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Dear Friends,

Greetings and welcome to our Spring 2005 issue of the CAF America E-Bulletin.

In this issue, we take a closer look at the increased scrutiny of the charitable sector and international giving in the United States. Congress and the U.S. charitable sector are taking steps that could impact U.S. giving to overseas charities for years to come.

We also offer more information on eligibility for CAF America grants and profile some of the charities we support that are working on issues of global health.

As always, we welcome your input and your comments, and we encourage you to keep CAF America informed about how your organization is making a difference. Thank you!

S.K.E. Saxon-Harrod

Susan K.E. Saxon-Harrod
Chief Executive Officer

P.S. Please be sure to check www.allaboutgiving.org/america on a regular basis for the latest information, news and updates.

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Washington Takes a Closer Look at Nonprofit Governance and International Giving

The nonprofit sector and international giving are under intense scrutiny in the United States as part of a broader effort to police the nonprofit sector and foundations. For charities registered with CAFAmerica, and indeed for any charities supported by U.S. donors, it is important to understand the latest developments. This is because whatever happens in 2005 will surely affect the climate for international giving by U.S. donors for years to come.

CAFAmerica's main concern is 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 its ability to support legitimate foreign charities in effective and easy ways. We also promise to keep you informed, and you can be sure that we will be speaking out when appropriate about the importance and the value of international grantmaking.

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 www.cof.org/files/Documents/International_Programs/2005Publications/Principles_Final.pdf for more information.

CAFAmerica currently provides \$10 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.

Eligibility for CAFAmerica Grants Explained

Today, more than 2,500 charities are eligible to receive grants from CAFAmerica. And if you're reading this, chances are you are already one of them. However, if you're not, here's a brief outline of how the process works and how to get the most from it.

Each potential grantee is asked to complete a [Grant Eligibility Application](#) (www.cafonline.org/cafamerica/grantapp.doc) and to submit detailed supporting information, including financial statements and governing documents. The cost of this review is \$60 (U.S. dollars), also payable as £40 (pounds sterling).

Applicants are checked against all U.S. government 'watch lists' and CAFAmerica seeks additional independent local verification via one of the CAF Group offices and by reviewing international news reports. It also conducts pre-grant site visits if requested and paid for by donors. These precautions ensure that CAFAmerica only supports effective and reputable charities that do their work according to the highest ethical standards.

Eligible charities are then listed on the CAFAmerica database of charities, which can expose an organization and its work to a wide audience of potential donors. At this point, be sure to keep us up to date about your charity's work. CAFAmerica is attracting more and more donors who want current information about charities that are working in fields or countries that are of special interest to them. Send your information to us by emailing us at info@cafamerica.org.

Also, include a link to the [CAFAmerica website](#) (www.allaboutgiving.org/america) on your own site and in your fundraising materials. This will let U.S. donors know they can support your charity through CAFAmerica.

Lastly, charities also may apply for eligibility to receive gifts through the CAF American Donor Fund, which allows U.S. citizens living in the United Kingdom to receive tax relief in both countries for their international contributions.

CAFAmerica Grantees in Profile: Global Health

More than 11 million children in developing countries die every year from preventable illness. At the same time, more than 39 million people around the world are living with HIV/AIDS, and the epidemic is growing. CAFAmerica grantees are hard at work combating these and other threats; conducting urgently needed research or delivering vital services to populations in need.

For example, the Rehoboth Trust in South Africa, provides long-term care for orphaned and abandoned babies and toddlers living with HIV/AIDS. Determined to provide these children with a home-like environment, Rehoboth is using funds from CAFAmerica and other donors to build 10 specially designed houses near Port Shepstone.

The Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, is a medical university dedicated to improving people's health through education, research, and information. Thanks to a CAFAmerica grant in 2003-04, visiting scholar Dr. Vera Vlahović-Palčevski of Croatia conducted research into establishing monitoring centers for adverse drug reactions in her native country.

CAFAmerica's 2004 Annual Report will detail the real-world impact that these and other CAFAmerica grantees are having on issues from health and the environment to education and human rights. Please email us at info@cafamerica.org to request your copy.

News

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. Among these charities was the Krabi Relief Fund in Thailand. Thanks to grants from CAFAmerica and other donors, the fund was able to rebuild and relaunch 51 boats that had been damaged in the tsunami, enabling their owners to get back to work.

Grants News

CAFAmerica's receipts have been markedly up in the past year, exceeding \$14 million annually – a 51% increase. During 2004, we made grants to more than 1,000 charities in 73 different countries around the world.

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.

Feedback

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