Planet Aid

2009 Annual Report



RECYCLING TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT





Planet Aid is a nonprofit organization that collects and recycles used clothing and shoes. We began recycling in 1997 in the Boston area. Today our clothes collection boxes can be found across 16 major metropolitan areas of the United States. Planet Aid sells the collected clothing to distributors, who make it available to customers at a low price. The proceeds are then donated to help people in developing nations meet basic needs. Planet Aid supports community-based international development projects that improve health, increase income, aid vulnerable children, train teachers, and enhance the overall quality of life of people across the globe.

2009 Annual Report

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www.planetaid.org



Message from the President



I proudly present Planet Aid's 2009 annual report. We have had a very good year, collecting 100 million pounds of used clothing for sale and reuse by those in need. To understand how large a volume 100 million pounds represents, imagine 90 football fields buried five-feet deep in shirts, shoes, and slacks. This volume of recycled textiles saved from disposal means, of course, that fewer fields and open spaces will indeed become landfills, and that individuals who lacked clothing will now have something more to wear.

The Earth's resources have become increasingly scarce and their distribution correspondingly imbalanced. Like a poorly loaded washing machine struggling to spin, the world labors under the weight of social and economic inequity and environmentally disruptive activities. Our actions today must focus on correcting these asymmetries. Through the simple act of recycling clothes, Planet Aid moves surplus value from wealthier regions of the planet to relieve deficits where needed.

Our clothing collection bins are located in thousands of parking lots, at schools, and in shopping centers throughout the United States, making it convenient for Americans to recycle. These bins harvest what would otherwise become waste, effectively recapturing the residual value in used clothing. A sweater thus acquires a second life, providing a small-scale farmer in a developing country with warmth from the morning's chill air, while a T-shirt provides another protection from the tropical sun. Used clothes are thus imbued with new worth and become cherished items by their second owners. The other way Planet Aid helps is by donating the proceeds of the sales from its used clothing operation to support programs that help people in developing nations. It also seeks funding from government agencies and other donors. The programs we support provide nutritious food, a good education, clean water, care for orphaned children and the sick, and aid to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. We have thus combined our work in recycling with direct international development assistance that helps to improve living conditions for the world's neediest peoples. In the pages of this report, you will have the opportunity to read about the work and accomplishments of those involved in these projects.

Our approach of saving the environment while working for the benefit the poor is part of a strategy to restore balance to the Earth. It is an approach that embraces environmental stewardship, while acknowledging the link between social and ecological progress. This combination of recycling and development is what makes Planet Aid unique among aid organizations.

I want to close by thanking our dedicated staff for all their hard work and the continued generosity and support of so many Americans who donate clothing to us. I also want to thank those who donate the sites for our clothes collection boxes. They help to make recycling and reuse convenient for everyone. This collective help and generosity are greatly appreciated by us and by the many beneficiaries all over the world.

Ester Neltrup, President

MISSION

Planet Aid is committed to helping poor and disadvantaged citizens improve their lives, and make future generations better off as well. We support communities in some of the poorest regions of the world through projects addressing health, education, food production, and income generation.

Planet Aid is committed to peace and to humanity's well-being. We care deeply about the Earth that we share with millions of other species. Reusing discarded items from the rich part of the world as a vehicle to increase income and improve lives in other parts is good for the Earth and thus benefits us all. Through our actions we seek to promote cooperation and understanding across countries and continents.

Objectives:

Emergency and Disaster Relief

- Serving victims of hunger, war, natural disasters, atomic accidents, plague and other disease outbreaks, and other catastrophes.
- Assisting with victim relocation and rebuilding areas hit by natural and man-made disasters and accidents.

Development

- Serving poorer nations, the poorest of the world's populations, and supporting relevant and empowering development initiatives.
- Undertaking a broad range of development projects worldwide, including but not limited to: building schools, establishing clinics, providing microfinancing to small enterprises, supporting farming, and nurturing small-scale industry.

Protection of Natural Habitat

• Protecting threatened elements of the Earth's

atmosphere, soil, plants, and animals.

- Initiating actions to preserve rivers, seas, and forests.
- Undertaking other projects aimed at protecting the natural habitat of the Earth.

Building the Organization

- Serving the general public and making it possible for people to participate in activities of the organization.
- Establishing educational facilities for training personnel and volunteers.
- Forming members' associations, initiating support groups, and establishing a worldwide cooperative network of participants and activists.



Research and Innovation

- Developing methods and systems for the implemetion of organization's objectives and activities.
- Producing and distributing informative materials to the public containing basic knowledge as well as specific information about the organization's activities.
- Producing educational, informative materials for use by schools related to the organization's activities.

Planet AID School Program



Planet Aid offers schools that place collection boxes on their property the opportunity to learn more about recycling. Each school is offered lessons and materials in recycling and protecting the environment as well as an invitation to visit one of our recycling centers. The pupils learn about the countries and projects supported by Planet Aid, and many of these students participate in exchanges and conduct campaigns to help children like themselves in faraway places. In 2009, 370 schools participated in Planet Aid's recycling program.



Justin Smith, Shipper and Receiver

Justin Smith works in the Planet Aid Elkridge, Maryland warehouse. "People are very generous, giving clothes that are clean, all folded neatly and bagged up. We get a lot of new stuff, shoes in their original boxes," he says. Once the clothing is in bales, it is loaded onto trucks. "When I see those containers of clothing and shoes going out the door, I know it's going to someone in need. Doing good for people, that what it's all about."

People Making It Happen

FEATURED Planet Aid Employees



Tom Meehan Chief Financial Officer

Tom Meehan works at the Planet Aid headquarters in Holliston, Massachusettes. He had 30 years of experience in the nonprofit sector prior to joining Planet Aid. "I'm just recently back from a trip to Africa to see the programs firsthand– I'm incredibly impressed with the scale and depth of good work being done," he said. "The people receiving services are in great need and very happy for the support – it's very rewarding to be a part of that."



Serina Lopez Site Finder and Manager

Serina Lopez is a collection box site finder and manager in Cleveland, Ohio. With a degree in marketing, Serina pursued a career in customer service before joining Planet Aid. "I look for sites that will be successful, and I guide customers in choosing the best location on their property," she says. "It feels good to be part of an organization that's helping poverty-stricken people across the world." With each approaching season, clothing racks brim with an array of new fashions. It is a familiar cycle fueled by styleconscious consumers. It is also a process that generates volumes of unwanted clothing. Where does the shirt that gets shoved to the back of the closet and eventually shoved out go? The answer, unfortunately, is mostly to the trash.

According to the U.S. EPA, Americans generate approximately 12.5 million tons of textile waste each year and 97 percent is recyclable. Unfortunately only 10 to 15 percent of those textiles get donated to clothing recyclers such as Planet Aid. We recognize the importance of recycling and strive to make it as convenient as possible for Americans to donate their unwanted clothing. We have placed more than 12,000 yellow collection bins in parking lots, storefronts, and schools across 16 metropolitan areas. But there is still more to do.

The consequences of not recycling are significant. About 10 million tons of discarded textiles gets buried in landfills or incinerated each year. These materials produce methane gas that contributes to climate change and harmful chemicals that can seep into groundwater.

But that is just the toe of clothing's larger pollution footprint. Textile manufacturing itself demands considerable resources, generating a host of environmental and health impacts. For example, polyester fiber requires considerable fossil fuel to produce. Factories that make it emit hazardous gases and particulates and discharge chemical by roducts in wastewater.

Cotton, a natural alternative and a highly popular and versatile fiber, offers no solution in terms of impact. To grow the cotton to make just one T-shirt requires 700 gallons of water. Moreover, conventionally grown cotton is notoriously vulnerable to pests, demanding more insecticide use than any other single crop.

These impacts underscore the need for increased clothing recycling. Planet Aid will continue to contribute to this endeavor, spreading the word about the need to reuse textiles and expanding its collection program to more communities across the United States.

CLOTHES Recycling And Pollution Prevention



Large "capsack" bags containing used clothing are loaded for shipment at the Planet Aid warehouse in Maryland.

Along with the environmental benefits, recycling used-clothing helps stimulate a wealth of economic activity. In markets and shops around the world, inexpensive used clothing is in high demand and vendors run a brisk business. Planet Aid estimates that its used clothing operation has helped generate close to 30,000 jobs domestically and overseas.

A vendor carries a bale to market in Mozambique.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS



Planet Aid is a member of the Federation Humana People to People. Headquartered in Zimbabwe, the Federation has 35 national association members, effectively uniting more than 350 projects in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Members of the Federation implement projects that fight poverty, increase food security, promote education, strengthen health, combat HIV/AIDS, and protect the environment. More than 12 million people in 43 countries are involved in or touched by these projects on a yearly basis. For more than 30 years, the Federation has been helping empower individuals and families to improve their living conditions and livelihoods, providing them with the needed resources and know-how while encouraging cooperation. Working together with people in some of the poorest areas of the world, the



Federation is developing the capacity of communities to build a brighter future.

Thanks to grant support and the generosity of people who donate to our recycling program, Planet Aid provided more than \$14 million direct and in-kind support to 40 projects in 2009. These projects established and operated schools for street children and orphans, provided teacher and vocational training, offered leadership programs, and helped prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and provide care for those already infected. Other projects we supported assisted small-scale farmers to help increase crop yields and income, enhance environmental protection, help fight malaria, and provide nutritious meals for vulnerable children and adults in impoverished communities.



Planet Aid supported a soy nutritional program for vulnerable populations in Mozambique. Here an orphan's muscle strength is measured to help assess the impact of the program.

Projects Supported in 2009

Country	Projects	Amount
Angola	Capacity building and development	300,000
Angola	Vocational schools	50,000
Belize	Child Aid/community development	246,754
Botswana	HOPE - for AIDS affected	315,000
Borswana	Child Aid/community development	46,698
Brazil	Child Aid/community development	424,070
DR Congo	Child Aid/community development	345,635
	Farmers' Clubs	26,419
	Child Aid	25,587
China	HOPE - for AIDS affected	25,055
China	Malaria Project	20,917
	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	15,000
	Child Aid/community development	9,000
Ecuador	Child Aid/community development	334,254
Guinea Bissau	C to C Farming	7,450
India	Training Center for Global Development	17,115
India	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	75,945
Laos	Establishment of new projects	43,403
	Farmers' Club	1,170,764
Malawi	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	705,813
	Teacher training	1,968,720
	Book donation	5,225

	Farmers' Club	998,819
	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	1,135,934
Mozam-	Teacher training	2,724,914
bique	One World University	689,000
	Soy nutrition program	404,122
	Child Aid	34,157
Namibia	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	5,000
South	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	693,413
Africa	Child Aid/community development	100,200

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Zambia	HOPE - for AIDS affected	<mark>59,885 </mark>
Zambia	Child Aid/community development	60,186
	HOPE - for AIDS affected	111,518
	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	70,455
	Child Aid/community development	239,410
Zimbabwe	Ponesai Vanhu Junior School & Technical College	206,617
	Farmers' Clubs	20,000
	Food aid	149,143
	Murgwi Community Center	250,000
USA	Misc. charities and schools	95,654
Various countries	Computer equipment	40,447

Distribution of Support by Sector



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CHILD AID AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT People Centered Projects for Healthier Lives



Children in disadvantaged communities face huge challenges, especially in areas where violence is common, disease is rampant, and hunger is a constant worry. The objective of the Child Aid and Community Development projects is to create safe and supportive environments where children and their families can thrive. In 2009, Planet Aid supported Child Aid and community development projects in Botswana, Belize, Brazil, Ecuador, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Zambia, and China.

Child Aid is structured around ten categories of activities that range from strengthening the economy of the family and providing support for children without parents to establishing preschools and ensuring a clean environment. These ten activities ensure adequate project breadth, while also allowing sufficient flexibility to focus on the unique needs of



Joshua is a small boy in Botswana who lost his mother to the AIDS epidemic. His elderly Zimbabwean grandmother is distraught because she does not have the proper residency documents so the boy can receive a government food basket. A Child Aid worker trained in advocacy helps find the needed papers and accompanies the grandmother to the government office where arrangements are made for the boy's aunt to be his new caretaker. Knowing that the boy will receive food and care is a great relief to the grandmother, who smiles as she expresses her thanks for Child Aid.

a community. Each participatory project involves community members developing their capacity to prevent the spread of diseases, improve the quality of education, increase agricultural output, generate income, care for orphans, and create better living conditions.

The projects are as varied as the communities they serve, from an entire Congolese village working together to build latrines and hand-washing stations to a youth club in Brazil helping repair a road. With help from Planet Aid, preschools have been built, adult literacy and maternal health classes taught, youth clubs organized, vegetable gardens and fruit trees planted, HIV awareness campaigns conducted, wells for clean water dug, and playgrounds built. There is no limit to the good things that can be accomplished when communities work together to improve the lives of their children.

TOTAL CONTROL OF THE EPIDEMIC HIV/AIDS PREVENTION, EDUCATION, SUPPORT, AND CARE

The Total Control of the Epidemic (TCE) program tackles the problem of HIV/AIDS head on with a comprehensive behavior change campaign conducted door-to-door by dedicated in-country staff and volunteers. TCE brings communities together to increase HIV awareness, decrease stigma and discrimination, and provide support for children and adults affected by the disease. Only when people are aware of the methods of transfer, know how to avoid infection, and learn their own HIV status can they make informed choices and change behavior.

Trained TCE field officers work primarily in rural communities, providing education, referrals for testing and treatment, and counseling. They also help establish support groups and facilitate home-based care. They work in close cooperation with local health clinics and social service providers, and involve schools and youth clubs in campaigns to increase awareness. Asssiting the field officers are volunteers, known as passionates, who are often drawn from the ranks of traditional community leaders. As their name implies, passionates work dilligently within their communities to make the program a success, setting up "Orphan Care Committees" and organizing "Positive Living Clubs" that support persons who are HIV positive. They also help start herb and vegetable gardens, providing improved nutrition as well as outside income for those suffering from the disease.

TCE intervention has had a significant impact by increasing the number of people tested, the number of pregnant women attending prevention of mother to child transmission services, the number of orphans and vulnerable children referred to existing social services, and the number of HIV positive people receiving improved care. In 2009, Planet Aid supported TCE programs in Mozambique, Malawi, Zimbabwe, South Africa, India, and China.

The stories TCE field officers relate about their experiences demonstrate the power of the program. Kizito Mupunga, a TCE passionate in Zimbabwe, tells how speaking about HIV prevention in the churches used to be taboo. "Because of TCE now it is a norm," he states. "Even church leaders and pastors are on the forefront of giving lessons in churches." In South Africa, Field Officer Zamanguni Gumede speaks about counseling a pregnant woman who refused to go for HIV testing because she didn't think the knowledge would make any difference. After Gumede explained that someone who was HIV positive could give birth to an HIV negative baby if she received antiretroviral treatment, the woman agreed to be tested. In some areas of South Africa, 25 to 35 percent of women attending prenatal clinics are HIV positive, so each field officer is dedicated to making sure all pregnant women get tested, and those with HIV get treated in time to save the lives of their babies.



A TCE field officer rally in South Africa.



Bennie White, Operations Manager

People Making It Happen

Bennie White is the operations manager for Planet Aid in Cleveland, Ohio. Bennie started at Planet Aid in 2003, bailing clothes and textiles, and gradually becoming knowledgeable about all aspects of the recycling program.

"Over the years my people skills have improved. As a supervisor, I must be patient and understanding while demanding high standards and dedication, but it's an enjoyable challenge," Bennie explains. "I'm looking to expand our affiliations with local businesses, churches, and schools. Every day when I come to work, I know that I'm helping someone else, someone who's struggling to survive, so it's a labor of love."

THE HOPE PROJECT Community Support for People with HIV/AIDS



Conducting HIV testing in Zambia.

The HOPE project focuses on bringing communities together in the fight against HIV/AIDS. HOPE builds awareness that people with HIV can live with dignity, prolonging their lives and being productive with the support of their communities. Through HOPE, a young woman joins a sewing club and learns to support herself and her children as a seamstress. A grandmother receives food for the orphans she is raising. A student boosts his immune system with nutritious food. A teenager learns about HIV in a youth club and teaches her schoolmates about the dangers of unprotected sex. A man dying of AIDS receives home-based care, which is a great relief to his family.

HOPE projects establish community HIV facilities, which serve as resource hubs and activity centers. Each such HOPE center

is open to everyone in the community: people who have tested HIV positive, people who do not know their HIV status and need information and reassurance about testing, people who need information about sexually transmitted diseases, and people who want to participate in caring for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The center is a meeting place for HOPE activists, Positive Living Clubs, and Orphan Care Committees, and a training center for volunteers and community leaders. Through its outreach program, HOPE promotes prevention measures at schools, youth clubs, and throughout the community. For those already infected, HOPE provides support in boosting nutrition, maintaining treatment, and living a healthy life.

Planet Aid supported HOPE projects in Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia and China in 2009.



HOPE helps deliver nutritious meals in Zimbabwe.

THE TRAINING CENTER FOR Global Development

Preparing Tomorrow's Community Leaders



India needs people to coordinate community improvement projects—leaders with sharp analytical and management skills and the know-how to initiate beneficial projects. The Training Center for Global Devleopment (TCGD) trains youth in India who want to be part of building up a new and better future. The 13-month training program focuses on providing trainees with the skills they need to help reduce poverty, illiteracy, and dehumanizing conditions.

For 21-year-old Raj, whose young life had been filled with violence, TCGD offered a chance to find peace and a useful role in life. "I have improved my spoken English and learned computers, accounting, planning, budgeting, how to work in a team and conduct a survey, how to give presentations and how to motivate people in the community," he explains. During his 13-month course, Raj and his fellow students worked on outreach projects, arranging for vaccinations for local children, teaching health and hygiene, planting kitchen gardens and much more. With support from Planet Aid, TCDG is providing youth the opportunity to become highly qualified development instructors with excellent job prospects. Raj, who has found a new direction and purpose, says, "I want to work as a change agent among people who have had a strange life like me."

FARMERS' CLUB Improving Crops and Livelihoods while Helping the Environment

In rural areas of developing countries, most farmers have a small plot of land where they grow food crops to support their families. Planet Aid has been contributing to the Farmers' Club Project, which brings small producers together in groups or "clubs" where they learn to diversify crops, increase crop yields, and market the additional produce, earning much-needed income to raise their standard of living. In Mozambique and Malawi, Planet Aid received funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food for Progress Program in support of Farmers' Club. Planet Aid also supported Farmers' Club in Zimbabwe, China, and Guinea Bissau in 2009.

Each farmers' club is generally comprised of 50 farmers. Participants learn conservation methods that protect the environment so that land can be kept fertile and productive. Together they build simple irrigation systems and share tools, seeds, machinery, and other resources. The farmers learn from each other and from visiting extension workers and others with agricultural expertise. Workshops focus on specific topics such as crop diversification, bee keeping, tree propagation, or how to construct a hand-operated rope pump. Demonstration plots enable participants to try out new methods and share the results with their neighbors.

By organizing together, farmers are able to purchase in bulk, negotiate better prices on products, share transportation costs, and get access to better markets. The results have been impressive. In Guinea Bissau, farmers' club members raised 170 tons of cashew nuts and significant amounts of groundnuts and beans. They started nurseries with mango, lemon, orange, and palm trees. Using the proceeds from the sale of their crops, 120 families acquired sufficient means to construct new houses.

In addition to improving their operations, farmers also work together to find solutions to the problems of floods, droughts, disease, and other potential disasters. For example, in China's Yunnan Province, a disease outbreak threatened pigs on 60 farms. Thanks to newly founded farmers' clubs, participating producers learned to administer injections to save their stock, while also learning how to stop future outbreaks. As a result, all the pigs were saved, preventing a crucial loss of income for farming families.

The Farmers' Club Project also includes family education programs that promote health, hygiene, and nutrition, helping rural communities improve their lives in every aspect. The farmers, many of whom are women, organize into committees that help alleviate poverty and increase food security for the surrounding community. Occasionally larger events are undertaken. In Zimbabwe, 360 farmers' clubs participated in celebrating World Food Day in 2009, with more than 10,500 people attending the festivities. The celebration involved demonstrations of conservation methods and sharing unique recipes utilizing a variety of crops. Local school children also participated, putting on plays that helped illustrate the importance of good nutrition. Through events such as this, the Farmers' Club Project helps strengthen the entire community.



TEACHER TRAINING Every Child Deserves a Qualified Teacher

"When I was growing up in Mozambique, I could not always attend school, as conditions were sometimes very bad and there was not always a teacher. I helped my family in growing rice and vegetable crops to live, but I never stopped wanting to learn how to read and write," explains Anisia, whose quest for learning and determination enabled her to eventually complete secondary school. "When I learned of the new teacher-training college, I realized it would be a special opportunity for me. I wanted to give the children of my area something that I did not always have, which is to be taught by a qualified teacher."

"At the teacher training college, we spent our days studying and working, discussing lesson plans, learning how to use computers, and getting our first practice teaching in the nearby village schools," Mabika remembers. "We learned many things, but most importantly how to present child friendly lessons that truly helped students."

In 2009, Planet Aid, with funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, continued to support the operation of teachertraining colleges in Mozambique and Malawi. In cooperation with each country's ministry of education, the graduates of these colleges are hired to teach in elementary schools in rural areas where the teacher shortage is critical. The course prepares future teachers to be innovative, as they will be working in schools with scarce materials and limited facilities. The student teachers become skilled at creating exciting learning environments and encouraging children to stay in school. In addition to teaching academic subjects, the college graduates are trained to help their communities improve their health and standard of living.

"A teacher is not just important to the students and school but to the entire village," Anisia says. "While completing my training, we started a campaign to combat malaria and educated the surrounding communities through presentations and by helping drain the ditches where the mosquitoes live. We also planted fruit trees for shade and food."

Each teacher-training college becomes a center of activity for the community. A typical week on campus might include literacy classes, computer training, a sports event, or a women's club planning a health fair. The colleges work in partnership with local communities to improve living conditions and offer educational opportunities to adults as well as youth.

Today, the 60 students being taught by Anisia are excited about their lessons, gaining knowledge and skills that will enable them to become productive citizens and community leaders—a bright future made possible because they have a qualified teacher leading the way.





Paul Titterington, Manager in Training

PEOPLE MAKING IT HAPPEN

Paul Titterington enrolled in Planet Aid's Manager-in-Training Program in Kansas City soon after college graduation. He managed the school program, teaching children how to "go green" through environmental education programs. After a year, Paul set out for Africa to work with Planet Aid's sister organization, Development Aid from People to People Malawi. During his three-month tenure in Malawi, he taught English, gave world culture presentations, and was involved in community development work.

"Living and working in Malawi was an eye-opening experience. I gained a different perspective on what it means to survive on less than a dollar a day," Paul recalls. "I worked together with people of many different nationalities, all with a similar mindset, to help people build and strengthen their communities."

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION Teaching Job Skills Needed in the Community

Severino was always curious about electricity, but because of his vocational training the young man from Angola now can perform various electrical installations, safely and using proper tools. His ongoing education includes classroom instruction and on-the-job training at a local company. Electronics is one of the areas of study offered at the vocational schools supported by Planet Aid. They also offer training in agriculture, carpentry, mechanics, construction, horticulture, and business management.

Emiliana is preparing herself for a career in business, studying accounting, management, human resources, and computers. "I learned the theory of running a company, setting objectives, knowing what kind of services the company should provide, the organizational structure, and planning for the future," says this bright young woman who now has many career options.

The students who came to the vocational schools in Angola and Zimbabwe supported by Planet Aid in 2009 included disadvantaged youth who dropped out of school, orphans, and former child soldiers who are now getting a second chance to learn a trade that can lead to a good job. The schools are a community resource, with students holding awareness campaigns to prevent malaria, cholera, and HIV and helping to teach sustainable agriculture. Vocational school graduates are tomorrow's business leaders, contributing to economic growth and stability.



Abdi Errazzouki, Site Finder

People Making It Happen

Abdi Errazzouki is a collection box site finder in Northern Virginia and Washington DC. Originally from Morocco, Abdi attended school in France and earned a degree in business administration at NYU. His extensive sales experience, combined with his self-discipline, ethusiasm, and organizational skills, have helped him work with businesses, schools and organizations to find spots where Planet Aid collection boxes can be located.

"I love interacting with people," Abdi says. "I set up my goals every week and push myself to succeed. I'm able to do a good job because I believe in what we do—protecting the environment through recycling and helping poor families all over the world. Knowing that I'm representing a good cause and a fine organization opens doors for me."

PONESAI VANHU JUNIOR SCHOOL A Safe Haven for Vulnerable Children

Students attending Ponesai Vanhu Junior School in Zimbabwe are orphaned or abandoned, abused or destitute, and many have been street children. They arrive at the doors with little or no education and a desperate need for love and guidance. They receive rehabilitation and counseling, along with their family members or foster parents, if possible, and gradually they gain self-confidence along with a basic education and skills that can help them earn a living. In addition to academics, they participate in traditional dance, choir or drama clubs, giving performances at nearby schools.

A traditional dance at PVJS.



2009 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
ļ	December 2009		
	ASSETS		
	Cash and current assets	7,753,397	
	Property and equipment and other assets, net	4,697,808	
	Total assets	12,451,205	
	LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
	Current liabilities	7,767,454	
Capital leases, net of curre	portion	791,222	
	Total liabilities	8,558,676	
	Unrestricted net assets	3,892,529	
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	12,451,205	

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES December 2009

OPERATING REVENUE		
Sales of donated clothing and other goods	25,338,289	
Contracts - Federal	10,653,088	
Other revenue	810,356	
Total operating revenue	36,801,733	
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Program services	29,968,914	
General and administrative	2,493,181	
Fundraising and development	4,080,070	
Total operating expenses	36,542,165	
Foreign currency gains	145,232	
Changes in unrestricted net assets	404,800	

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES December 2009

PROGRAM SERVICES

U. S. Clothing Collection and Habitat Protection	15,070,969
International Exchange, Training and Education	264,535
International Aid	14,633,410
Total program services	29,968,914
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	2,493,181
FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMNET	4,080,070
Total expenses	36,542,165

Allocation of Funds



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS



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Planet Aid supports community-based international development projects that improve health, increase income, aid vulnerable children, train teachers, and enhance the overall quality of life of people across the globe.



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