

HELPING ALL WE CAN...ONE AT A TIME.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Deanna Wallace
AAO Executive Director

First, I want to apologize for being out of touch for so many months. I've been extremely ill and unable to be on my computer much at all. Please forgive me for my long silence. It was in no way a reflection on you or your fantastic support for All As One and the children in Sierra Leone.

Second, I want to let you know that the children and staff at All As One are still Ebola-free. We have worked hard on keeping them safe, but it is still a very difficult time in Sierra Leone. The country has lost thousands of people to Ebola, including many doctors, nurses and healthcare workers. This crisis has set Sierra Leone's development back for years to come. There are more orphans now needing help. The need for good medical care has increased. The educational system has been shut down since last summer, and many more children are needing educational help. In other words, the need for our work in Sierra Leone is greater now than it was before.

The exciting news, amid all the bad news, is that **we are now poised to move 4 habitable containers** onto our land just outside Freetown. We are so grateful to **Beltship** for donating these containers and keeping them safe during the Ebola crisis. We were hoping to move the containers onto the land last summer, but things shifted because of the outbreak.

Our landlord has lessened some of his demands now, too. He is asking for **\$20,000 for our yearly rent** (2015), which is due now. We would like to pay this amount so that we can stay at our current rental for another year, allowing us the time to begin building and developing our new Center. If you are able to help with this amount, please let hear from you.

I believe that 2015 will see many changes for Sierra Leone, All As One, and our building plans – changes that are desperately needed. Thank you for being part of making a difference for so many! You are terrific!

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THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT 2 - UK CONCERT

Last July, **The Kids are Alright 2** benefit concert was held in the amphitheatre of Said Business School, University of Oxford. It featured 7 local bands, including the Celtic/1980's fusion band **Saedly Dorus & The Hoolie Band**, who headlined the event. A great night was had by the audience of approximately 200. We would like to thank **Cobra Beer**, who very generously donated 10 cases of beer to the event, as well as **all of the artists who donated their time and talent**.

Over **£2,700** was raised, which was shared with SSNAP, a local charity in Oxford.

Planning is already underway for **The Kids are Alright 3**, which will be held on July 11, at the same venue. Tickets are £10-£12 (ages 16+), and are available from Ettaline at aoukdirector@gmail.com.



DAIGLEN SCHOOL (UK) HELPS THE AAO KIDS

We have received such generous support from **Daiglen School** in Essex, it's hard to know where to begin in thanking them! The students (ages 4-11) have done a variety of fund-raising events over the past school year, and donated a total of **£1,354.59** to All As One. They are keeping AAO as one of their charities for this school year, and Ettaline will be visiting the school again, each term, to meet the kids and update them on what is happening in Freetown.



Daiglen School's support doesn't stop with the students. **Rachel Thomas** (pictured fourth from right, back row), long-time supporter and now board trustee of AAO UK, writes:

"Staff and friends of the Daiglen School, Essex, put on their running shoes to **Run to the Beat** in London in September. After weeks of training and raising a total of **£1,738.13** for All As One, everyone crossed the finish line after a 10k course with a medal and a smile on their face! This cause is of utmost importance to all at Daiglen, and we will continue to support our friends in Sierra Leone throughout the year."

We can't thank Daiglen School enough for their continued support and desire to help Sierra Leone.

MANY THANKS!

Tom Rendell, a personal trainer in Bristol, UK, held an event before Christmas, which raised over **£200** for All As One. Tom also helped **Len Collacott** prepare for the Marathon des Sables, which Len successfully completed last April, raising money AAO. Many thanks to Len and Tom for all their hard work!

LORRY (HEAVY TRUCK) FOR AAO

We are overwhelmed by the massive amount of funds raised by **Women in Travel Retail** to help our children!

Women in Travel (WiTR) was established over 5 years ago as a forum for women in the travel retail industry, providing a way to exchange ideas and support people in need, with a strong focus on helping children.



WiTR exceeded its objective of raising €25,000 to buy a lorry (10-wheeled heavy truck) for All As One, raising **€35,000**, thanks to the generosity of the duty free/travel retail industry at the TFWA Conference & Exhibition this past September, in Cannes.

Glen Williams of **Maxxium** presented a check for **£10,000**. "With Maxxium's generosity, contributions from brands and retailers to the draw and silent auction, previous donations and a final top-up from Dubai Duty Free, we are proud not only to be able to fund the lorry to build a home and school for children but also to contribute to the cost of the building materials," said **Gerry Munday (Furla)**.

"We would like to thank all the brands, retailers and media who donated generous prizes and auction items, and all those who supported WiTR by contributing to this fantastic result. Last but not least, we thank TFWA for their ongoing support," said **Sarah Branquinho (World Duty Free Group)**.

Sharon Beecham of **Dubai Duty Free**, who nominated All As One as WiTR's charity, said: "All As One will be speechless, as I am. The generosity of this industry never fails to amaze me and today we have given hope to children in one of the world's poorest countries."

This heavy truck will be invaluable to the Children's Center, especially when it comes time to carry building supplies to the new property. We can't thank WiTR and their friends enough for this amazing gift!

WEDDING GIFT!

Caroline and Jon Wilson celebrated their marriage on September 26. Caroline is a board trustee and long-term supporter of All As One UK. Even though she is currently living and working in Dubai, she is involved in all that we do and cares deeply about our children.

We want to thank Caroline and Jon for their overwhelming generosity in asking people for donations to AAO, instead of wedding presents. The sum of **£1012.50** has been raised! We want to wish Jon and Caroline many years of happiness together.



CHRISTMAS AT AAO

Christmas is always a favorite time for the kids at the Children's Center, with special treats, food and gifts provided by you! We want to thank **DHL Dubai**, **Beltship** and all who helped send gifts and supplies for the holiday.

You made it wonderful for them!



FUNDRAISING FOR AAO

We want to thank **Suzanne McConnell** and her niece, **Megan Crow**, for their generosity and kind hearts. Megan raised 50 UK pounds (\$76) by making and selling loom bracelets. She gave the money to her aunt as a Christmas gift, and, together, they're donating it to All As One.

These are the stories that encourage us -- young people giving of their time and talents to help the children of Sierra Leone. Thank you, Megan! (And we imagine Suzanne is one proud aunt!)



Thanks to our first time supporters from June through December 2014:

Agnieska - Ah Soon Lim - Alia Alikhan - Black Cat Management - Cara Christopher - Christi Stone
Heidi Lindhjen & Adam Rozmaryniewicz - Jacqueline Stephens - Linda Creaney - Mariya Marchenko - Mary Bradfield
Matt Benians - Matthew Cowdery - Wendy Lyster - Adrian Hernandez - Aminat Adeola Mosuro - Merck Serano - Rachel Thomas
Ryan McConnell - Shelley Daltrey - Stefano - Thomas Raffle - Y. Shaw - Yakushka - Zeina Chidiac

Thank you to those who gave over \$500 from June through December 2014:

A & P Falmouth - AirMiles - Al & Polly Roberts - Andre & Nicki Naude - Arun Bablani - Beltship - BP - Catholic Health Initiative
Cecilia Valenzuela - Clorox (GLAD CSR) Dubai - Daiglen School - Dana Al Khalili - Dr. Hesham Atwa - Elizabeth Williams
Emile & Anne-Marie Moukarzel - Forbes & Jean Gildersleeve - Glenn & Marilyn Tosten - Global Impact - JA Resorts & Hotels
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Nic & Vanessa Woodthorpe-Wright - Nicci Fettis - Polly Archer & David Walker - Robert & Joanne Lovelace - Robert Wallace
Sharon Beecham - Spring Coaching FZ LLC - TeamTrio - WIT GROUP - Yvonne Katter - Zakia Demaghelatrous

And thank you to our regular monthly supporters, who make our work possible!

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