

2012 ANNUAL REPORT 15th ANNIVERSARY





CONTENTS

	AF	

2012
ANNUAL REPORT

A Climate of Injustice	. 3
Mission	4
For the Environment	. 5
For People	7
Microfinancing	. 8
Health and Disease Prevention	. 9
Community Development	10
Education	11
Sustainable Agriculture	12
Distribution of Support	13
International Training and	
Capacity Building	15
Planet Aid at Home	16
Financial Statements	13
Board and Contact Information	14

Planet Aid is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that collects and recycles used clothing and shoes and supports international development projects. It is registered with the U.S.Agency for International Development (USAID) as a private voluntary organization (PVO).

Planet Aid began recycling in 1997 in the Boston area. Today our clothes collection boxes can be found across many major metropolitan areas of the United States, helping to save resources and reduce environmental impacts. Planet Aid sells the clothing it collects, with the net proceeds donated to help people in developing nations meet basic needs. Planet Aid supports community-based development projects that improve health, increase income, aid vulnerable children, train teachers, and enhance the overall quality of life for people across the globe.

Planet Aid Headquarters 6730 Santa Barbara Court Elkridge, Maryland 21075 Phone: (410) 796-1510

A Climate of Injustice



In 2012 Planet Aid celebrated its 15th year of operation. When we started back in 1997 we had just a few dozen or so drop-off boxes in the Boston area, collecting several thousand pounds of clothes a week. Today, our operations reach across 22 states. In 2012 alone we collected 110 million pounds of clothing from 18,000 collection bins that we own and operate. Our growth is a testament to the hard work of our staff and the help received from our many supporters. Every day, more businesses, schools and community groups choose to host Planet Aid bins, helping to make recycling more convenient for all and saving valuable resources.

It has become clear that the work we have been doing is increasingly necessary. The threat of climate change has grown more menacing. When I wrote this message, headlines announced that carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere reached 400 parts per million. Climate scientists are alarmed by this sudden spike, which had previously hovered at 300 parts per million. Never before in the Earth's history had these concentrations risen so rapidly.

At the same time that carbon dioxide levels have been rising, extreme weather events caused by global warming are causing huge social disruptions and dislocations. The most dramatic weather event in the United States was the infamous Superstorm Sandy, which devastated the eastern seaboard. Then, a few weeks later Sandy was surpassed by super-typhoon Bopha, which drove across the Philippines leaving hundreds of thousands displaced and at least 900 dead. Parts of Africa, Russia, Pakistan, Colombia, Australia and China also dealt with deadly flooding. Brazil witnessed the worst drought in 50 years. Many parts of western Africa suffered serious flooding between July and September because of a monsoon.

The impact of climate change is affecting the poor in developing nations the most. According to the International Displacement Monitoring Group, more than 30 million people were forced to flee their homes as a result of extreme weather during 2012. Much of this problem has been brought on by years of unsustainable consumption in so-called developed countries along with a disregard for environmental consequences. We can no longer stand idly by while the suffering and injustice of climate change grows worse every day.

Through our collection and recycling of used clothing, Planet Aid is doing its part to help save valuable resources that would otherwise end up in the trash. Clothing that decays in a landfill releases methane, a greenhouse gas several times more potent in affecting climate change than carbon dioxide. Moreover, by reusing rather than manufacturing new clothing, less fossil fuel gets burned in growing the textile fibers (such as cotton) or in operating the factories to make the new garments.

We continue to support programs that help the poorest of the poor. In 2012, we donated nearly \$10.5 million in support of agricultural, health, education, and community development programs that are empowering communities in developing nations, helping them cope with the myriad changes they face and provide a needed boost in bettering their lives. You can read about these programs in the pages of this report and by visiting our website Planetaid.org.

We look forward to the next 15 years and beyond and invite you to join us in making the world a more stable, healthier, and more equitable place for all. Your generous donations will contribute to a cleaner environment and a better quality of life for those who have had the least.

Ester Neltrup President

Mission

Planet Aid's mission is to inform, mobilize, and inspire individuals and communities to work together to bring about worldwide environmental and social progress. Planet Aid recognizes that the Earth's resources are finite and that good stewardship is essential for the well-being of current and future generations. The projects we support thus aim to protect the environment, reduce waste, and increase the efficient use of vital resources.

We work to strengthen and organize communities, reduce poverty, promote small enterprise development, support sustainable local food production, improve access to training and quality education, increase health awareness and encourage healthy lifestyles. We embrace the principles of equality and self-determination in all that we do and foster cooperation and understanding among peoples across the planet. Disadvantaged populations are our priority, and we seek to empower them to create lasting positive change.

Mission elements:

- Protect the environment, reduce waste, and increase the efficient use of vital resources.
- Strengthen and organize communities.
- Reduce poverty and promote small enterprise development.
- Support sustainable local food production.
- Improve access to training and quality education.
- Increase health awareness and encourage healthy lifestyles.
- Foster direct cooperation and understanding among peoples across the planet.
- Help disadvantaged populations of the world create lasting positive change.



For the Environment

By donating clothing and shoes to Planet Aid, you avoid them from going straight to what is known as the "solid waste stream." This is the universal dumping ground for items we don't recycle. Our solid waste usually winds up in one of two places. It gets buried in a landfill, which can contaminate soil and groundwater and consume valuable land. Alternatively, your old clothes may be torched in a huge incinerator that gives off microscopic particles that we breathe, and spews out clouds of greenhouse gases that heat and clog the atmosphere.

Neither option is good for us or our planet. By recycling, two good things happen: we eliminate the need to produce a new item, and we remove an item from the solid waste stream. What do we save? Consider this: it takes 250 gallons of water to grow cotton for one shirt!

Along with saving water, you also help stop global warming. When textiles are buried in landfills they naturally release greenhouse gases (such as methane) as they decompose. Similarly, at the other end of the spectrum, the production of textile fibers and the manufacture of cloth burns considerable quantities of fuel that releases carbon in the form of carbon dioxide. (another contributor to global warming). How much carbon dioxide (or CO₂) is saved through clothing reuse? Approximately 7 pounds of CO₂ are saved for every 1 pound of clothing that is spared from disposal. This means that Planet Aid effectively saved 770 million pounds of CO₂ from entering the atmosphere last year.

How does this relate to you? Let's say you fill a plastic bag with 10 pounds of unwanted clothes to help a needy person. By donating this single bag you would have prevented 35 pounds of CO₂ gases from polluting the atmosphere. You also would have saved 7,000 gallons of water, and avoided the dispersal of a significant quantity of pesticides. Read more about the environmental savings of textile recycling at Planetaid.org







For People

Planet Aid supports development projects that help individuals and communities improve the condition of their lives. The programs—designed by Humana People to People and implemented by local member organizations—create the energy and momentum needed to bring about lasting long-term development. The programs focus on spurring action in the areas of microfinancing, sustainable agriculture, health and disease prevention, education, community development. These programs are described briefly on the following pages. For more information visit our website: Planetaid.org.



Intal Fund

Fighting Epidemics — TCE and HOPE

Total Control of the Epidemic (TCE), is a community-based door-to-door behavior change program that educates, counsels, and mobilizes individuals and communities in fighting the spread of disease. TCE raises awareness, confronts and reduces stigma, and encourages people to take advantage of health services such as HIV testing, treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, and participation in maternal and child health programs.

Planet Aid supports TCE in Africa and Asia in the following countries: India, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

Planet Aid also supports the HOPE project, which creates community centers that conduct outreach programs for those living with or affected by HIV. Included in the program activities are organizing volunteers to carry out home-based care; lessons in nutrition and creating nutrition gardens; supporting orphans and their caregivers; and forming positive living clubs, which empower people living with HIV.

Planet Aid supports HOPE in Botswana, India, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The GIV AOS TU

In 2012—in the South African provinces of Limpopo and Mpumalanga—the HOPE program reached more than 100,000 people in targeted communities, offering HIV counseling and testing, and caregiving and support for people living with HIV and AIDS. The program also provided education for the participants' family caregivers, and helped establish vegetable gardens to improve nutrition. This initiative has proven to be vital in boosting healthy nutrition for all community members. In 2012, the program also reached about 3,700 orphaned and vulnerable children with support as well as relief services, which include supplementary meals offered at the project's drop-in centers.

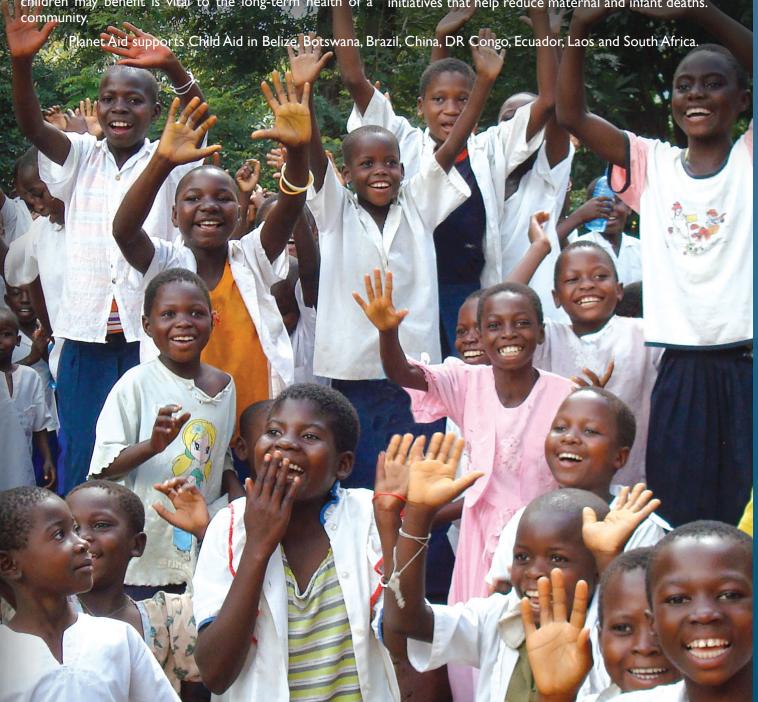
0

0

Mobilizing Communities — Child Aid

Child Aid is a community development model that seeks to improve the conditions under which children live. Every community has its own unique set of needs, and examining and addressing those needs from the perspective of how children may benefit is vital to the long-term health of a community.

Village Action Groups are the core of Child Aid. They consist of between 35 and 40 families each who work together on projects that include building preschools and playgrounds, organizing youth clubs, offering adult literacy classes, or initiatives that help reduce maternal and infant deaths.



In 2012, Child Aid in the DR Congo actively participated in the nation's health, hygiene and sanitation program, which involved community members establishing water and hygiene facilities locally and in schools. Child Aid organized 11,425 families into 380 family groups to join forces to improve community and family hygiene. Through the national program, regular lessons, campaigns and individual visits, Child Aid facilitated the construction of 7,000 latrines, and mobilized families to install more than 18,000 hand-washing facilities. Rainwater capturing systems and more than 110 school latrine buildings were built in 11 rural schools, along with four newly drilled wells for water.



Student teachers celebrate the inauguration of the Dowa Teacher Training College in Malawi in November 2012. The college was established with support from Planet Aid and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Read more at Planetaid.org.



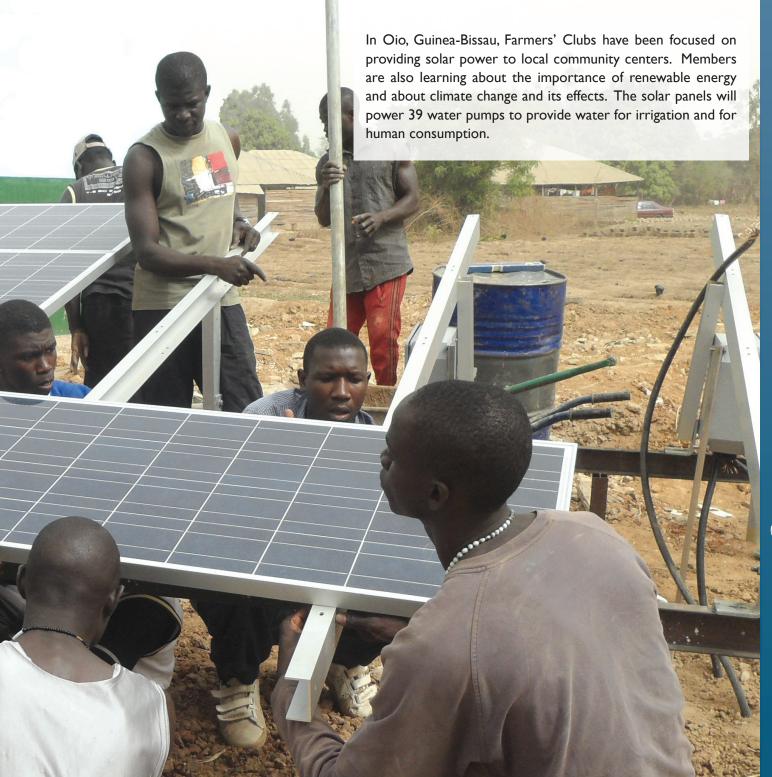
Educating a New Generation — Teacher Training and Vocational Training

Children in developing countries who are able to obtain an education grow up to earn higher wages, support thriving families, and have a chance at breaking the cycle of poverty. Unfortunately, there is an acute shortage of well-trained primary school teachers in countries across Africa and Asia.

DNS Teacher Training is a program developed by Humana People to People that is helping meet the need for qualified teachers. Through classroom study, teaching practice, and development projects, student teachers obtain the skills needed to make a difference in the lives of their students and the community.

Planet Aid supports DNS teacher-training colleges in Angola, Guinea-Bissau, India, Malawi, Mozambique, and the DR Congo.

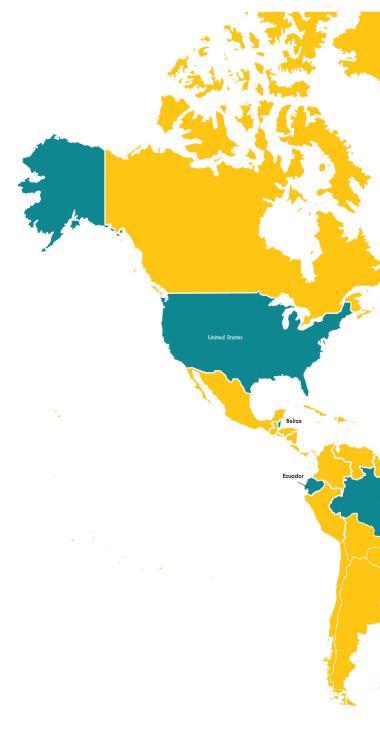
Planet Aid also supports vocational training in countries such as Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, and Zimbabwe. The training curriculum combines theoretical and practical elements, including traditional school subjects and general knowledge, with an emphasis on skills training. During training, students also gain work experience by interning at a business. Upon graduating they are able to be employed with a marketable skill or start an enterprise of their own.



Combating Hunger and Poverty — Farmers' Clubs

The Farmers' Clubs program is a three- to five-year agricultural development initiative that provides subsistence-level farmers with a boost, encouraging them to become small-scale commercial farmers. The program provides training in sustainable farming methods and cash crop production, and introduces new ways of value-chain processing and marketing. Farmers' Clubs participants learn to cope with the impacts of climate change and work together to overcome challenges and solve problems. Planet Aid has been supporting the implementation of Farmers' Clubs in Mozambique, Malawi, China, DR Congo, and Guinea-Bissau.

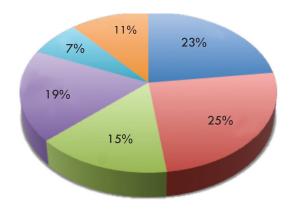
Country	Projects	US \$
Angola	Teacher Training Community Health	22,000 1 <i>55,</i> 947
Belize	Child Aid/Community Development	87,575
Botswana	Child Aid/Community Development	515,000
Brazil	Child Aid/Community Development	642,247
DIGZII	Farmers' Clubs	22,283
	Community Development	58,053
China	Pre-Schools	8,021
	Malaria Project	74,283
	Teacher Training	106,688
DR Congo	Child Aid/Community Development	162,260
	Farmers' Clubs	283,103
Ecuador	Child Aid/Community Development	304,412
	Farmers' Clubs	30,000
Guinea	Rural Energy Project	167,235
Bissau	Teacher Training	70,000
	Vocational School	53,893
	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	117,204
India	Teacher Training HOPE - for AIDS affected	135,845
	Microfinance	16,285 53,139
Laos	Child Aid/Community Development	42,426
Luos	Farmers Club	1,126,558
Malawi	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	739,991
	Teacher Training	1,115,542
	Teacher Training	162,573
	One World University	618,497
Mozam-	Vocational Schools	68,930
bique	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	250,414
	Food for Education Project	420,380
		•
South	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	296,248
	HOPE - for AIDS affected	172,443
Africa	Child Aid/Community Development	321,500
	Capacity building and development	160,000
	HOPE - for AIDS affected	91,721
	TCE - HIV/AIDS education and prevention	70,669
Zimbabwe	Child Aid/Community Development	140,036
Limbabwe	Vocational Schools	165,000
	Food Aid	350,563
	Murgwi Community Center	125,000
USA	Misc. charities and schools	244,350
Various countries	Computer equipment	52,251
	Miscellaneous	70,247
	For 2013 project initiatives	823,132



Worldwide Projects Supported by Planet Aid in 2012



Distribution of Support by Sector



- Community Development
- Training and Education
- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Health: The Big Epidemics
- Food Assistance
- In-kind and other programs

International Training and Capacity Building

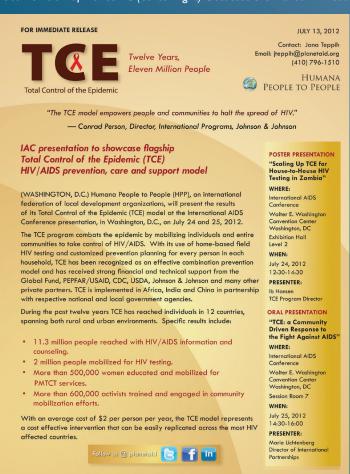
Planet Aid provides training and capacity building assistance to development organizations around the globe. The assistance can take various forms, from support in meeting the requirements of U.S. development agencies to technical training for program staff.

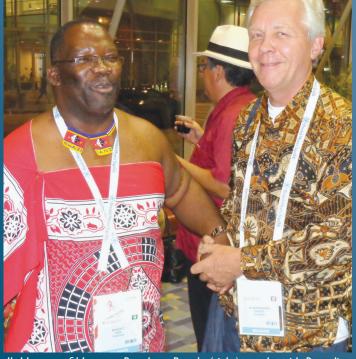
Sean Sinclair of Planet Aid (center right) discusses the Planet Aid Post.

In July 2012, Planet Aid staff participated in the International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC. Prior to and during the conference, Planet Aid assisted representatives of Humana People to People from Zimbabwe and Spain in developing and promoting a presentation at the conference.



Conference attendees meet near the Humana People to People booth.





Ib Hansen of Humana People to People (right) speaks with Benedict Xaba the Minister of Health of Swaziland. (left)

The press release developed and distributed by Planet Aid that announced the Humana People to People TCE presentation.

Planet Aid at Home



Planet Aid takes great pride in being a responsible community member, participating in a multitude of activities from book donations and clothing drives, to partnering with organizations, universities and colleges and other businesses to increase local recycling. We also offer schools the opportunity to learn about recycling and international development through classroom presentations and by visiting a local Planet Aid operations center.

In 2012, Planet Aid's 14 operations centers participated in or sponsored a multitude of community events. For example, our Kansas City team donated coats, shoes and blankets to Care of Poor People, a local organization that helps the homeless. In upstate New York our continued partnership with the University of Rochester is helping to increase recycling rates and reduce trash disposal costs from dormitories. In Pittsburgh, we partnered with seven area school districts to conduct environmental programs and tours. Our North Carolina team donated tennis shoes to a local church for kids to wear for play. In New Jersey, we delivered water and other supplies to those in need after Superstorm Sandy.



In Los Angeles, we entered into a new partnership with the Los Angeles City Fire Department to increase local recycling. around fire stations.



Read it at: planetaid.org/planet-aid-post

Special Issue of the Planet Aid Post Debuts at International AIDS Conference

In the summer of 2012, Planet Aid published a special edition of the *Planet* Aid *Post*, which focused on the effort to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The issue reported on progress made in combating the epidemic and how the disease has been affecting the poor disproportionately. The Post also highlighted work being done by the TCE program in Africa and Asia to stop the disease.

This special issue of the *Post* was distributed nationwide by Planet Aid staff across our 14 service areas. A special campaign was also launched to distribute the *Post* to participants at the Nineteenth International AIDS Conference held in Washington, D.C. In total, more than 4,000 copies of the *Post* were directly distributed by Planet Aid staff and volunteers to attendees at the conference.

2012 Financial Statements

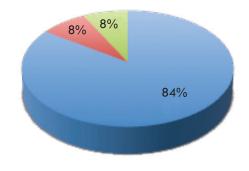
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION				
December 2012				
ASSETS				
Cash and current assets	9,791,891			
Property and equipment and other assets, net	9,733,852			
Total assets	19,525,743			
HABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Current liabilities	<i>7,</i> 510,632			
Notes payable and capital lease obligations	4,149,311			
Total liabilities	11,659,943			
	70/5000			
Unrestricted net assets	<i>7</i> ,865,800			
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	19,525,743			

December 2012				
PROGRAM SERVICES				
U. S. Clothing Collection and Habitat Protection	23,318,289			
International Training and Capacity Building	333,533			
International Aid	10,515,386			
Total program services	34,167,208			
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	3,203,582			
FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT	3,062,544			
Total expenses	40,433,334			

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES December 2012 **OPERATING REVENUE** Sales of donated clothing and other goods 38,435,651 Contracts - Federal 3,820,140 Other contributions 700,264 Interest and other revenue 151,499 43,107,554 Total operating revenue **OPERATING EXPENSES** 34,167,208 **Program services** General and administrative 3,203,582 Fundraising and development 3,062,544 Total operating expenses 40,433,344 (13,716)Foreign currency loss Changes in unrestricted net 2,660,504 assets

Allocation of Funds



- Program Service
- General and Administrative
- Fundraising and Development

Board of Directors



Mikael Norling Chairman



Ester Neltrup President



Jytte Martinussen Treasurer



Clifford Reeves Director



Eva Nielsen Director



Alfred Besa Director



Fred Olsson Secretary

Planet Aid Administrative Offices and Southern New England Operations

47 Sumner Street Milford, MA 01757 508-893-0644

Planet Aid Northern New England

17 Hampshire Drive Hudson, NH 03051 603-594-4175

Planet Aid Upstate New York

1170 Lexington Avenue Rochester, NY 14606 585-424-7030

Planet Aid New Jersey and New York

3 Lincoln Drive Fairfield, NJ 07004 973-882-7956

Planet Aid Eastern Pennsylvania

2940 Turnpike Drive, Ste. 6-7 Hatboro, PA 19040 215-674-8345

Planet Aid Western Pennsylvania

616 Beatty Road, Unit H Monroeville, PA 15146 412-373-0436

Planet Aid Headquarters and Baltimore-Washington Operations

6730 Santa Barbara Court Elkridge, MD 21075 410-796-1510

Planet Aid North Carolina

2425 South Alston Avenue, Unit C Durham, NC 27703 919-698-0071

Planet Aid Ohio

30901 Carter Street Solon, OH 44139 614-626-4889

Planet Aid Michigan

7025 Metroplex Drive Romulus, MI 48174 734-947-9699

Planet Aid West Coast

2100 Garfield Avenue Commerce, CA 90040 323-727-7711

Planet Aid Kansas City

1512 Taney Street North Kansas City, MO 64116 816-472-1518

Planetaid.org info@planetaid.org





For the Environment, For People Planetaid.org