

DIRECTOR'S NOTE...

Deanna Wallace, AAO Executive Director

As I'm sure you are aware, life in Sierra Leone continues to be very difficult. The shortage of water, electricity, adequate medical care, access to education, food, and so many other essential elements for the development of a nation, continue to plague children and families. It sometimes feels like a losing battle. But, we just can't give up. *The lives of so many children depend on our continued help and assistance.*

The little girl pictured here is **Fatmata**. She's a new arrival to the Children's Center, and is adjusting well to her new home and family. She has never had the chance to attend school, and is now getting that opportunity, along with three meals a day, medical care, and a real chance for a better future. Fatmata is one of several new children who have arrived at the Children's Center recently – and just one of the reasons why your support for our work is so important to the children in need. I've said it before, but it is so absolutely true -- we cannot continue to help these beautiful children without your generosity. *Thank you for all the ways that you have helped to keep our doors open and brighten the lives of children like Fatmata and her friends.*



And so, during this holiday time of year, when I stop to consider my greatest blessings – you are at the top of the list. **YOU** are the reason we are still working to make a difference in Sierra Leone. **YOU** are the reason the children have reasons to smile. **YOU** are truly “the wind beneath our wings.”

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for making our work for the children possible.

House Party!

In November, **Kathy Roseth** and **Majken Ryherd** (AAO Board members) hosted a fundraising get-together at Kathy's home in Seattle. The theme of the event was **"Eat Locally, Act Globally."** Kathy and Majken outdid themselves in preparing delicious organic and local cuisine, which fed their family, friends and business associates who attended. A special thanks also goes to board members, **Lynn Coulibaly** and **Drew Ebersole**, who contributed their support and talents toward making the event a success. We're so grateful to everyone who participated and gave so generously.

The event raised over \$4,000 to help the children in Sierra Leone! Thank you so much!



Looking for a unique holiday gift for your friends, employees, or family members?

Consider giving the gift of a Dollar-A-Day sponsorship.

When you give the gift of an annual sponsorship, the recipient will receive a personalized card, announcing your gift. Soon after, they will receive a photo and information about the child to whom they've been assigned. This is a gift that continues to give throughout the year, and one that promises to be remembered.

To purchase your gift, visit our web site, and click on the "donate" button. From that page, you can click on the "Special Occasion Giving" link to write your gift message.

www.allasone.org/donate.php

And, if you'd prefer a more conventional gift, check out the online shops that give all profits to AAO. Visit the "Wear & Care" section of our web site for links, or click on **www.allasone.org/aa06.php** to go directly to the "Wear & Care" page of our site.

Or do your online shopping through the 700+ stores available through **www.iGive.com/allasone**, with a portion of all your online purchases going to All As One.

Christmas donation being shipped via *DHL* from Dubai to Sierra Leone

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our supporters who have really gone overboard in making sure the children in Sierra Leone have a very Merry Christmas! *We've received 42 fleece blankets, new clothes, shoes, toys, school supplies and arts and crafts materials!*

Due to the generosity of *DHL*, your Christmas donation will be on its way to Sierra Leone very soon. With your gifts and the wonderful support of *DHL*, the children have a lot to look forward to this holiday season.

We are very grateful and want you to know how very much we appreciate the *DHL* team and you!



**Thank you to our regular monthly donors,
who make our work possible!**

Thanks to our first time donors in October:

Alan Pollock - Catherine Ayre - Mark, Elena, George, Henry & William Beer - Jeff & Kathy Kershaw - Jeff Hayden
Steve & Jenny Joyner - Tom Young - Zaid Gardner & Claire Molloy

A special thanks to the following supporters for donations over \$500 in October:

Dean & Retha McFarlane - Doug & Jocelyn Clarke - Ettaline Moore - Forbes & Jean Gildersleeve - John Moore
Glenn & Marilyn Tosten - Jameson Early - Jeff & Jane Drummond - Lars Nielsen & Annebrite Stensgaard

And thank you to our corporate donors:



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**Fifth Ring, Integrated Corporate Communications
Oryx Real Estate (Mark Wellman Riggs & colleagues)
Cisco Systems (Linda Hockley & colleagues)**

BBT, Dubai

Kershaw Leonard Recruitment Agency (Business Support Team and the Finance & HR Team)