Message from the President

Dear FNIF Friends,

We are very lucky to have so many loyal and supportive Friends, many of whom have found some very innovative ways of supporting FNIF and the GCEF. This newsletter celebrates those donors and, hopefully, will inspire each of you to find new ways to give. Donations can be made by credit card, check or bank transfer via our eshop: www.icn.ch/shop/en/donations/4-donation.html.

We also bring you some news from a recent GCEF graduate in Uganda who offers some inspiring words for her fellow GCEF girls. And we remind you that you can book your tickets for the FNIF Luncheon when you register for the ICN Conference in Seoul starting 7 October 2014. Check the ICN Conference website, www.icn2015.com, for the latest details.

We look forward to seeing you there! Thank you!

Sincerely,
Judith Shamian, FNIF President

Nigerian author donates books to GCEF

Jacqueline Agweh, a Nigerian author, has donated 20 copies of her two books, The Colour of My Tears, and A Place for Every Girl to the Girl Child Education Fund. Nominated for the Association of Nigerian Authors/NDDC Flora Nwapa Prize for Women Writings in 2010, The Colour of My Tears explores the plight of two sisters and a brother orphaned by HIV/AIDS, and how they overcame their difficulties. A Place for Every Girl tells the story of five sisters and their quest to continue their education after their parents’ death in an automobile accident.

“I have a burning desire to see the girl-child become an achiever because I believe in the endearing possibilities and enduring strength of, and in, women, especially as I am a mother of girl-children myself”, said author Jacqueline Agweh.

The books, which are suitable for all ages, are beautifully illustrated by young Nigerian artist, Shedrack Alaegbu.
Innovative ways of donating to the GCEF

Gold Coin Donation The Australian College of Nursing stages annual Nursing and Health Expos dedicated to enhancing the profile of nursing and promoting recruitment and retention of the nursing and midwifery workforce. Health Expo entry is complimentary but a “gold coin donation” (a one or two Australian dollar coin) is encouraged. Over the years, ACN has collected these gold coins and in 2013 the collected funds were donated to FNIF to support the work of the Girl Child Education Fund.

You are a Star! The Danish Nurses Organisation launched the “You are a star” Facebook campaign. Every time a DNO member shares the star with other Facebook friends, the DNO donates 5 Danish kroner to the GCEF.

Other ICN members who generously donated to the GCEF in 2013 included the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation; the Japanese Nurses Association; the Norwegian Nurses Organisation; the Portuguese Order of Nurses; and the Swedish Association of Health Professionals (Vardfödbundet). We have also received many generous donations from individuals, including many on-site pledges made by participants at the biennial FNIF Luncheon in Melbourne.

Gifting for all occasions
• The Commission of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) gave a donation to GCEF in lieu of a holiday gift for the President of their Board of Trustees.
• Maureen McTeer, Canadian lawyer and author, donated her honorarium as faculty at the ICN-Burdett Global Nursing Leadership Institute to the GCEF.
• Kirsten Stallknecht, ICN President from 1997 to 2001 gave GCEF half of 2013 Christianne Reimann Prize money 2013. She donated the other half to a local Danish Charity.
• The National Council of State Board of Nursing (NCSBN) made a generous donation in celebration of its 35th anniversary.
• The Happy Medium Photo Company, the official photographers at the ICN Congress in Melbourne, gave 10% of their sales to the GCEF.
• The Bellarmine Association of Nursing Students once again held an annual silent auction to raise money for the GCEF.

No matter how you give, FNIF thanks you for the fantastic support you have provided over the years and for helping over 150 girls to complete secondary school.

Season's Greetings!

We support The Girl Child Education Fund (GCEF) by sending a donation every year.
The knowledge of young girls of nurses in developing countries to go to school.

Please continue to give at www.icn.ch/shop/en
Spotlight on the Swedish Society of Nursing

The Swedish Society of Nursing (SSN), which is a collaborative member of ICN with the Swedish Association of Health Professionals, has also been a generous supporter of the GCEF since the establishment of the Fund. The SSN has produced a leaflet on the GCEF to raise awareness of the Fund at meetings, courses and at universities. The Society also held fundraising events for the GCEF at the Society of Educational Health Service’s yearly Congress in April 2013, and at the Congress for Tutors and Teachers in Clinical Education in November 2013. More than 84,000 Swedish kroner (approximately USD 12,000) were collected and this amount was doubled and donated to the GCEF by the SSN Board. Further funds were raised via the website, as donations for condolences and birthday wishes and via collection boxes at the Society’s office. In lieu of sending out Christmas cards, the Society donated 5,000 Swedish kroner.

Pictured here, Ania Willman, President of the Swedish Society of Nursing, counting money collected for the GCEF at the November 2013 Congress.
FNIF Fundraising Luncheon, June 2015

FNIF is pleased to announce that the next FNIF fundraising luncheon will be held on Sunday, 21 June 2015 in Seoul, Republic of Korea during the ICN 2015 Conference. Reservations for this extremely popular event can be made via the online registration system for the Conference as of 7 October 2014. Any questions concerning the luncheon should be sent to Lindsey Williamson at williamson@icn.ch

News from Joyce¹, a GCEF graduate in Zambia

The GCEF Coordinator in Zambia visited one of the recent GCEF graduates in her grandmother’s home. She has this to say about the programme:

“I joined the programme in 2009 when I was in grade eight and I want to study either nursing or journalism. The girl children should focus on what they want to be in future and not fall into the trap of peer pressure and bad vices. My colleagues on this programme should not give up and should continue working hard because life must go on even after the death of our parents”.

Joyce’s mother was a nurse who died in 2004, leaving behind Joyce and her little sister. Joyce has no contact with her father and lives with her grandmother.

“I thank ZUNO² for accepting me on the programme and I also thank them for providing me with everything I needed for my education. I thank ZUNO also for providing me with the solar lamp that helped me study in the event of any power outages. I want to encourage the other girls on the programme that they should not be envious of other girls because each one has a different destiny. Even when they fall pregnant before they finish their high school education, they should still continue going to school because life is all about education”.

¹ Not her real name ² Zambian Union of Nurses Organisation