

10TH ANNIVERSARY!

The Date: February 17, 2013

The Place: a classroom at Princeton Theological Seminary.

The People: Gordon Govens, Elsie McKee, Shari Oosting, Karen Oleri, Lisa Robinson, Sandra Larson

The Purpose: Launching FEBA, Inc. = Woman, Cradle of Abundance.

A group of friends gathered for a compelling purpose: to support our sisters in Congo in fighting against violence & poverty. Shari's kind relatives did the legal work, & we were on our way. We had no idea what lay ahead!

What a way it has been! Thanks to our wonderful friends in Congo whose courage & imagination & sheer determination have inspired us, plus thanks to all of you who have encouraged, supported, & kept us going, this "little engine that could" has thrived.

Along the way we have been gifted with new board members, new friends, & each of you. To begin our year we want to share with you a few of our special memories & plans.

Some Fun & Fundraising!



Wonderful concerts have delighted our ears & benefited our partners, starting with Karrin Allyson in 2013 (& 14 & 15), Anna Preston & friends in 2016, & her students in 2022.

Hands Across the Water at CMS, Grover, HS North get into the spirit with art & act.



Education Spells HOPE

32 "Starfish" in our Kivu province partner CENEDI celebrate completing secondary school with diplomas

(like an A.A.). Over 400 spunky girls & boys in primary in GOMA since 2015 learn & grow despite war & daily struggle to survive.



"I can read & write!" In a land where 1/2 of girls between 5 & 17 years are illiterate...

Across the country in Kinshasa every year FEBA helps 12 youth earn their state diplomas & prepare to take their places in community leadership.

Dozens of primary children receive school supplies, & uniforms made by FEBA. Since 2010, over 800 have been assisted on their way.



FEBA'S WOMEN'S CENTER

In 2013 our dear FEBA partners in Kinshasa asked for "a place" – so thanks to all of you we bought land & built them this solid 2-story Women's Center, completed 2018.



In 2022 a new

roof was donated by friends at Nassau Presbyterian & other friends added two new classrooms for a new program! See our BREAKING BIG NEWS.



This is FEBA's heart-home, where women of all ages gather monthly to share, sing, learn & teach each other.

There is counseling for trauma & grief, there are food & medicine for life.



Women find microloans (199 so far); others start micro-savings, signing up in their own little blue books to put away a nest egg for hope. They are empowered to take charge of their lives & give their children a better future.

JOIN US!!!! Check out our website for more news. We are just beginning! Many exciting events are planned, including a gala (May 6), a trip to Congo (late July), & much more.

www.WomanCradleofAbundance.org

The Sewing School AND!!!

The Women's Center houses the Sewing School, where over 100 young women have made new lives.



BREAKING BIG NEWS!!!! Thanks to a VERY GENEROUS NEW grant from Bryn Mawr Presbyterian, FEBA will be adding a computer



science program! On our visit to FEBA in July we will see these remarkable young women in new roles & bring back photos.

Stay tuned!!!

FARMS & FOOD, 57 Acres!

Farming is still the key to life for most women in Congo. First Presbyterian of Evanston gave FEBA a farm in 2017 & we have added to it & bought a truck & tractor.



Thanks to J&J Caring Crowd & friends for a farm for women of CENEDI who suffered rape in their former forest fields.



Friends have added a flour mill & generator. We harvest safely, eat & celebrate!