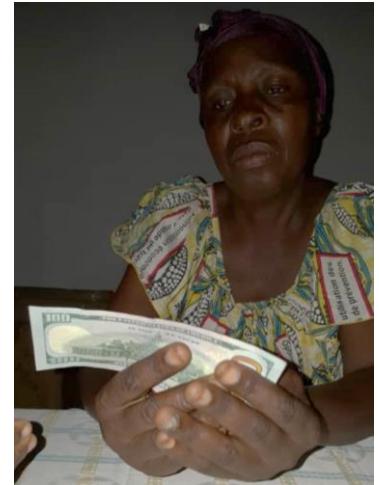


RELAUNCHING LIFE

The people of Kinshasa have been almost crushed by the COVID pandemic. Most have not contracted the virus, but all have been sheltering in place... & dying of hunger. If you don't work, you don't eat. FEBA has fed as many as possible in this emergency, but as Congo begins to reopen, members of FEBA are trying to put their lives back together.

Successful small business women (i.e., ones who could normally feed their families) were compelled to use up all their resources to survive. How can they begin again?

A wonderful anonymous donor has given the money to enable 40 women to start over. In groups of 20, the women have attended a workshop on best practices for micro-loans (left: women & teachers in the Women's Center courtyard).



Each woman completing the training has received \$100, which is the basic amount to buy stock: oranges, bananas, corn flour, charcoal or similar items for food & cooking. The woman on the right is even too stunned to show her joy: she holds HOPE in her hands! Each will repay her loan, little by little, every two weeks. Then the loan will become hope for another woman. As of this writing, the first group of women have made their first repayments!

HELP us HELP more deserving Women!

Fashion Parade



Everyone needs cheering up, especially this year! And FEBA fashions are just the ticket! Just look at these ladies sporting their lovely dresses & jackets! Doesn't your fall-winter wardrobe need to be brightened up with a colorful jacket?



School Reopens – Leopards Can’t Stop CCS!

Classes began on Aug. 10, with students sitting on the floor but back at work! Another burglary by “leopards” (gangs) at the CCS in Goma cost the school benches & tables, but did not get any valuables, safely locked up in the new office.

The government ruled that schools would open in August, starting with students in the final year (primary or secondary), so seniors can take their state exams; they won’t lose the whole 2019-20 year!!! CCS has 6th graders preparing for their exams.

FARM EXPANSION

The pandemic has put many projects on hold, including the plans for a cooking school. Most important right now is providing a reliable source of food, both to feed the poorest & to sell.

Thus FEBA has decided to expand its farm, adding more acres for corn & beans, & more rabbit hutches. The farm has been inspected by the Dept. of Agriculture & approved to be included in the registered non-profit farms which will be invited to workshops, etc. Right now the new land is being cleared of brush & stumps, & prepared for sowing when the rains begin in September. Corn & cassava do not need water in the dry season; corn is even now being harvested & cassava will be ready in a few months.

The market garden will be an important source of income, but it requires watering during dry season so the beloved pick-up truck has hauled a lot of water; eggplant & tomatoes will soon be ready!

More Fashion Parade



Masks are a great fashion statement for civic-minded Americans.

Give us a shout for your own fit-out! eamckee28@gmail.com
(We no longer use Etsy; please contact me directly.)

THANK YOU SO MUCH to all our 5K walkers!! You are wonderfully generous

FOOD INSECURITY/ FOOD SUPPORT

FEBA has 1200 members; of those who attend regularly, about 80 are very elderly & unable to work. Of these, 10 are also blind. Without FEBA they would starve. Many have been coming to Maman Monique’s desperately seeking a little food, but some cannot even manage that. Just recently one of these elderly blind women collapsed and died the day before her next installment of food was to be delivered to her home; she had not been well but the death was a shock to all.

FEBA cannot give much food at a time, in order to spread it around to as many as possible. (A single woman might live on 7 kilos of corn flour for some time, but in a big family that only lasts a week.) The farm produce will help, but continuing food support will be necessary until the economy gets better... someday.

CONTRIBUTE OR GET INVOLVED

Contribute: Donate securely via Stripe at www.WomanCradleofAbundance.org/donate or on FEBA, Inc., on Facebook.

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 or 215.292.3290 to discuss ways to partner with Woman Cradle of Abundance.