

Teach Peace Foundation

Phone-In Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Participants:

In Person: Dave Dionisi, Mary Wind, Mike Pach, Timna Medovoy, Fadhil Al-Kazily

By Phone: Kevin Rockensies, Mary Anne Kirsch, Matt Hayes

Meeting started at 7:00pm PT. Dave welcomed everyone.

1. General Update of Services Delivered In April:

Wheelchairs - The wheelchairs being via sea container will hopefully arrive in Liberia by the time Dave and his Peace Trip team arrives. It is hoped that we have 4 "normal" children become involved in delivering the chairs to the SA child recipients along with members of the Peace Trip volunteers.

Food Aid - We are currently providing food aid to disabled people in Liberia. We are currently preparing to distribute food bags with rice, beans, bouillon cubes and cooking oil to the SA children and their families.

SA Recipients – We currently have about 50-60 children in the SA program. Histories and photos for several new SA children have just been received by Kevin from Dolley Gurley. Kevin has made up folders with each child's photos and history and additional program information which be distributed to those who wish to sponsor a SA child.

Student Endorsements – Dave recently gave a presentation at Mercer Island High School in Washington State. It started with African music, followed by the Teach Peace video and a talk given by Dave titled "Be the change you wish to see in the world" plus classes on economic justice in Africa, the Iraq War and the Korean War.

2. Update on Volunteers/Interns:

Two young women from Mercer Island High School volunteered to work on Teach Peace projects. One wants to work with the livestock project and the other is considering helping children attend school.

Kathleen Durocher, a student at Northeastern University in Massachusetts, will be starting a 6 month internship with Teach Peace in June. She will be working with the Special Ambassadors program.

Mat Travis & Amy Spelz are two volunteers in Liberia who are currently assisting with the Livestock program. They are working with Renee Chiang to discern how to make the livestock program more efficient. Possible changes to the livestock program may include livestock being "loaned" to villages who earn the right to keep the livestock by returning the first offspring livestock and make the village women responsible for the care and management of the livestock.

3. Proposal For Supporting BDS:

Dave proposed that rather than “being against something” by supporting BDS, we should instead “be for something” by showing support for *Jewish Voice For Peace* (<http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/>) and Friends of Sabeel (both organizations promote peace between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples). Through these organizations, Christians, Jews and Muslims work together for peace. The Board voted unanimously to support this proposal that unites people in support of human rights.

4. **Summer Peace Trip:**

The trip will be from June 23 – July 10, 2010 and include visitations of Liberia and Ethiopia. This is shaping up to be one of the best peace trips to date. Participants departing from Washington, DC have a tour of the Holocaust Museum and Washington, DC prior to departing for Africa. Projects taking place in Liberia will include well installation, medical team visit, Special Ambassadors program work, livestock program missions, a soccer tournament and learning experiences for youth.

5. **New TPF Brochure:**

A copy of the new Teach Peace brochure was emailed to all board members with the outline for this meeting. The brochure is online in the About Us section. Please review and let Dave know of any changes.

6. **Child Protection and Student Safety Policy:**

The Teach Peace Foundation child protection policy is online at <http://www.teachpeace.com/childprotection.pdf>. Our policy is no 1 on 1 interaction between adults and minors. Dave will be acting as the senior male trip leader and Joanie Fabiano will be the senior female trip leader. Together they will make sure child protection policies are followed.

7. **Other items:**

Mike Pach will be leaving Thursday 4/29 for a 2 week trip to Israel and the West Bank. He is representing the Teach Peace Foundation on a fact-finding mission.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm PDT.



Submitted by Eileen R. Rockensies

Secretary

May 6, 2010