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Dear Colleagues,

Greetings and welcome to our second issue of the CAF America E-Bulletin for donors.

In this issue, we take a closer look at how international giving and, more broadly, the charitable sector as a whole have come under increased scrutiny from policy makers in the United States. It is a critical topic for U.S. donors engaged in overseas philanthropy – and CAF America promises to continue to follow the latest developments and advocate for solutions that do not impinge on legitimate and responsible grantmaking.

As always, we welcome your comments and reactions, and we wish you a happy spring!

SKE Saxon-Harold

Susan K.E. Saxon-Harold
Chief Executive Officer

P.S. Please be sure to check the [CAF America website](http://www.allaboutgiving.org/america) (www.allaboutgiving.org/america) on a regular basis for the latest information, news and updates.



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Under the Microscope: International Giving Under Scrutiny

Sam Cooke's 1964 hit, "A Change is Gonna Come," is a fitting theme song for the multiple efforts under way to police international giving and nonprofit governance in the United States. From the halls of Congress to the meeting rooms of leading nonprofits, an array of working groups is taking a hard look at the rules and practices governing the charitable sector and philanthropic giving.

CAFAmerica's main concern throughout this will be to ensure that any new laws and regulations do not diminish international giving from the United States. As an active participant in the ongoing debate, CAFAmerica aims to protect the ability of its donors to support legitimate foreign charities.

The following is an overview of some of the key developments of recent months:

- **Senate Finance Committee.** In the U.S. Senate, lawmakers are responding to reports of ethical lapses in nonprofit governance, fundraising and other areas with a determined effort to develop new regulations for the sector. The Senate Finance Committee held hearings on the issue in early April, and votes on new legislation are expected soon.
- **Independent Sector Panel.** In response to a request from the Senate Finance Committee, Independent Sector, an umbrella group of U.S. nonprofits, convened a special Panel on the Nonprofit Sector. Panel members, who include diverse leaders from nonprofit and philanthropic organizations, are working to develop a set of guidelines and recommendations to "improve the governance, ethical conduct and oversight of nonprofit organizations." The panel issued an interim report in March calling on America's charities and foundations to implement a variety of measures to improve their governance and financial disclosure. Click on www.nonprofitpanel.org for more information.
- **Council on Foundations Task Force.** A task force convened by the Council on Foundations has been focusing on the issue of international philanthropy. In March, the group released a set of Principles of International Charity as an alternative proposal to the Treasury Department's voluntary guidelines. Adopted last year in an effort to prevent funding of terrorist-supporting organizations, the Treasury guidelines are widely viewed as impractical and potentially damaging to international grantmaking. Click on http://www.cof.org/files/Documents/International_Programs/2005Publications/Principles_Final.pdf for more information.

CAFAmerica currently provides \$14 million in annual support for charities throughout the world. Our goal for the future is to expand our giving, while providing donors with an ever-growing number of opportunities to support the amazing work that legitimate nonprofit organizations are doing in communities throughout the world.



Giving Solutions: CAFAmerica's Donor Web

Holders of Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) with CAFAmerica are now able to manage and review their accounts online. The CAFAmerica Donor Web, unveiled in November 2004, provides a one-stop, online resource for donors to view fund balances and statements, review the status of pending grants and recommend new ones. The Donor Web is another example of how CAFAmerica continues to find ways to make it easy for donors to support an array of vital causes around the world.

All DAF holders were issued a user name and password to gain secure access to the CAFAmerica Donor Web (https://falcon.stellarfinancial.com/gloria/ex_cafa/Default.htm). For more information on setting up a Donor Advised Fund and gaining access to the CAFAmerica Donor Web, please click on www.cafonline.org/cafamerica/default.cfm?page=inddafs

News From CAFAmerica

Tsunami Relief

In response to the tsunami that struck South Asia in December 2004, CAFAmerica worked with Charities Aid Foundation offices worldwide to help donors support charitable organizations providing immediate and long-term reconstruction assistance. Through the CAFAmerica website, U.S. donors could research ways to help and respond quickly by making a secure, online donation. As of April 2005, CAFAmerica had made \$331,000 in grants to charities working on recovery and reconstruction efforts.

Grants News

CAFAmerica's receipts have been markedly up in the past year, exceeding \$14 million annually – a 51% increase. We welcome all those new donors and hope they will continue to support our efforts.

New Partnerships with Major Donors

CAFAmerica has also developed new and expanded relationships with major donors. For example, the Nike Foundation is now a major new global grantmaking partner. We also worked with two other major corporations to make their grantmaking more strategic. This resulted in one of the companies increasing its annual giving from \$20,000 to \$1 million; whilst the other added \$780,000 to its giving total, compared to the year before.

Annual Report

CAFAmerica is putting the finishing touches to its 2004 Annual Report, with many stories about how the organization's giving has impacted charities and communities around the world. Please email us at info@cafamerica.org to request your copy.

Feedback

Constructive feedback on our e-Bulletin is always welcome. If you have any comments or suggestions, please info@cafamerica.org