



Dec. 2015

Ms. CLARISSE MEFOTSO FALL, MPH and Executive Director, BIA Accredited Representative, and Global President of 1000 African Women Network

WISHING YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A PROPEROUS NEW YEAR 2016!!!

I would like to take the opportunity during this Holiday Seasons to thank all our supporters, partners, donors, staff, volunteers and board members. I'm also taking the opportunity to introduce the work African Hope Committee and the one of 1000 African Women Network this year. African Hope Committee's overall vision is to serve and improve the quality of life of Africans in the United States and abroad.

Our local mission is more specific to the communities we encounter on a daily basis. We seek to empower African immigrants and other ethnic groups in New York City through health education programs, immigration services and social support services. Our latest focus has been on developing a marketing plan to increase number of clients served. The change in visibility allows us to use the service fees to begin to delve into the pro-bono work that has fallen by the wayside without the necessary funds. African Hope Committee believes in partnerships and collaborations and we continue to cultivate trusted referral relationships between like-minded services in the industries ensuring that our clients have access to the necessary resources. We are looking to ensure the sustainability of the organization and this has leaded us to an intensive research program for funding. Without this, our vision of growth cannot be established.

Our global mission is to provide guidance and support for community development initiatives in Africa.

Through a global network of African women based in Africa and the Diaspora, we seek to empower the international community and mainly the Francophone communities here and abroad, empowering young girls, the youth and women. Concentrating on providing clean drinking water, Foster literacy and education, encouraging opportunities for economic development and self-sufficiency, African Hope Committee will improve lives through infrastructure and capacity building of NGO's in Africa.

Some of the positive and negative memories continue to help me shake the work I do. Through community organizing, advocacy efforts and AHC's Annual Health Summit, we have been able to serve more men, women and young girls in the community then we anticipated in 10 years. To date, AHC has received proclamation from the Brooklyn Borough President, Marty Markowitz in 2004, 2006 and 2007; a citation from the Manhattan Borough President, C. Virginia Fields and Council Member Bill Perkins in 2004 and 2005 for recognizing and commending AHC for the vital services we provide to the residents of New York City; an award of recognition from the City of New York DOHMH, Bureau of HIV/AIDS/ Women and HIV/AIDS Program, Dr. Marjorie J. Hill in 2004. AHC received recognition from our Honorable Board member, Mr. Wafo, president de L'enfance Joyeuse in Cameroon. Just recently in 2007, we received proclamations from the Brooklyn Borough President and the Manhattan Borough President for commending AHC for the 4th Annual Health Summit for African women/children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and actions taken to increase HIV awareness and bring people to care. AHC staff was very proud to receive proclamations from the Mayor Bloomberg's of New York for hosting the 4th and 5th Annual Health Summit entitled "Ignorance can Kill, Knowledge can Save Lives", which helps raise awareness about issues related to the contraction and treatment of this dreadful illness. We also received citations from the Councilwoman Inez Dickens and Councilman Robert Jackson. We have been the 2005 Union Square Awards recipients and in 2012 we received an award from the NYCPD (New York City Police Department). And lastly the organization received its ECOSOC status from the United Nation ECOSOC Branch in the Civil Society in 2013. When I read the letter, deeming African Hope Committee a United Nations accredited organization was an incredibly happy for myself, my staff and our board members. Despite all the obstacles, but through our hard work, commitment and patience, at the end we felt rewarded. It is always frustrating to see those facing tremendous hardships in their lives with no relatives or resources. Working in the office with our clients, I find this one to be the biggest difficulties I face every day. It is even more taxing, knowing that the financial resources exist in New York City, and the nation as a whole, to lessen the burden of newly arriving immigrants, but organizations like African Hope Committee remain grossly underfunded making us ill-equipped to deal with all the challenges we face. I have learned to embrace the struggle for it makes me stronger. It won't last forever, and the best weapon against it is to remain positive and thankful for everything in your life. Everything you overcome today will make you the person that you are looking to be tomorrow.

For last 10 years AHC has focused its work and activities in America, specifically in New York. Through our Global project, The Kalifa Project who is now has expanded to 1000 Africa Women Network is doing major work in Africa. In the past, we have provided basic human needs including clothing, medical supplies and clean water sachets in Cameroon. We organized two gatherings in the village where over 300 women, men, youth and children came to learn about the project. The attendees received donated items through AHC volunteer staff in

Cameroon. The event included providing food, drink and staff conducted activities and game with the children. Over 20 boxes of clothes, medical supplies and clean drinking water sachets have been donated to the village of Manjo. Recently, the organization sent 4 barrels of books to Douala for the Enfance Joyeuse du Cameroon organization. We believe literacy and education is key to success and it is very important to build the future of our children through proper education. We are excited to finally launched our first ever global Network 66

1000 African Women Network" reaching African women around the world and empower them through our leadership development program. This year 2015, alone, we have reached and increased the visibilities of African women entrepreneurs, CEO, Business Women, Humanitarians and more, farmers and more. We established a sewing center in Dakar, Senegal last year in 2014; we completed our plan to build water pump in Africa and we established and expanded 1000 Africa Women Netowrk in African Countries like Congo/ Kinshasa, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Nigeria, Gambia, Guinee, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso and Mauritania. Our main focus is on the francophone countries in Africa who have fallen behind the rapid growth of the Anglophone countries in the western world. We have great partnership in Canada and United Kingdom.



Global members taking leadership in Africa to empower communities at local/National level like in Cameroon, Congo and Niger





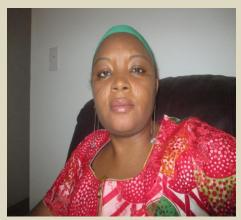
I strongly believe that my personal life has created an impact in my vision. When your entire life is dedicated to a cause, it is hard to keep work separate from your personal obligations. Initially, I was influenced by my father, Pierre Tagne le Duc, a retired Teacher and educator in Cameroon. Under his guidance, my childhood was filled with education and the prospects it brings. In my adult years, my husband has made and continues to make an enormous impact on my life. We have been together for more than 20 years, and as well as I know him, he can still surprise me with great things that continue to help shape and expand my vision. I work hard to protect women, young girls and children, because as a young girl I was face with peer pressure and made some mistakes that held me back. Thank God I was able to overcome these difficulties, because not every girl is fortunate enough to regain her footing as I did. Prevention and education are keys to keeping this generation's young women and girls on the right track. My family including my special brother, Sop Tagne Fidelis and my husband embrace my vision and my empowering profession. As an individual and a great humanitarian himself, he inspires me, motivates me, and encourages me to be exactly and stay exactly the way I am. Reminds me every day, not everyone will like you in your mission, but I strongly believe that God has sent you this earth to exercise this mission. Working with people, assisting the poor and underserved and neglected and underprivileged people. Receiving this strength, all I can do is to transmit this great energy to my clients and the people I meet every day so they can feel the love and profound sense of purpose that I do. (Pictures of me, my brother and my husband above)



POST-2015 CIVIL SOCIETY EVENT WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SEPTEMBER?













From left, Terrylyn Smith, AHC VICE CHAIR, Anatole Toukam, AHC Global Project Director, Haoua Abdou, 1000 African Women Network President in Niger, Honorable Pierre Wafo, Honoree Member and Global Ambassador in Charged of Global Affairs and Humanitarian Project of African Hope Committee; Tawemby Marceline 1000 African Women Network President in Congo/Kinshasa and Lidwine Barham, 1000 African Women Network Global Coordinator.

To excel in the public health field, not only do you need a degree in public health, but also be passionate, loving, patient and caring. It is crucial to develop positive attitudes towards hardship and monitor your emotions. You must be passionate about working with people and not worry so much about the paycheck, and the reward is remarkable. I have met many people who expressed high levels of frustrations that their jobs are not providing the level of fulfillment and purpose that they seek in their lives. Being a humanitarian worker or volunteer is a chosen lifestyle—not just a job. There is often no sharp distinction between work and the rest of your life, between your interests and passions. I see Public Health as an opportunity for one individual to make a difference in someone's life.

I cannot imagine anything else being as interesting, challenging, exhilarating, and rewarding as humanitarian work.







Our immediate success is to see AHC being expanded in Africa, reaching all walks of lives, Government

officials, NGO's, community at the urban and rural level. Expansion of the work through established member president. 8 countries in Africa have been reached in just one year with the work we do. We have empowered even leaders in Africa and exposed their great work. We reached over 1000's 5,000 people Globally through social media and our campaign network of 1000 African Women Network. Creating small business like the sewing center in Senegal giving jobs meaning providing more income, making women a more vital part of the economy in any village, city or town. In short, through mild expansion into Africa, African Hope Committee will continue to empower women, girls and youth.

www.afriquehope.org Facebook: afrique hope; African hope committee inc global project; African hope committee, inc; AHC Hope Store

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE CSW60 IN MARCH. FROM MARCH 14-24TH AT THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUATERS, NEW YORK. AND SIDE EVENT OF AHC ON THE 19TH OF MARCH 2016