessories. There were two major changes from previous years: for the first time, the sale was held over two days, Friday afternoon and Saturday, and purchasers were able to pay for their items using credit and debit. This will continue for future sales.

At the sale, we held a raffle which raised \$502. According to Alberta government regulations, the proceeds must be spent in Alberta, so the raffle will provide funds for public awareness and administrative costs of our organization.

We look forward to an even bigger and better sale next year.

Report from the Fabric Sale Committee

The third annual Ujamaa Grandmas Unused Fabric Sale was held on April 17, 2010 at Woodcliff United Church. The members of the Organizing Committee were: Alison Longson, Amanda Mendonsa, Charlene Baker, Judith Watt and Sharon Kurtz. We were blessed to have the willing hands, hearts, enthusiasm and good cheer of 76 volunteers without whom the sale would not have been possible.

This year's sale was the most successful to date with net earnings of \$19,150.96. In addition, we were able to support our sister organization in Carstairs by donating to them a trailer load of excess fabric, which they came to pick up, for their sale. They raised an additional \$5,300, thus making for a total donation of approximately \$24,500 to the Stephen Lewis Foundation and our sisters in Africa.

We also supported other local community charitable programs when our willing volunteers — and their spouses — delivered many, many carloads of leftover materials to the Mennonite Central Committee store in Northeast Calgary, the Goodwill Store depot, and Bibles for Missions.

The sale and a request for donations was widely advertised in *The Country Register*, a complimentary publication available in craft and other shops across Southern Alberta, the *Calgary Herald*, community newsletters across Calgary, and by posters in a variety of locations.

We contacted a variety of businesses throughout Calgary for donations and were generously supported by 15 local businesses. In addition, the response from the public was so overwhelming that, when storage became an issue, Amanda Mendonsa and her family donated warehouse space to store the materials until the sale.

At the Committee debriefing meeting we compiled a “List of Learnings” and created a “How-to Binder” for future Unused Fabric Sale Committees.

At our wrap-up meeting a suggestion was made for consideration by future committees to hold a draw for an African themed prize, perhaps fabric or artwork, with a ticket price of \$.50 or \$1 as a way to gather names and contact information for notice of future sales and events.

Report from the Schools Program

Ujamaa Grandmas Diane Woods and Anne Taylor presented at the CBE's annual My World Conference on February 19, 2010. The conference offered more than 600 middle and junior high school student leaders the opportunity to meet with and learn from local, national and international organizers and activists on ways to help them enhance their civic-mindedness and service to others.

The Ujamaa Grandmas, in partnership with Westmount Charter School, organized a motivational “Turning the Tide” social justice conference in May, which 400 high school students from 17 schools attended. Stephen Lewis, our keynote speaker, was unable to attend due to illness, and Dr. Kostash from Doctors Without Borders replaced him with a powerful presentation. The students spent the day attending informative seminars and interacting with each other. The event planning also included a fundraising challenge and the schools collectively raised over \$12,000 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

Ujamaa Grandmas hosted a wonderful evening with Stephen Lewis in October at McDougall United Church, attended by over 150 Grandmothers and ‘Grand Others’ from six Alberta

chapters, 100 students and teachers from the May “Turning the Tide” conference, and 250 other supporters. We were able to forward on to the Foundation \$20,000 from this event (\$12,000 from ticket sales, \$2400 in Kazuri sales and over \$5000 from donations).

Special thanks to McDougall United for donating the facility and to all the volunteers who helped with this very successful event.

Submitted by Louise Breadner, Christene Howard, and Diane Woods

Report from the Speakers’ Bureau

The Speakers’ Bureau made eight presentations throughout 2010 and raised \$1048 in donations plus sold Kazuri jewellery and a few handbags. Highlights included presenting at Tapestry of Women in Cochrane and at the new Cochrane Grandmothers kick-off event in December.

We had over 400 attendees at the various functions we spoke at, so hopefully more donations will flow to the Foundation at a future date. Audiences are always shocked at the magnitude of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and impressed with the work the Grandmothers are doing both nationally and locally.

Some of our new members have expressed interest in speaking so we hope to offer a training session for them in 2011.

Submitted by Louise Breadner

Report from the Kazuri Jewellery Project

We are pleased to provide you with the 2010 sales summary for Kazuri jewellery. Thanks to Grandmothers groups all across the country, it was a great year. The Grandmother Connection raised \$146,395.00 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation on behalf of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign. Sixty groups from across Canada hosted over 180 events. Together, we helped employ over 300 grandmothers and single mothers in Nairobi in a fair trade workshop that pays above-average wages and provides medical benefits to its workers and their children. Women across Canada purchased beautiful handmade jewellery at good prices, including us – it doesn’t get much better than this!

In 2010 the Ujamaa Grandmas hosted 11 events. Our gross sales were \$8,595.00. Our total contribution to The Stephen Lewis Foundation was \$3,865.00.

Thank you to everyone who hosted, or worked, an event. It was a great first year. We encourage our members to consider hosting an event and help make 2011 even more successful. Have fun with it.

Submitted by Hilda Hunter

Report from the Bake Sale Committee

The Ujamaa Grandmas held a hugely successful bake sale at the in the NGO Village at the Marda Loop Justice Film Festival held on November 19-21, 2010 at River Park Church. Joyce Eynon chaired the bake sale and Sally Shah assisted.

The total profit after expenses was \$1824.10

Bakers dropped off their baking on the Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. A wide variety of baking was sold from cakes, bread, pies, tarts, candy, cookies, cupcakes, squares, etc. plus many Christmas baking items

26 volunteers took shifts selling the baking and more than 13 other volunteers contributed more baking. The volunteers were great at selling the delicious items as well as advocating for the Stephen Lewis Foundation to the many filmgoers that stopped by the Ujamaa Grandmas tables and display. The NGO Village ran Friday night, Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday afternoon.

By the Sunday afternoon the baking was nearly sold out so the Kazuri Jewellery volunteers brought their collection and sold at the table.

A credit/debit machine for the bake sale especially for the jewellery would increase sales.

Report from the Advocacy Liaison

January – December 2010 was mostly occupied with lobbying the federal government to pass the CAMR amendments in Bill C-393. This is the "one-license solution" to get generic medicines to Africa in a much quicker timeframe than has been happening. Postcards to send to our MP's were distributed at various Ujamaa functions.

The Grandmothers to Grandmothers National Advocacy Committee put its agenda on hold for 2010 in order to continue to focus on getting CAMR amended. As many of you know, Bill C-393 almost got passed before the election was called. It got third reading in the House of Commons, and went to the Senate and passed second reading, but did not make third reading in time. Unfortunately the Conservative Senators were set on delaying the passage of this bill, and they achieved their goal. The bill is now dead.

With a new government the whole process will have to begin again with someone introducing a bill into the House of Commons. There were many Conservative MP's who voted for the bill although the Conservative government was officially opposed. The NDP and most Liberals are in favour of the "one-license solution". This is the second time the amendments to CAMR have been killed in the Senate. The first was when Prime Minister Harper prorogued parliament.

Thank you to all of you who have supported the Grandmothers to Grandmothers advocacy campaign and I hope to have your ongoing support in the coming year.

Submitted by Audrey Ferber

Report on the AfriGrand Caravan Stop in Calgary

The cross-country tour of African grandmother/granddaughter pairs organized by the national office came through Calgary on October 26-27, 2011. Ujamaa Grandmas organized one busy day of engagements to showcase our grandmother/granddaughter pair and hosted them for a rest day before they moved on to Banff.

The Cochrane Grandmothers group provided lunch for the tour group before they moved to the high school to talk to students from Cochrane, Springbank and Morley schools. The students were very interested in hearing from the African women and learning about the Stephen Lewis Foundation. The event ended with student demos of line and native dancing with our African granddaughter being invited to join in.

After a brief rest break, the tour moved on to the University of Calgary where the pair spoke to a group of about 50 people in the Hotel Alma.

The tour group consisted of two central office staff, a videographer, a nurse, and the African women and we were very grateful to Sue Spratt and Barbara Foster for opening their homes as billets for two nights.

After a low key rest day and dinner with the board the following night the tour bus picked up the group and they continued their tour westward.

The planning committee for this event consisted of Gillian Anderson, Carole Carlton, Heather McKenzie, Ellen Monaghan, Anne Taylor and Diane Woods.

Report on the National Walk

Ujamaa Grandmas participated in the first national walk of Stride to Turn the Tide, held in June 2010. In place of organizing one here in the city we chose to share in the splendour of the Rocky Mountains and walk in solidarity with our neighbours, the Canmore Grannies. It was a spectacular day of sunshine and blue skies, made even more enjoyable by the warmth extended to us by the vibrant women who make up the Canmore Grannies.

I had been asked to kick off the walk as I had just returned from the Grandmothers Gathering in Swaziland. As we set off through the picturesque pathways in Canmore we felt the African grandmothers right by our sides supporting our efforts.

The walk in Canmore was a huge success, as it was across the country. Approximately 140 Grandmothers groups across Canada walked 12,000 kilometres in support of the resilient and courageous grandmothers in sub-Saharan Africa, raising close to \$400,000! Ujamaa Grandmas

are looking forward to participating again in June 2011. We welcome any friends and members of the group to join us in the spectacular setting of Canmore for this worthwhile event.

Submitted by Yvonne Way

Report on the Swaziland Gathering

In May 2010 I had the opportunity to attend the Grandmothers Gathering in Swaziland, along with Ellen Monaghan, as one of 42 Canadian delegates. As a Canadian delegate I was acutely aware that although I had been chosen to make the trip I was representing all the grandmothers in Canada who continue to work so hard to raise awareness and money to help the African grandmothers and orphans. It was a privilege.

The women I met on the trip, both African and Canadian, will be an inspiration to me for the rest of my life. Ironically it was the same characteristics in both groups that so inspired me. Both the Canadians and Africans showed such spirit and joy for life, commitment and love for those struggling, and steadfast perseverance to create change.

The African women were intelligent, determined, joyful, and so thankful for our presence. It was their hope that we would return to Canada and tell their story, because all the hugs and empathy we gave them on the trip was welcome but they know as well as we do that in the end only well directed money will make a difference in their lives.

In Johannesburg each of us was given the opportunity to visit a project in the area supported by the Stephen Lewis Foundation. I was assigned to visit Cotlands, a paediatric hospice. Founded in 1936, Cotlands was originally created as a care center for unwed mothers and their infants, but over the years it has evolved into a shelter for abused, abandoned, HIV- positive, and terminally ill children under age nine. Cotlands has 18 beds and in the early years of the pandemic they had as many as 84 children die in a year, over four times their capacity. Now, with the children receiving ARVs, the drugs that treat HIV/AIDS, it's rare to have even one child a year dying from AIDS. Their current challenges are extending the living quarters and programs to accommodate the children as they grow into adulthood. As Rachelle, the program coordinator we spoke to said, this is a wonderful problem to have.

On May 6th - 8th 500 grandmothers from across Sub-Saharan Africa gathered in Swaziland with 42 Canadian Grandmothers there to witness this truly historic event, the first international Grandmothers' Gathering on the continent. In solidarity we marched through Manzini, over cracked, uneven pavement while being jostled by the crowds. Linked arm in arm we gave strength to the African women, and gained it from them. The honour I felt to have the opportunity to walk with these courageous African women, who are caring for scores of children orphaned by AIDS, is a feeling that I will never forget.

Accompanying us on the trip were numerous Stephen Lewis Foundation staff members. When I initially became involved I had questions about how the Foundation worked and how the funds that we raised were dispersed. Now I am more than satisfied with how it operates. Spending time

with these staff members I was able to feel the passion and commitment they all share regarding the jobs they hold in the foundation. It was exciting and at the same time comforting to watch them do their job, relaying to us how much their work means to them. I feel confident that the Stephen Lewis Foundation is entirely dedicated to distributing funds to the African grandmothers as effectively and efficiently as possible.

I will never tire of telling the African grandmothers' story to anyone who asks to hear it (and even at times to those who don't ask!). Thank you, Ujamaa Grandmas.

Submitted by Yvonne Way

Ujamaa Grandmas

Financial Report for the Fiscal Year January 1 - December 31, 2010

Treasurer's Statement

As Treasurer of the organization, I certify that the information in the attached Financial Report is a true and complete accounting of the financial activities and assets of the Ujamaa Grandmas for the fiscal year January 1 - December 31, 2010

_(signed in hard copy) _____

Date: April 22, 2011

Leslie Buckle

Financial Reviewers' Report

As the appointed financial reviewers, we have reviewed the Financial Report of the Ujamaa Grandmas for the fiscal year January 1 - December 31, 2010. The review included examination of the financial records and supporting documentation as provided to us in the course of the review.

In our opinion, this report fairly presents the results of the Ujamaa Grandmas organization for the fiscal year and its financial position at December 31, 2010, on an accounting basis consistent with that of the preceding year. We have made a number of recommendations for presentation to the Board of Directors, and are available for further consultation with the incoming Treasurer.

_(signed in hard copy) _____

Date: April 22, 2011

Cheryll Caldwell

_(signed in hard copy) _____

Lynette Johnston

Income Statement

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
INCOME		
Bags, Babies and Beyond Sale	\$27,962.37	\$22,950.22
Fabric Sale	\$19,555.64	\$12,867.20
Turning the Tide/Stephen Lewis visit	\$18,392.00	
Kazuri jewellery sales	\$8,595.00	
Bake Sale at Justice Film Festival	\$1,731.00	\$1,306.90
Miscellaneous donations	\$860.91	
Raffle	\$502.00	
Miscellaneous sales year-round	\$369.00	\$1,708.80
Ten Thousand Villages "Sunday Shopping" day	\$327.14	\$616.77
Second hand store donation	\$280.80	\$77.00
National Walk	\$65.00	
Jazz Night Silent Auction		\$1,840.00
"Dare to Dine" dinner		\$236.50
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$78,640.86</u>	<u>\$41,603.39</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Donation to the Stephen Lewis Foundation	\$61,750.00	\$38,108.38
Kazuri jewellery payments	\$8,634.00	
Facility rental for sales	\$1,220.00	\$798.00
Supplies and materials	\$1,046.18	
Fees for credit/debit machine at sales	\$774.64	
Reimbursement of costs to handcrafts producers	\$296.03	\$409.54
Bank charges	\$167.94	\$119.24
Insurance	\$153.00	
Meeting expenses	\$150.00	
Advertising	\$95.00	
Incorporation fee	\$50.00	
Printing and copying	\$27.56	\$30.50
Computer supplies		\$97.62
Postage and shipping		\$58.51
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$74,364.35</u>	<u>\$39,621.79</u>

Balance Sheet

	2010	2009
ASSETS		
TD Bank Account	\$6,998.80	\$3,144.38
Undeposited Funds	\$422.09	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,420.89	\$3,144.38
LIABILITIES		
	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$0.00	\$0.00
EQUITY		
TOTAL EQUITY	\$7,420.89	\$3,144.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$7,420.89	\$3,144.38

Notes:

These statements include only the funds that go through the Ujamaa Grandmas bank account. Donations made directly to the Stephen Lewis Foundation are not reflected here. As a result, the numbers in these statements will not match those reported for the fundraising events earlier in this report, since all proceeds are generally included there.

The Foundation reports that in addition to the \$61,750 contribution reported in the Income Statement, \$19,441 in donations have been attributed to our organization's activities, for a total of \$81,191.

It is also important to note that, while this statement shows no net gain from Kazuri sales, \$3865 has been credited to Ujamaa Grandmas at the Foundation. Normally Kazuri sales and payments cancel each other out; this year \$43 more was paid out because of an underpayment last year.