



May E-Connections

In This Issue:

**University of Toledo Student Social Work Organization Sells Crafts to Benefit IPM
“High Tea” to benefit Speranza II at Christ Episcopal Church
Upcoming Immersion Experiences
International Visitors Highlights—Mahesh Upadhyaya and Antonina Aura**

University of Toledo Student Social Work Organization Sells Crafts to Benefit IPM

The University of Toledo Student Social Work Organization raised over \$600 to benefit IPM's work with the *Dandora Women's Forum* (Dandora, KENYA) through a fundraiser at the school. Students sold handcrafts made by the women of the *Dandora Women's Forum*, including bracelets, earrings, keychains, and bookmarks. The sale also provided a good opportunity to spread the word of the important work being done by the *Dandora Women's Forum*, which offers over 300 women in this slum of Nairobi an opportunity to generate income, along with educational and community building activities.

This project by the Student Social Work Organization, was inspired by a speaker from IPM's International Visitors Program, which brought a Staff member from Kenya to the school to speak about the situation there. To read more about our international visitors, including two representatives of IPM's Regional Offices in Cleveland now, ****read below.****

“High Tea” to Benefit Speranza II at Christ Episcopal Church

On April 20, 2009, Christ Episcopal Church in Shaker Heights, Ohio, held their fourth annual “High Tea” to benefit *Speranza II*, an IPM Project Partner which provides victims of human trafficking in Italy a safe house and alternative to the sex trade. The tea offered participants a fun afternoon, as well as the chance to hear about the work that *Speranza II* is doing in Italy. The program also included a fashion show featuring clothing from Revive, a fair trade store in Cleveland Heights. This fundraiser provides much-needed support to *Speranza II*, and makes the important work of this Project possible.

Upcoming Immersion Experiences

Consider joining us for the journey of a lifetime on one of our upcoming Immersion Experiences. Read more about these opportunities on our website, or contact Laurie Rodney for more information at lrodney@ipmconnect.org or +1.216.702.2514.

KENYA: July 5-15

with IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone, Maina Hellen Chepkorir, and Jared Odhiambo

EL SALVADOR “Educate the Educators”: July 18-25

with Laurie Rodney and Julieta Borja

WYOMING: August 7-11

with IPM Board Members, Chris Henry and Caroline Mills

INDIA: November 12-22

with IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone, and Mahesh Updadhya

ITALY: December 28-January 5, 2010

with IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone

International Visitors Highlights—Mahesh Upadhyaya and Antonina Aura



IPM was pleased to welcome our Regional Director for South Asia, Mahesh Upadhyaya, to Cleveland, St. Louis, and San Francisco, beginning on April 24. Mahesh will return to his home in Ahmedabad, India on May 22. We are also happy to have Antonina Aura, member of IPM's International Board of Directors, who lives in Kenya and has done extensive work with our Project Partners there.

During their visits, Mahesh and Antonina have visited many friends of IPM, as well as participated in our bi-annual Board meeting in St. Louis. Mahesh has spent time with Fosbel Inc, updating the company and its employees on the work of

the *Notre Dame Community College* that is being sponsored by Fosbel. Antonina and Mahesh are also being featured at a brown-bag lunch at Cleveland State University titled, "Nonprofit Capacity Building in Developing Nations: New Strategies for Cleveland Nonprofits."



Anyone interested in hearing from Mahesh or Antonina is welcome to attend our Open House on **Thursday, May 24** from **4:30-6:30 p.m.** at the IPM Office.

To be contacted with announcements and opportunities with our International Visitors Speakers Circle, contact Tiffany Lee at tlee@ipmconnect.org or +1.216.932.4082.