

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Our J&J Caring Crowd fundraiser for the women of Munene village near Uvira (Kivu) was a great success!

**THANK YOU, J&J**, for the matching funds for our \$6000 goal!

**THANK YOU, DAVID & SUSAN LIDSTONE**, for your matching, over-the-top gift of \$5000! So many thanks to each one who has so generously contributed to transform life for 100 women & their families. This is a dream come true! Stay tuned for pictures & more news.

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## A 5K "sheltering in place"! #RunAgainstRape #RunFor Congo

Who says you can't do a 5K while following all the rules for sheltering in place?! We have a deal for you. In our distance 5K, we invite you to imagine your own way to cover 5K, & this year it can be even more of a challenge. For examples: how about up-&-down the stairs x times? Or maybe cartwheels or summersaults in your backyard? Or push-up's or chin-up's? Challenge your friends to keep up with you!

Let us know what you do: we are giving a prize for the most creative way to do an in-place 5K. The time is the month of June, up to July 4. The suggested amount is \$25 per participant. Your creative genius/generosity will help girls & women & orphans in Congo survive COVID-19.



<https://www.facebook.com/events/823108928181141/>

## COVID-19 IN CONGO

The center of the pandemic in Congo is the capital. There are only few cases in other provinces. Most of the sick are in Gombe, the political & economic center of Kinshasa; it has been completely closed off, including the city's major market.

Everyone in the city has been ordered to wear a mask outdoors.



Schools & churches have been closed. At FEBA's Women's Center, some of the sewing school staff (teachers, graduates) are making masks for sale. It will not earn much money but it does provide a service & a very modest income while the markets are closed.

Even where the virus has not come, people are supposed to stay home except to find food. This is very hard for the great majority, who are so poor that if they do not work, they do not eat. FEBA is doing what it can to feed & help its poorest members.

Right: dividing rice & cooking oil for each woman.



## “Leopards” in Goma & Rebuilding Community Charity School

While Community Charity School was closed because of COVID-19, thieves (a local nickname is “leopards”) ransacked the place, destroying furniture, stealing the (limited) equipment, breaking down walls & doors, tossing teaching supplies in the mud.



Thanks to courageous leaders in Goma & the determination of HAW (Hands Across the Water) members in NJ, rebuilding has been quick, & the result is a more secure school.

But we borrowed from operating budget to do this, so funds are desperately needed to replace equipment & salaries for teachers when classes can begin again next month (since Goma has no COVID-19 cases).

If you are able, please consider supporting this school. And/or pass the link along to friends who might be interested.



[https://www.facebook.com/donate/626886287865705/?fundraiser\\_source=external\\_url](https://www.facebook.com/donate/626886287865705/?fundraiser_source=external_url)

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## A Happy Story of One Little Change Purse

Our friend at J&J, John Brennick, shared a delightful anecdote of the adventurous life of one of the little change purses made by FEBA. He got it at a FEBA sale. Later, at a church charity he donated the little purse to go in a shoebox of school supplies for a little girl in a “developing” country. From Congo to North America to the global south: what an exciting life for that little purse! Thank you, John, for sharing FEBA’s work and this lovely story!

## FARMS, FLOODS, CLIMATE CHANGE

Weather in Congo used to be predictable: rainy season & dry season at regular intervals, but in recent years it has become more extreme, & increasingly irregular.

In the Kivu, along the Congo River’s “headwaters” (called the Lualaba River), there has been severe flooding, with significant loss of life & damage. We are deeply grateful that our eastern Congo partners in Munene (near Uvira) have escaped without any deaths, but many houses have lost roofs or collapsed. We have tried to help with repairs. We are also grateful that the women’s pilot project farm has survived well.



In Kinshasa province (surrounding the capital city), after torrential floods in “dry” season, the rainy season rains have been unreliable, so it has been necessary to irrigate FEBA’s farm. Heat has also been extreme, so the tender young seedlings of the market garden must be covered, a new concept for the villagers whom FEBA is educating as well as employing. Feeding minds as well as bodies is FEBA’s business.

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## CONTRIBUTE OR GET INVOLVED

Contribute: Donate securely via Stripe at [www.WomanCradleofAbundance.org/donate](http://www.WomanCradleofAbundance.org/donate) .

Please designate “Sewing School” or “Goma School” or “Women’s Center Orphans” or “Farm Needs,” or “Sustaining Gift” to support ongoing work.

Checks payable to Woman, Cradle of Abundance can be mailed to the following address:

Woman, Cradle of Abundance  
attn: John McGlaughlin, Treasurer  
25 Alexander St.  
Princeton, NJ 08542

Volunteer: Contact Cheryl Ciaranca, Community Outreach Coordinator, at [cciaranca@gmail.com](mailto:cciaranca@gmail.com) or 215.292.3290 to discuss ways to partner with Woman Cradle of Abundance.