



CANADIAN GRANDMOTHERS MARK 10 YEARS OF SOLIDARITY & \$25 MILLION RAISED!

SEP 1, 2016 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — This Fall, in communities across Canada, thousands of grandmothers will gather to mark the 10 Year Anniversary of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign.

Founded by the Stephen Lewis Foundation in 2006, the Campaign is an unparalleled movement of grandmothers and *grandothers*, committed to supporting grassroots efforts to turn the tide of AIDS. Since 2006, its members have raised more than \$25 million CAD in support of community-based organizations across sub-Saharan Africa run by and for grandmothers caring for children who have been orphaned by the global AIDS epidemic. And with an estimated 2 million new HIV infections each year, they are intensifying their efforts to raise funds and awareness in 2016.

Fast Facts:

- An estimated 14 million children have lost one or both parents to AIDS.
- 90% of children orphaned by AIDS live in sub-Saharan Africa.
- In some countries, up to 60% of orphans live in grandmother-headed households.
- The Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign has roughly 10,000 members who have raised more than \$25 million in support of African grandmothers and the Stephen Lewis Foundation's partner organizations.

Guided by the principles of solidarity and social justice, the Campaign is redefining retirement for many of its members, who have become a powerful force in supporting African grandmothers as they fight to secure their human rights. Its 10 Year Anniversary signifies a decade of learning, fundraising, and building solidarity through events such as the [African Grandmothers Tribunal](#), which brought African grandmothers' testimonies before an international audience as never before; the annual Stride to Turn the Tide, which is the Grandmothers Campaign's national fundraising walk; the recent [South Africa Grandmothers Gathering](#), which put grandmothers' rights firmly on the agenda at the International AIDS Conference in Durban; and thousands more local events in communities across the country!

Grandmothers Campaign members and Stephen Lewis Foundation staff are available for interviews upon request.

Contact: Chloe Shantz-Hilkes, Media & Communications Coordinator, Stephen Lewis Foundation

Phone: 416-533-9292 ext. 294 | Cell: 647-678-6859

Email: cshantz-hilkes@stephenlewisfoundation.org