

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE...

Deanna Wallace

*AAO Executive Director*

As I look at this photo of some of the girls in our care, I realize that it won't be very much longer before some of them are on to university, getting jobs, eventually marrying and having children of their own -- **thoughts that should bring me a lot of joy, however, actually fill me with fear.** I can't help but consider that currently in Sierra Leone, children and mothers die in childbirth, or shortly thereafter, at a rate that is among the highest in the world. **In fact, Amnesty International recently declared that childbirth in Sierra Leone is a human rights emergency.**

At AAO, we've been thinking a lot about how to help in this crisis. We know that the presence of skilled, certified midwives is an important strategy in changing the infant and maternal mortality statistics. However, there is a severe lack of midwives in Sierra Leone. **According to a recent report by the Sierra Leone Midwifery Association, there are less than two midwives per 1,000 live births, far less than most other developing nations.**

Our thoughts have now led us into action. **With some strategic partners, and in conjunction with the government of Sierra Leone, we are working to launch an innovative and technologically-advanced Midwifery Program in Sierra Leone.** This effort will use new technology to provide online and portable midwifery training that can be used in remote areas of the country, substantially increasing the number of trained, practicing mid-wives. **With the cooperation of the government of Sierra Leone and the philanthropic community, we are hoping to have our pilot program initiated in 2013.**



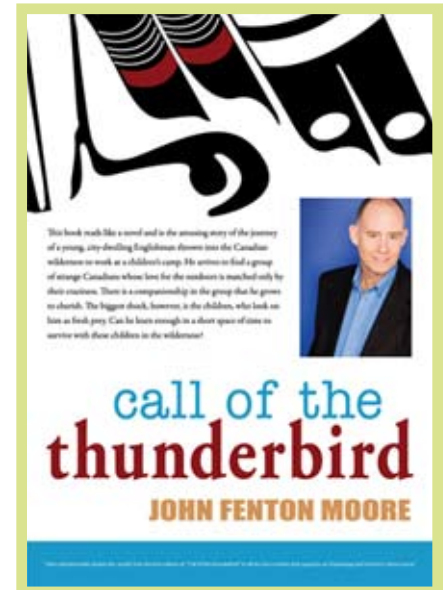
We need your help to make this possible. **Please continue to support our work NOW** -- especially as we initiate this new and desperately needed program. We will continue to care for the children in Sierra Leone, helping to serve the surrounding community with education, medical help, food, water, clothing, and other basic needs -- but we plan to do more, with your help! Please join us and make a lasting difference for the children and women of Sierra Leone!

**Garage Sale Items Needed** -- Please let us know if you have any items you'd like to donate for the community garage sale in **Olympia, WA on June 24**. All proceeds from the items sold will go to All As One. Please contact [info@allasone.org](mailto:info@allasone.org) or call **253.846.0815**, if you have items to donate. Thank you to **Melanie Stewart for making this possible!**

Author, **John Moore**, has written a book, **Call of the Thunderbird**, about his true life adventures. This story reads like a novel and is about *"the journey of a young, city-dwelling Englishman thrown into the Canadian wilderness to work at a children's camp. He arrives to find a group of strange Canadians, whose love for the outdoors is matched only by their craziness. There is a companionship in the group that he grows to cherish. The biggest shock, however, is the children, who look on him as fresh prey. Can he learn enough in a short space of time to survive with these children in the wilderness?"*

This book is a "must-read" – especially since **John is generously donating all the profits from the first edition sale of his book to All As One!** We are so grateful! If you'd like to sample a chapter, please check out [www.allasone.org/images/Thunderbird.pdf](http://www.allasone.org/images/Thunderbird.pdf).

**We have limited copies of the book for sale in Dubai (Dhs 65), the UK (£11) and US (\$17) - plus any shipping costs.** Please write to [info@allasone.org](mailto:info@allasone.org), if you'd like to buy your own copy and/or give the book as a gift!



## Thanks to our first time supporter in April 2012 :

H.A. Cameron

## Thank you to those who gave over \$500 in April 2012:

Andre & Nicki Naude - Benjamin & Shirley Ebersole  
Dave & Adrienne Battiston - David & Sherry Hammond  
John Moore - Robert & Joanne Lovelace - Sarojini Gunaseelan  
Zaid Gardner & Claire Molloy

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



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