

Share Your Heart and Resources



How can each of us make a difference in world peace and understanding? One way is by sharing our hearts and resources to support efforts that address the impact of HIV/AIDS in Richmond, South Africa.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Poolesville, Maryland, began Hope in Richmond, South Africa to develop solutions with the Richmond community for sanitation, poverty, education and HIV. More than 30% of Richmond residents are HIV positive. Children are making unhealthy life decisions, as shown by increased alcoholism and prostitution, particularly among teenagers.

To combat HIV, St. Peter's, Rotary International and other partners are collaborating with Grass Roots Soccer (GRS). GRS is an internationally recognized organization dedicated to social change in the arena of HIV prevention. The innovative GRS approach uses soccer as the vehicle to engage children and provide education on life skills, healthy behavior and the risks of HIV/AIDS for themselves and their neighborhood.

Currently, Hope in Richmond supports two GRS trainers living in Richmond, dedicated to making a lasting impression there. The GRS philosophy is that "it takes a village" to sustain lasting change. Training for six community members is complete, and these local educators are assisting in instructing and spreading the message of HIV prevention. Please join us in this worthwhile endeavor by sending your contribution today.

Send checks payable to "Diocese of Washington," indicate they are for "Hope in Richmond," and mail to: Cheryl Daves Wilburn, Episcopal Church House, Mt. St. Alban, Washington, DC 20016.