

Reporting on the work of The Advocacy Project and our partners



Supporting Community Leaders During COVID-19

Eight initiatives in six countries share \$8,830

In March The Advocacy Project launched a program to support community-based partners in their struggle against the COVID-19 pandemic. Here is a progress report.



*"Hump Day" by Colleen Ansbaugh was one of several quilts that sold for the top price of \$750 during **the Sister Artists auction**. The money will be invested in a bag and embroidery start-up for GBV survivors in Mali.*

RAISE FUNDS

We have raised \$17,927 from an emergency appeal (\$2,575); the **Sister Artists auction** of quilts (\$10,210); and Global Giving (\$5,142). 393 friends have donated or made bids.
Thank you!

Our active GlobalGiving appeals:

- [Clean Wash soap in Uganda](#)
- [Tiger bags in Nepal](#)
- [Mama Masks in Uganda](#)
- [Child Marriage in Zimbabwe](#)
- [Supporting Peace Fellows](#)

REMOTE SUPPORT

Three Peace Fellows are supporting AP partners from the US.

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Wilson Charles (Georgetown University) is helping the **Gulu Disabled Persons Union** in Uganda to incubate two start-ups – *Clean Wash* soap and *Mama Masks*. **Read Wilson's blogs.**



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Beth Alexion (Fletcher School at Tufts University) has contributed to a strong paper on transitional justice for the **Network of Families of the Disappeared Nepal (NEFAD)**. The paper will be used by the UN Human Rights Council when assessing Nepal's human rights record next year. **Read Beth's blogs.**



Constance Mugari, founder of Women Advocacy Project in Zimbabwe, has made masks and mobilized girls to distribute masks, Clean Girl soap and maize meal to 6 clinics and vulnerable families in Harare.

ENCOURAGE ENTREPRENEURS

Working through partner organizations, we have invested \$8,830.49 to help inspiring local leaders address the emergency, engage stakeholders, and launch start-ups that can hopefully be sustained once the crisis passes.

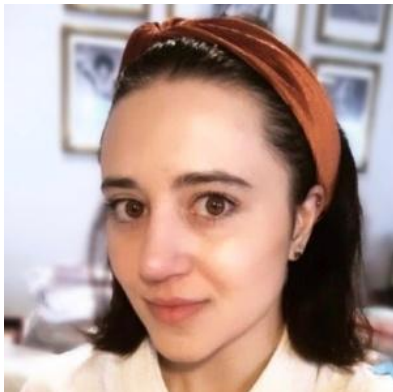
In Zimbabwe, Constance Mugari (above) has made 1,950 masks and organized girls to deliver emergency kits to clinics and vulnerable families.

In Uganda, Freeman Oyel, a soap-maker with limited mobility (below) has trained a team to make *Clean Wash* soap. They produced 500 liters and secured orders for 400 liters in a week.



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Alex Mayer SAIS (Johns Hopkins) is helping the **Red SaludPaz** network to support indigenous communities in Colombia's Amazon region. **Read Alex's blogs.**



In Mali, Aissata Toure has trained women refugees from the north to make soap. They have earned \$601 in sales.

We will profile these and other community leaders in the weeks to come. We estimate that 8,065 individuals have benefited from their hard work so far.

Click here for the full list of projects.



Freeman Oyel, a soap-maker, has launched Clean Wash soap in Uganda.

GIVING A VOICE TO PARTNERS

Several partners are **posting blogs on our website** and giving us their perspective from the Global South. **Emma Okello** in Uganda writes about missing her uncle's funeral and managing her energetic son Josh, 3, during the pandemic. **Ram Bhandari**, founder of NEFAD in Nepal, offers a moving tribute to his father, Tej Bahadur Bhandari, who disappeared during the conflict in 2001. Ram has been separated from his family by the lock-down since March.



Emma poses and Josh, 3, ride out the pandemic.



Ram Bhandari with his father Tej Bahadur Bhandari.

COPING WITH RACISM

Our US-based team has turned to blogs to reflect on racism following the murder of George Floyd.

Alex draws a parallel between racism in the US and Colombia. **Wilson**, who is blind, remembers the bullying at school. **Beth** asks whether aid is racist.

Ezoza also endured harassment after arriving in the US from Uzbekistan. **Grace** (photo) is worried that racism is not adequately addressed at her High School. After spending several years abroad, **Brigid** celebrates the wonder of cultural and racial diversity. **Prabal**, in Nepal, recounts how the pandemic has interrupted his studies.

Bobbi Fitzsimmons, an AP Board member, takes comfort from making face masks and helping others.

Visit their blogs and comment!



*Grace, 17, is one of five students volunteering at AP this summer in Nepal and the US. She designed the label for Freeman's Clean Wash soap in Uganda and sold her own masks to raise \$217 for Mama Cave's mask project, also in Uganda. Grace is now making tiger masks for Nepal. She **was featured making masks on PBS** in April.*

"Dear HighSchoolers....Hold your friends, family and, most importantly, yourself accountable to educating

yourself and being actively anti-racist every single day."

SPREADING THE WORD

We have published 14 news bulletins about partners and such topical issues as domestic violence; distance learning; racism and refugees; and masks. **Our bulletins reach over 5,000 readers. Read them here.**

CONNECTING AND NETWORKING

The pandemic may have closed the world down but it also offers new ways to connect. **Evelyn in Harare and Claire in Nevada** have become fast friends after meeting on WhatsApp. Our Sister Artists project has linked survivors of gender-based violence in Mali with quilters in the US. **View the profiles here.** Our US team will shortly meet online with some of the family members of the disappeared in Nepal **profiled on these pages.** Every personal connection fortifies us against the pandemic. There will be more in the weeks to come!

Edited and designed by Brigid Smith

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