



2021 Gloucester County Public Employees Charitable Campaign **TESTIMONIALS**

Philadelphia's first AIDS Walk (hosted by AIDS Fund) raised \$33,000. Since then, thousands of fundraising walkers have gathered each year to participate in the region's largest annual HIV/AIDS public awareness and fundraising event. To date, the regional AIDS Walk has raised almost \$16.7 million for HIV/AIDS public awareness, prevention, and care services for people living with HIV disease. **AIDS Fund (America's Charities)**

Alzheimer's Disease Research program currently supports 133 research projects worldwide, which represents a more than \$35 million investment in promising ideas. By increasing our understanding of what causes Alzheimer's, how it spreads, and hastening discovery of disease-modifying drugs and therapies, Alzheimer's Disease Research grantees are covering the spectrum of possibilities and bringing new hope to individuals and families who suffer from this disease. **(America's Charities)**

American Center for Law and Justice is dedicated to the promotion of pro-liberty, pro-life, and pro-family causes. The organization defends religious liberties, human life, and the family in litigation cases all across the country. The ACLJ cooperates with other organizations that are committed to a similar mission, and ACLJ serves the public through educational efforts regarding First Amendment and religious freedom issues as well as other pro-family and pro-life concerns. As a not-for-profit organization that does not charge for its legal services, the ACLJ is dependent upon God and the resources He provides through the time, talent and gifts of people who share similar concerns over the erosion of religious and civil liberties. **(America's Charities)**

Amnesty International unites the voices of more than 10 million supporters, activists, and volunteers from over 70 countries to achieve our goals. More than 44,000 people have been freed from prison, saved from torture, or protected from death threats following action by Amnesty International. Together, we have persuaded governments to change their laws and practices, stop torture, commute death sentences and hold accountable those responsible for abuses. We campaigned successfully for the establishment of the International Criminal Court and the United Nations Convention Against Torture. Amnesty International was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its life-saving work. Amnesty International is impartial and not affiliated with any political, religious, or corporate interests. **(America's Charities)**

For over 150 years, the **American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)** has been committed to rescuing, protecting and placing vulnerable animals throughout the entire United States. Each year, the ASPCA helps rescue thousands of animals from dangerous situations, assists in cruelty investigations and fights for stronger animal protections under the law. Buddy, was one of 367 dogs rescued from the second-largest dog fighting case in U.S. history. At just 10 weeks old, he was destined to spend his life on a chain, being groomed to fight. With the help of the ASPCA, Buddy was rescued and given a second chance at life. Buddy's story is just one of thousands of happy tails the ASPCA makes possible year after year, with the help of our generous supporters. **(America's Best Charities)**

Best Friends founded in 1984, Best Friends is a pioneer in the no-kill movement and has helped reduce the number of animals killed in shelters nationwide from an estimated 17 million per year to around 347,000. That means there are still about 950 dogs and cats killed every day in shelters, just because they don't have safe places to call home. Determined to bring the country to no-kill by the year 2025, Best Friends and its nationwide network of members and partners are working to Save Them All®. **(America's Charities)**

Breast Cancer Coalition's has increased funding for breast cancer research through its public policy efforts. Our activism launched and has generated more than 3.6 billion dollars for breast cancer research from the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program. We designed and influenced the passage of federal and state laws that expand access to health care for under-insured women. We accelerate progress in new treatment paradigms

through our clinical trials project. We educate leaders and the public about evidence-based decision making in health care. **(America's Charities)**

For over 30 years, **Cancer Research for Children, CureSearch**, has been a driving force behind the development of better, less-toxic treatments for every child diagnosed with cancer. We fund high potential research focused on moving new treatments quickly to the clinic and ultimately, to the children who depend on us. We also provide families with the resources and support they need to navigate a cancer diagnosis, and our nationwide fundraising events bring communities together in support of our shared mission to end children's cancer. **(America's Charities)**

More than 60 years ago, CHC: **Creating Healthier Communities** began to partner with corporate leaders and governments to increase their social impact by engaging employees in giving and volunteering, driving resources to trusted, high-impact nonprofits. For a long time, we addressed the medical and chronic disease aspects of good health. However, we know—as do our nonprofit and corporate partners—that health is more than healthcare. Creating healthier communities requires a complex web of supports that touch on every aspect of our health and wellbeing. It also requires a catalyst to make the vision for healthier communities a reality.

Before COVID-19, the health system of Burkina Faso was already struggling with various infectious diseases like malaria, meningitis, tuberculosis, and acute respiratory infections. Lavy and his twin brother, Davy were growing up not knowing if they carried these dangerous diseases, and their mother Agnes couldn't afford screening and immunizations. **Compassion International** provides care for children living in poverty through special attention to prevention and raising awareness among caregivers to prevent kids like Lavy from getting sick. Eight-year-old Lavy received a screening at the child development center before getting his immunization to prevent hepatitis B and other diseases. Lavy is now protected and can grow healthy and study hard to fulfill his dreams. "I want to become a medical doctor when I grow up to heal the sick," says Lavy. Agnes is thankful for the support amid the pandemic to provide screening and vaccines for her twins. She says, "I am a proud mother today because the twins received their vaccine at the center to be safe from hepatitis B that costs the lives of many kids. The support of the center is amazing, and I am more than thankful for all the support amid the pandemic." **(Global Impact)**

Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation Providing diabetes self-management education via the monthly newsletter. Diabetes Wellness News is designed to provide both core knowledge of interest to those who have mastered basic self-management skills. Available by request is a pocket-size health diary in which notes about medications, blood sugar readings, exercise, and food intake can be recorded. **(America's Charities)**

"The Hackensack Riverkeeper joined **EarthShare NJ** as a non-profit member many years ago to help diversify our revenue and become part of an elite network of environmental non-profits working in New Jersey. They work on our behalf with businesses across the state and country to raise awareness of our mission and funding for our work. This enables us to focus on executing our mission, developing exceptional education programs and foundation work to keep us moving forward. We consider EarthShare NJ a strategic partner for the organization. They provide us with unrestricted funding, introduce corporate volunteers to our mission, elevate our profile within the greater NJ non-profit community and give donors another level of confidence when they are considering our organization. Because of what EarthShare NJ does across the state, your support of their work directly helps New Jersey's air, water, land and wildlife for future generations." - Captain Bill Sheehan, Hackensack Riverkeeper

For 30 years, the **Fisher House** program has provided "a home away from home" for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical centers. These homes offer free, temporary lodging to military and veterans' families, allowing them to be close to their loved one during a medical crisis and focus on what's important—the healing process. There are over 90 Fisher Houses located in the US, Germany and United Kingdom. **(America's Best Charities)**

Through the R.I.S.E. (Restoring Independence Supporting Empowerment) program, the **Gary Sinise Foundation** is providing specially adapted smart homes to America's most severely wounded heroes and their families. The foundation also provides home modifications, mobility devices, and adapted vehicles to injured, wounded, ill, and/or aging heroes from all military conflicts. To date, we have 72 specially adapted smart homes that have been completed or underway. **(America's Best Charities)**

The two-month festival season during October and November is prime time for goat farmers in Nepal, as many goat producers earn up to 50% of their annual income during a typical festival selling season. But while demand for local goats in Nepal has been growing steadily, this year has been far from typical. Buyers who have lost their jobs or seen their incomes decline due to the COVID-19 pandemic no longer have the money to spend on festive preparations like they normally would. In spite of these challenges, **Heifer International** managed successful cooperatives that sold 107,904 goats for a total of nearly \$13 million for local farmers. Cooperative members used the business training they gained from Heifer to launch marketing campaigns, get fair prices for their goats, and support each other as they navigated the COVID-19 pandemic as a community. Juna Tamang, a manager at the Cooperative, said “Last festive season, my phone wouldn’t stop ringing because I got so many calls from the buyers.” These farmers will continue to build their incomes and break the cycle of poverty for themselves and their families. **(Global Impact)**

The success of HRC's electoral efforts has earned widespread recognition. Its Political Action Committee is among the National Journal's top-rated progressive PACs, as more than 90 percent of its endorsees win their elections. This success dates back to its first major electoral effort in 1982, when HRCF donated \$140,000 to 118 congressional candidates. Eighty-one percent of those candidates went on to win. HRC and its allies led the effort to enact marriage equality for loving and committed same-sex couples throughout the United States with several high profile efforts, including its historic “People’s Brief” with 207,551 signatories calling for full nationwide marriage equality. Thanks to tireless efforts and extensive on-the-ground work – most notably by educating people through Project One America– HRC helped change the minds and hearts of citizens across the country and bolstered unprecedented support for marriage equality. **Human Rights Campaign Foundation (America’s Charities)**

There used to be a shed next to a family’s home in Cianjur, a rural area of Indonesia. In it, a man named Sodikin lived for over eight years — locked up and unable to stand. Sodikin is among more than 57,000 people in Indonesia with conditions like schizophrenia and depression who have been subjected to shackling — being chained or locked up in a confined space — at least once in their lives, according to a 2016 Human Rights Watch report. Shackling exists because of inadequate mental health services and widespread beliefs that stigmatize people with mental health conditions. Working with local groups, **Human Rights Watch** pushes authorities in these countries to end the practice, develop community-based mental health services, and strengthen oversight of places where these abuses occur. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, this issue has taken on an even greater urgency. Shackled people, who are often crowded together, without access to soap and water, are at grave risk of contracting and dying from the virus. With your continued support, we will put pressure on the authorities to release people from chains, and make sure people with mental health conditions are treated with dignity and that their rights are respected. Together, we will also fight for more solutions like the Indonesian government community health program through which Sodikin received the help he needed. Today, he is a caring son, a loving uncle, and — thanks to his job at a clothing factory — his family’s main breadwinner. And the shed in which he was confined for eight years? His family burned it down. Now, a garden grows in its place. **(Global Impact)**

Zainab Bare, 38 years old, is a Somali refugee living in Helowyn camp in Ethiopia. She fled Somalia after an armed group came to her home and started questioning where her husband’s brother was. The next day, she found her husband’s brother decapitated outside of her home. They left everything behind and fled to Ethiopia. Since arriving in Ethiopia, she got introduced to the **International Rescue Committee’s** services and learned about equality and the importance of women and men girls/boys having the same opportunity, a message she wants to send to the world. She’s now part of the Women Steering Committee where she helps run services that raise awareness about women’s rights and safe spaces. Helowyn camp is located in the Somali region of Southern Ethiopia, approximately 34km from the Somalian border. Over the last 10 years, approximately 180,000 refugees have fled over the border from Somalia into Ethiopia, currently residing in 5 camps of which Helowyn is one of them. Helowyn currently holds 40,000 refugees. IRC, a Global Impact charity partner, conducts regular meetings with the Women Steering Committee in Helowyn camp to identify safety and protection of women and develop mitigating strategies, they supported to develop their leadership skills through trainings and support safety audits. The IRC also provides direct gender-based violence case management support to women and girls affected by violence. **(Global Impact)**

The **Lawrence Township Education Foundation (LTEF)** was created to be a bridge between the Lawrence Township community and the public schools ~ to encourage private philanthropy to enhance public education for ALL students. Our mission is to foster educational excellence, creativity, and achievement in the Lawrence Township Public Schools. Over the past 30 years, LTEF has put over \$4.2 million to work in the schools, funding over 1,000 grants. This past year and a half, we saw an unprecedented impact on public education due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Shifts in learning models to incorporate remote learning, along with drastic state budget cuts have placed an undue strain on our schools. At the same time, this unmatched era of uncertainty creates a great need for resources that foster connection during periods of isolation, create unity during moments of distress, and keep the mind, body, and spirit healthy. The LTEF remains dedicated to funding teacher grants despite this challenging time. Thanks to our dedicated donors, the Lawrence Township Education Foundation is able to continue to bring valuable and much needed programs to every student in every school in Lawrence Township.

AnnaClaire has been a Youth Advocate with **NJCTS** for several years, presenting at New Jersey schools to educate her peers about TS and what it means to live it. In September of 2020, AnnaClaire decided it was time for a new adventure. She had applied and was accepted to the Oakcliff Sailing program, the top training program for sailing in the United States. (**NJ Center for Tourettes Syndrome and Associated Disorders Inc.**)

Olivia's Story: Olivia is undergoing treatment at **St. Jude Children's Research Hospital®** for acute Lymphoblastic leukemia, a type of blood cancer. Olivia, who loves baby dolls, painted nails, pretty dresses, and all things princess, will receive chemotherapy until 2021. Her family will owe St. Jude nothing, because families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing, or food. "St. Jude means hope. St. Jude means a future for our daughter. I am eternally grateful that we have this amazing place," Kacie said. "When people give to St. Jude, they are helping to make miracles happen." **Creating Healthier Communities**

For Prisca, hygiene has changed everything. A mother of five, Prisca lives in the Misanjo village, part of the Chiradzulu District in southern Malawi. She introduces herself with a huge smile. She is proud of her role in the community and the story she has to tell. In 2020, Water For People began working with the village of Misanjo, in collaboration with the Chiradzulu District Council. This collaboration included installing a new water point for the village, training a committee to oversee the sustainability of the water system, facilitating the construction of latrines and handwashing stations in homes, and hygiene education programs. Prisca is happy with the installation of the water point in her village, and proud to have been elected to serve on the committee that oversees it. "Through talks, music, and drama we were told how to take care of our latrines and their surroundings," Prisca shares. "We were taught to have a drop hole cover for the latrine, and to have outside a tippy-tap handwashing station. We were told we need to clean our latrines each day – and we now practice that every day." These improved hygiene practices have changed everything for Prisca and her family. "The tippy-tap is a good idea since we do not have to touch the bottle that pours the water for us to wash our hands. This is also a positive development as a preventative measure for the COVID-19 pandemic which is currently on the rise in Malawi," Prisca continues. When driving or walking through the village, the impacts of the hygiene campaigns are easily observed. Newly constructed pit latrines are dotted throughout the area as families learn about the importance of good hygiene practices. Prisca is eager to continue to promote healthy hygiene practices to her community through her leadership role on the committee. She knows that for her and her family, good hygiene changes everything. **Water for People(Global Impact)**

A few years ago, Dorica Samson's 2-year-old son Chrispine would feed solely on breast milk, refusing to eat anything else. Eventually, he fell sick. Chrispine was admitted to Mtendere Community Hospital for supplementary feeding provided by the Government in collaboration with the United Nations **World Food Programme (WFP)** and the Government of Ireland. The nutritional support he received likely saved his life. "While my son, Chrispine, was being treated for malnutrition at the hospital, I received orange-fleshed potato vines which I planted the same year," says Dorica, from Nambirikira Village in Malawi's Dedza District. "This

potato is very rich in vitamin A, and I feed it to my five children and husband to stay healthy.” While her son was being treated, Dorica started participating in a program to learn how to grow and cook nutritious food for her family — hence the orange-fleshed sweet potatoes she planted. Potatoes are a great complement to other regional foods such as corn, soy beans and groundnuts, all of which Dorica grows on her farm. From these, with the training she got at the hospital, she and her family of six now have a rich and nutritious diet. Dorica now has a six-month-old baby, but this time she doesn’t need to go to the hospital for nutrition support. In spite of the restrictions on her movement and gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dorica has all the nutritional solutions she needs for her family right at her doorstep. “I make porridge and fritters from the potato, and Crispine likes it so much — it is delicious and full of nutrients,” she says. “I feed the entire family and they love it,” she says. “With this potato and the other crops I grow, I have enough food.” (Global Impact)

As COVID-19 cases increased along the Amazon River, so did fears about loss of life. The speed with which the virus has traveled into remote communities was no match for the fastest vessels delivering supplies. “We are seeing deaths increasing. There is a lot of suffering, a lot of pain and many tears,” says Pastor Francisco Chaves dos Santos of Presbyterian Church of Manaus in Manaus, Brazil. The church has partnered with World Vision for 15 years to help vulnerable communities. “We are seeing people in need like we have never seen them before.” Ferrying in hope is a team of health care workers and volunteers aboard a medical ship operated by **World Vision** called Solidarity. The ship has sailed to isolated communities along the Amazon River to deliver food boxes, issue essential first-aid supplies and provide medical care to 1,000 families in Brazil hit hard by the pandemic. A doctor, two dentists, two nursing technicians, and a chief nurse are among the Solidarity’s crew. They have distributed 1,400 food boxes, 800 hygiene kits, 400 Tenderness Boxes, and 2,100 masks to families in Brazil. “We are reaching populations in extreme vulnerability due to the limited access to health services, medicines, geographic isolation and communication difficulties,” says Martha Yaneth Rodriguez, national director of World Vision in Brazil. Social isolation and increased economic vulnerability are putting children and youth at increased risk of abuse, violence, dropping out of school, and food insecurity, she says. It’s also more difficult for them to access health services. For many children, it was their first health checkup. Pastor Francisco volunteered aboard the ship. “We will never be the same again after this pandemic,” he says. “My wish is that we are better people and that soon we can say that we have made a difference through love. And, in this sense, the partnership with World Vision is fundamental, both to directly assist and to think together about how to care for children safely and carefully.” (Global Impact)