



The Unity Women's Desk

Standing With Our Sisters: *Empowering Moravian Women Around the World*

The Unity Women's Desk is a ministry of the worldwide Moravian Church whose purpose is to positively impact the lives of women and girls by coordinating the spiritual, financial, educational, and material resources that exist throughout the Moravian Unity.

The vision of the Unity Women's Desk is to bring about global change for Moravian women around the world. The most pressing issues facing women and girls today are in the areas of education, health, economics, and violence against women. By raising awareness of these issues, developing and funding solutions, and enlisting help from our worldwide Unity, we are working to improve the lives of women and girls everywhere.

To help us achieve our vision, we are undertaking a \$250,000 capital campaign, ***Standing With Our Sisters***, to strengthen and expand our work in four areas:

1. Scholarships (40%): Since 2011 we have provided over 60 scholarships (primary, secondary, and post-high; a majority have been multi-year) to students throughout the Moravian Unity. With your help we can offer each Province, Mission Province, and Mission Area at least \$5,000 a year to invest in girls' education.
2. Project grants (20%): We assist women with programs that improve their lives, families, and communities. We hope to expand the funds available to projects such as the Infant Feeding Program in Honduras, which combats malnutrition, as well as to increase the number of grants awarded for new initiatives.
3. Loans (20%): We have helped women begin businesses in Zambia, Honduras, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Tanzania. By increasing the amount of money available for loans, we can encourage more women to start business enterprises.
4. Leadership and development (20%): Securing our administrative future is critical for the rest of our work to be sustainable. So far we have relied solely on volunteers to realize our goals. The success of this campaign will enable us to hire a paid part-time individual to lead the vital work of the Desk. Leadership funds will also provide day-to-day office supplies and equipment, enable the Coordinator and Advisory Board members to travel to oversee the work of the UWD, and fund Consultations every 7 years.

Our Moravian sisters around the world need our help. With your support, our efforts to make a difference one woman and one girl at a time will be felt for generations to come. We are *Standing With Our Sisters* and invite you to stand with us by making a gift to the breakthrough campaign for the Unity Women's Desk.

Projects and Activities of the Unity Women's Desk 2011-2017

- 1) Provided support for the first time organizational meetings of women in Tanzania, Nicaragua, South Africa, and Cuba.
- 2) Sponsored a training and support seminar for the Women Secretaries of Tanzania (who also serve as Provincial Coordinators for the UWD) and surrounding Mission Provinces and Mission Areas to teach them how to access UWD assistance and provide support for ordained women (2012)
- 3) Sponsored a training and support seminar for the Provincial Coordinators of the 12 Districts of the South Africa Province to inform them how to access UWD assistance with scholarships, loans and other projects (2014)
- 4) Offered over sixty scholarships in areas such as the following:
 - a. Three scholarships for girls at Star Mountain (2012-2017)
 - b. Four scholarships for girls in Rukwa Province, Tanzania (2013-2014)
 - c. Four scholarships for girls at the Dietrich Primary School in South Africa (2012-2017)
 - d. Partial scholarship for Sr. Mariana Estrada Cordova to attend seminary in Costa Rica so that she could prepare for ministry in Peru
 - e. Six scholarships for five girls and one woman in Zambia (2011-2017)
 - f. Eight scholarships for girls in Uganda (2013-2016); fourteen for 2017
 - g. One scholarship for a girl in Western Province, Tanzania (2011-2016)
 - h. One scholarship for a girl in India to complete secondary school; now supporting her during three and one-half years of nursing training (2014-2017)
 - i. Scholarships for two girls at the International School in Nepal (2014-2016)
 - j. Two scholarships for girls in the pre-school in Pogradec, Albania
 - k. Assistance with four college scholarships in Jamaica in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the women's work in Jamaica (2014-2016)
 - l. Assistance for three girls in secondary school in Jamaica (2016-2017)
 - m. Ten scholarships for girls in Sierra Leone at the Moravian Secondary School (2013-2016); twenty to twenty-five will be given in 2017
 - n. Nursing scholarship for one woman in Rukwa Province planning to return to Lake Tanganyika Province
 - o. Scholarship assistance for one of the directors of the Ray of Hope orphanage in Kenya to finish secondary school and pursue a medical degree in pediatrics with the intention of returning and serving at the orphanage (2014-2015)
 - p. Assistance for the Director of the Women Secretaries in Tanzania to complete leadership courses
 - q. Approved partial scholarship funding to be held in reserve for two women who plan to attend seminary training courses in preparation for ordained ministry. (2016-2017)
 - r. Two scholarships for young women attending college in the USA (one Northern Province and one Southern Province)
 - s. Three scholarships for women to attend Teofilo Kisanji University to study for ordained ministry

- 5) **Loans to help women start small businesses**
 - a. **\$5,000.00 loan to start a sewing school and business in Lake Tanganyika Province**
 - b. **\$500.00 matching loan to build an enclosure for hammermill in Zambia**
 - c. **Transportation loan to an existing business in Honduras to expand the business**
 - d. **Provided a matching loan for a fishing business in Zambia**
 - e. **Provided a matching loan for a farming business in Zambia**
 - f. **Provided loan to start a Lending Circle business in Western Tanzania**
 - g. **Provided loan to expand business in Western Tanzania**
 - h. **Provided matching loan for women of Nicaragua to start general store**
 - i. **Have sent sewing machines and fabric to Honduras and Cuba for sewing enterprises**
 - j. **Planning to fund three Vicoba groups who will purchase land in Tanzania to produce products to be sold in a general store on the land**
- 6) **Providing meals for 3 girls in Sierra Leone who attend the secondary school there**
- 7) **Sending medical charts to enable healthcare classes to be taught in remote Miskitu areas of Honduras and providing healthcare kits for participants- approximately 75 kits have been sent**
- 8) **Collecting items for baby layettes for newborns at the Ahuas Clinic in Honduras- approximately 600+ layettes have been sent so far**
- 9) **Sending 100 Birthing Kits to Tanzania and 200 Birthing Kits to Honduras- total of 500 in 2016**
- 10) **Sending reusable Sanitary Pad Kits to Tanzania and Honduras (100 in 2016)**
- 11) **Sending a PrayerList each month to over 600 prayer partners around the world**
- 12) **Provided financial assistance to Dr. Deborah Appler of the Moravian Theological Seminary in the USA to work with TEKU in Tanzania to develop a course of study for seminary students on the issue of violence against women as requested by the 2009 Unity Synod Resolution #1— Education.**
- 13) **Held the Fourth Unity Women’s Consultation in Paramaribo, Suriname February 18-25, 2016. Over 100 women attended from 25 countries, 20 Provinces, and 6 Mission Areas.**
- 14) **Provided funds for Albanian “Bathore Emancipation Project” to help women who are victims of Violence against Women (2016)**
- 15) **Helped to start two infant nutrition projects in Honduras at Ahuas Clinic (2016) and Barras Patuca (2017)**
- 16) **Conducting a survey of all Provinces to show how women are treated in the call process for ordained ministry**
- 17) **Assembling a packet of information about Violence against Women to be used in all Provinces**
- 18) **Helping Tanzania develop a program for training children about the Bible and about justice issues**

Letter of Support
written by Dr. Philip McKinley, M.D.; M.P.H.
Winston-Salem, NC Ophthalmologist
and Frequent Participant
in Medical Mission Trips to Nicaragua, Honduras, and Africa

I am so honored to have the opportunity to write a note regarding the Unity Women's Desk Initiative of the Moravian Church. Most of us live in a wonderful sheltered environment where women are honored and treated with deep respect and love. Though there are many areas of the world like us, socioeconomic and cultural factors, even in the United States, often place women in a subservient position. Women are abused, forced into sexual slavery, kept from education, receive less medical care, and demeaned and restricted in male-dominated societies. I have witnessed wife beating in Kenya and intimidation of women in Honduras, and no country is free from forced prostitution. The World Health Organization of the United Nations lists some of the sociological and cultural factors involved around the world that lead to exploitation of women:

- Unequal power relationships between men and women;
- Social norms that decrease education and paid employment opportunities;
- An exclusive focus on women's reproductive roles; and
- Potential or actual experience of physical, sexual and emotional violence.

For example, because of their inferior status in society, women are more likely to contract HIV and develop AIDS. Boys are given preference over girls to go to school and in some places girls are not allowed to receive an education at all. One-third of women and girls in the developing world live on less than two dollars a day.

In my courses and readings in public health, the one intervention that stands out to improve living standards for a nation as a whole, not just women's position in society, is women's education and the empowerment of women in that society. This can be as simple as a school uniform for a girl in Africa so that she can obtain an education, tutoring a girl and helping her stay in school here in the United States, or giving a woman in a developing country a micro-loan to begin a business.

The Unity Women's Desk initiative cuts to the heart of many problems in both the U.S. and abroad by focusing their efforts to promote women's issues. By promoting women's issues, the group empowers women through education to become an important source of income for the family and be able to take care of themselves and their children without being dependent on others. Simply being able to read frees a woman to make independent decisions and be able to understand her own health issues. When women are part of the workforce, they are respected, obtain better health care, are better able to help their children, and are less subject to sexual violence and abuse or turn to prostitution as a means to make a living.

Because this is such a well thought out and focused program, I am supporting the Unity Women's Desk and Rev. Patty Garner in her efforts to improve the quality of life for our sisters, and hence our brothers, throughout the world. I hope that you will also support the Unity Women's Desk of the Moravian Church.

Structure of the Unity Women's Desk

Unity Synod

Unity Board
(Executive Committee)

Advisory Board

Africa **America** **Caribbean** **Europe**

UWD Coordinator

Coordinator

Sub-Desk Coordinators

SDC **SDC** **SDC** **SDC**

SDC **SDC**

SDC

Provincial Coordinators
(1 or more per Province, Mission Province or Mission Area)

PC **PC** **PC** **PC**

Sub-Desk Details

Advisory Board (4 members)

Africa
Angelene Swart

North America
Sallie Greenfield

Caribbean
Muriel Held

Europe
Erdmute Frank

Sub-Desks (7)

North. & West. Africa
Rachael Lwali

- Burundi – Valentine Ntira
- Congo – Bilonda Marie Cecile
- Kenya - TBD
- Lake Tanganyika - Vailleth Mrope
- Northern – Anastazia Sikapizye
- Rukwa – Matilda Ndobesi
- Rwanda – TBD
- Uganda – Rose Harriet Makooba
- Western – Theresia Kivanda

America
Margo Harris

- Alaska – Mary Gregory
- Northern – Margo Harris
 - Canadian District
- Western - Marion Perrin
 - Eastern District
- New Jersey – TBD
- New York – Chloris Hicks
- Pennsylvania – Emily Wallace
- Ontario – Margo Harris
 - Mid-States District
- Indiana – Connie Ray
- Ohio – Claire Yoder
 - Western District
- California – TBD
- North Dakota – TBD
- Wisconsin - TBD
 - Southern
 - Florida District
- Florida – TBD
- Georgia – TBD
 - North Carolina District
- North Carolina - TBD
 - Sierra Leone – Safie Braima
 - Labrador – Glenna Tasedan

English-Speaking Prov.
Rev. Ruth Stephenson

- Eastern West Indies
 - Antigua – Rev. Bonnie Smith
 - Barbados – Julie Joefield-Parris
 - Garifuna - TBD
 - Grenada - Hyacinth Taylor
 - St. Croix / St. Thomas / St. John – Rev. Eulencine Christopher
 - St. Kitts – Nasel Ephraim
 - Tobago – Chrystayl Cromarty
 - Tortola – Alicia Ross
 - Trinidad – June McMillan
- Jamaica – Joan Smith
- Suriname – Tanya Sanrochman
 - Aruba / Curacao / St. Maarten – Josefa Njap
 - French Guiana – Ifna Quintius
 - Guyana – Flora Cumberbatch

Sub-Desk Name
TBD

- British Province
 - England – Janet Cooper
 - Ireland – Roberta Hoey
- Continental
 - Albania – Vjollca Mazi
 - Denmark – Miriam Boytler
 - Estonia - TBD
 - Germany – Katharina Goodwin
 - Holland – TBD
 - Latvia – TBD
 - Sweden – TBD
 - Switzerland - TBD
 - Czech MP – Jitka Peremova
 - Czech – Jolana Krasma
 - Nepal & Northern India
 - Nepal: Vani Pradham
 - N. India: Susan Kundan
 - Star Mountain: Ghada Nasser

Provinces

Mission Provinces

Mission Areas

Unity Undertakings

South. & East. Tanzania
Rev. Agness Njeyo

- Eastern MP – Erica Ludela Kisinde
- Malawi – Queen Manda
- Ruvuma-Njombe-Mtwara – Lucy Panja
- Southern – Melania Mrema Kyando
- Southwestern – Agness Njeyo
- TEKU – Alatwisilua Sakalali
- Zambia – Ruth Nakamba Sinyangwe
- Zanzibar – Ikupa Mbukwa

South. Africa
Colleen VR-Cunningham

- South Africa – Lorna Cloete

Spanish/Miskitu Prov.
Ofelia Alvarez

- Belize – Jane Avila
- Costa Rica – Shirley Martinez
- Cuba – Alay Gonzalez
- Honduras MP - TBD
- Honduras – Miskito/Rural – Luz Alvarez →
- Honduras – Urban Areas – TBD
- Nicaragua – Delaida Wilson
- Peru – Ana Maria Huaman

Ahuas: Tomasa Gostas
Brus Laguna: Enoida Lerians Moor
Cico Colon: Analedy Canales
Cocobila: Cecilia Bodden
La Ceiba: Alexa Colomer
Puerto Limpira: Graciela Rayos Campos
Tegucigalpa: Floralma Allen
Trujillo: Maria Dulce
Villeda Morales: Nora Espinoza
Wampusirpe: Melca Herrera Zelaya

Structure of the Women's Desk

Advisory Board
(4 members)

Africa

**North
America**

Caribbean

Europe

UWD Coordinator

Coordinator

Sub-Desks (7)

Sub-Desk

Sub-Desk

Sub-Desk

Sub-Desk

Sub-Desk

Sub-Desk

Sub-Desk

Provinces
(1 member each)

- North. & West. Africa
 - Congo
 - Lake Tanganyika
 - Northern
 - Rukwa
 - Western
- South. & East. Tanzania
 - Malawi
 - Ruvuma-Njombe-Mtwara
 - Southern
 - Southwestern
 - TEKU
 - Zanzibar
- Southern Africa
- Alaska
- Northern
- Southern
- Costa Rica
- Eastern West Indies
- Honduras
- Jamaica
- Nicaragua
- Suriname
- British
- Continental
- Czech Province

Mission Provinces
(1 member each)

- Tanzania – Eastern MP
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Labrador
- French Guiana
- Guyana
- Honduras
- Czech

Mission Areas
(1 member each)

- Burundi
- Kenya
- Rwanda
- Sierra Leone
- Aruba / Curacao/St Maarten
- Belize
- Cuba
- Garifuna
- Grenada
- Peru
- Albania
- Estonia
- Latvia
- Nepal & N. India

Unity Undertakings
(1 member each)

- Star Mountain

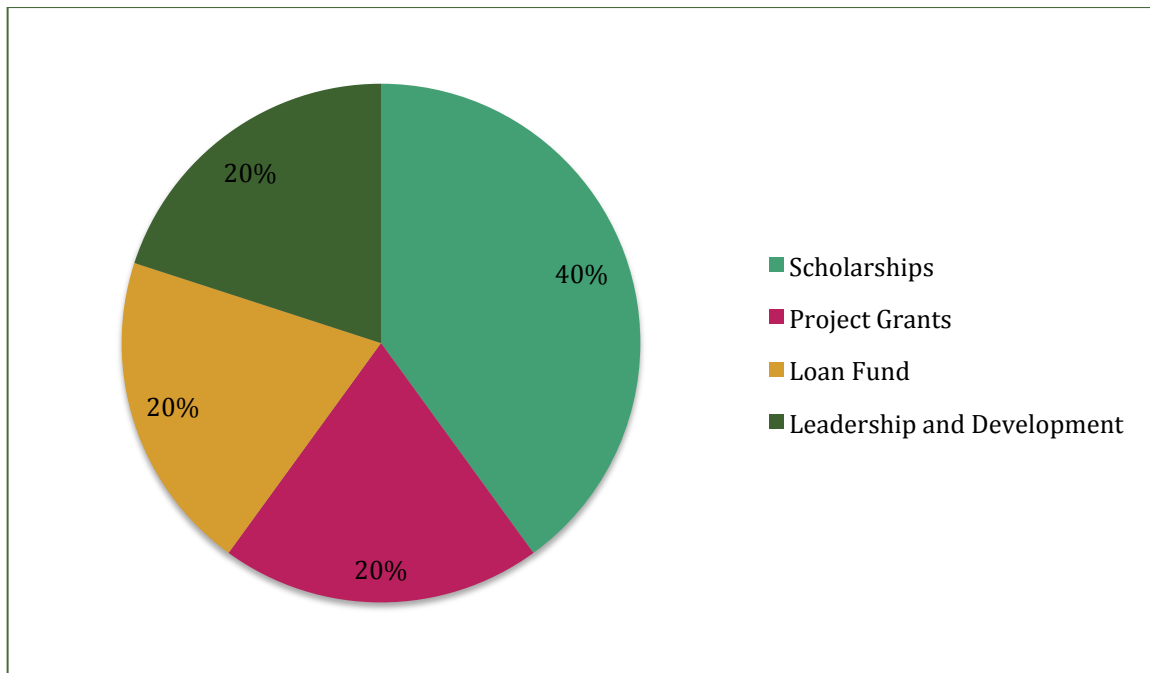


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Campaign Goals

Scholarships	\$100,000
Project Grants	\$50,000
Loan Fund	\$50,000
Leadership and Development	\$50,000



Naming Opportunities

Name an endowed scholarship	\$25,000
Fund loans for an entire Province	\$5,000
Underwrite a program pertaining to one of the six Focus Areas	\$2,500



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History of the Unity Women's Desk

In 1995, a group of women from over 15 countries around the Moravian Unity participated in the first Women's Consultation. It quickly became apparent that one consultation was not going to be sufficient to address all the issues women face. Two more Consultations were held, and, in 2011, the Unity Board approved a proposal made by Sr. Patricia Garner (an ordained Moravian minister who attended the first Consultation) to begin the Unity Women's Desk. In 2014 the Unity Women's Desk received its 501(c)3 non-profit designation, and in 2016 they received permission from the Provincial Support Services Board and Southern Province Provincial Elders' Conference to have a fundraising campaign as authorized by the 2014 Southern Province Synod.

Since its inception, the Unity Women's Desk has concentrated on these Focus Areas:

1. Education
2. Violence against Women
3. Overcoming Poverty and Unemployment
4. Health Issues of Women and Children
5. Parenting Children for a More Just World
6. Women in Ministry

We have accomplished our goals through:

1. Scholarships for girls and women
2. Micro-loans for women, with particular emphasis on Lending Circles as well as individual women
3. Support for projects initiated by women in their respective provinces
4. Holding Consultations and encouraging Regional conferences for women

Plans for the Future

1. To continue to increase the number of scholarships offered around the world. We had hoped to grant fifty scholarships by the end of five years (2016); we have granted 70 scholarships so far, some of them for four years. We hope to have given 100 scholarships by 2021.
2. To continue to increase the number of businesses started by women to 50 by the end of 2021. So far we have started five.
3. To increase the number of projects begun by women around the world so that they may educate their women, bring health issues and remedies to their communities, and may improve the lives of those who live within their communities.
4. To produce a “Policies and Procedures Manual” about the work of the Unity Women’s Desk to be distributed worldwide.
5. To introduce a “Violence against Women” study resource to be used by all currently serving pastors and their churches in 2017.
6. To survey all Provinces, Mission Provinces, and Mission Areas in regards to the treatment and utilization of women in the ordained ministry.
7. To plan a worldwide celebration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Unity Women’s Desk in 2021.
8. To hold worldwide Consultations every 7 years and to encourage Regional conferences every other year among the Provinces in the four Regions to continue to address the Focus Areas.



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The Unity Women's Desk's *Standing With Our Sisters* capital campaign provides you with an opportunity to bring about global change for Moravian women around the world. We ask you to prayerfully consider your financial support for the campaign. Several opportunities are available to you to help the Unity Women's Desk while gaining tax and income benefits for yourself.

Cash Cash gifts are the most common campaign gift and may be pledged over a 3-year period. A pledge often enables you to contribute a larger gift if it is spread over a longer period of time. Systematic giving over 3 years makes possible substantial gifts. Depending on your tax bracket, the net cost can be substantially decreased. Small amounts paid regularly over 36 months add up to a significant total:

Three-Year Pledge	Monthly	Quarterly	Semi-Annually	Annually
1,000.00	27.78	83.33	166.67	333.33
1,800.00	50.00	150.00	300.00	600.00
3,000.00	83.33	250.00	500.00	1,000.00
3,600.00	100.00	300.00	600.00	1,200.00
5,000.00	138.89	416.67	833.34	1,666.67
7,500.00	208.33	625.00	1,250.00	2,500.00
9,000.00	250.00	750.00	1,500.00	3,000.00
10,000.00	277.78	833.34	1,666.67	3,333.33
15,000.00	416.67	1,250.00	2,500.00	5,000.00
25,000.00	694.44	2,083.34	4,166.67	8,333.33
36,000.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	6,000.00	12,000.00
45,000.00	1,250.00	3,750.00	7,500.00	15,000.00

Stocks & Bonds Stocks, bonds, or other forms of securities that have appreciated in value are the next most common form of gift. The tax advantages to the individual make them highly attractive. Money market funds also make excellent gifts. Call Laura Watson at the Moravian Ministries Foundation (336-725-2589) for more information.

Retirement Funds If you are required to withdraw funds from an IRA or other retirement account, you may find that making a gift of these funds can be a good way to minimize (or even eliminate) taxes on the withdrawals. For persons over age 70-1/2, it is possible to make tax-free charitable gifts directly from your IRA.



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Standing With Our Sisters: *Empowering Moravian Women Around the World*

Yes, I/We support the *Standing With Our Sisters* Campaign and would like to make a contribution.

A total gift of \$ _____ is enclosed *or* payable over ____ years (up to 3 years).

I/We will pay our pledge:

- Annually, in payments of \$ _____ to begin _____ (month/year).
- Semi-annually, in payments of \$ _____ to begin _____ (month/year).
- Monthly, in payments of \$ _____ to begin _____ (month/year).
- Other _____
- Please contact me about making my gift/pledge payments with a credit card.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I/We have included the Unity Women's Desk in my/our estate plans.

I/We would like more information on including the Unity Women's Desk in my/our estate plans.

Signature _____ Date _____

All contributions are fully tax deductible within the limits of federal and state laws.

Please return this pledge card to:
Standing with Our Sisters Campaign
c/o Moravian Ministries Foundation in America
119 Brookstown Avenue, Suite 305
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
888.722.7923