In Malawi:

- **84%**: Proportion of population living in rural villages
- **< $270** Annual income per capita
- **< 9%** with electricity
- **UN Gender inequality ranking**: 174 out of 187 countries
- **Adults living with HIV**: 1 in 10 nationally, 1 in 6 in rural Mulanje and Phalombe

**GAIA Malawi Program Locations: Mulanje & Phalombe Districts**

- Government Hospital (Free)
- Government Health Facility (Free)
- CHAM Hospital (Fee)
- CHAM Health Facility (Fee)
- GAIA Offices
- Juma Clinic (est. 2014)
- Nthiramanja Clinic (est. 2014)
- Mkanda Clinic (est. 2010)
- Chitakale Clinic (est. 2008)
- Muloza Clinic (est. 2008)
- Nkhumambe Clinic (est. 2014)
- Chiwalo Clinic (est. 2014)
- Namunda School

**Phalombe District**
Population: 330,000

**Mulanje District**
Population: 550,000

**Village Operational Dates**
- Mulanje A Villages: 2008-2011
- MGC-A Villages: 2010-2013
- MGC-B Villages: 2010-2013
- Mulanje B Villages: 2011-2014
- Mulanje C Villages: 2013-2016
Anyone who has listened to me since the International AIDS Conference in Washington DC in 2012, knows that I speak with great optimism about the future of HIV/AIDS. Once it became safe to speak of an AIDS-free generation, to declare that treatment IS prevention, to point to an HIV toolbox that not only slows the progression of the virus but can achieve viral suppression, I haven’t been able to stop talking about the end of AIDS being on the horizon.

In the final weeks of 2014, UNAIDS – the global policy-making body that coordinates the global AIDS response – put a date on that horizon. In a new report, UNAIDS declared that, with the right investments of known technologies between now and 2020, we can end AIDS by 2030.

How do we get there? 90-90-90. 90% of the infected must know their status; 90% of those that know their status must get onto treatment; 90% of those on treatment must achieve viral suppression. That is, become non-infectious. If we reach that level of suppression, the virus will have nowhere to run.

This is said in the context of a global epidemic that has claimed 39 million lives, including 1.5 million last year, two-thirds of which were in Sub-Saharan Africa. Even though 48,000 AIDS deaths occurred in Malawi last year alone, that number has been cut in half from a decade earlier. Currently, there are 1 million Malawians living with HIV.

Why, then, do we dare to dream? Because we have the tools. UNAIDS has declared that the key to achieving an AIDS-free world is bringing these tools to the far corners of the most infected areas. Sounds like an ad for GAIA.

The head of UNAIDS, Dr. Michel Sidibe, agrees. In December, he invited us to present the GAIA/Elizabeth Taylor Mobile Health Clinic program to the UNAIDS Board in Geneva as a model for reaching those millions living off the healthcare grid. It’s thrilling to see the role we are playing.

In the new GAIA film The Far End of the Road, a nurse attached to the Mobile Clinic team, Edna Bolokonya, spoke of the key ingredient that makes GAIA. She described the key to linking people to the care they need: “We can give them medication, but if there is no love, there is nothing we can do... Love is very important.”

**Todd Schafer**
GAIA President & CEO
In March, GAIA ended the three-year cycle of program activities in a group of 20 villages in Mulanje. GAIA held transition meetings in the communities to celebrate progress made in HIV testing rates, reduction of stigma, increases in health knowledge and care for orphans and those living with HIV.

The 80 GAIA Community Caregivers who had served these villages since 2011 were celebrated and thanked, and chiefs and community members spoke about the changes the Caregivers’ work inspired. In one village, 94% of HIV-positive villagers were on antiretroviral medications by the program’s conclusion in an area where approximately 70% of patients typically access and adhere to treatment.

The village chief said, “We do not take GAIA’s help for granted. We are committed to carrying on GAIA’s work, and we wish you well as you help in other villages like ours.”

In 2014, a new three-year cycle began in 20 high-need villages. In each, 4 newly recruited local women were selected by their communities and trained to provide disease prevention, health education, and care and support for orphans and villagers living with HIV and related illnesses in their villages through 2017. Approximately 26,000 people will directly benefit from program services in the new villages for the next three years. The new sites - replacing those we’ve exited - bring the total number of GAIA Villages to 40.

Chisomo and her five siblings are among Malawi’s 1 million orphaned* children. Their father died when Chisomo was in her first year of high school, leaving the family unable to provide for its daily needs and throwing her dream of finishing school into doubt.

Before GAIA Villages began in her area, Chisomo couldn’t afford school expenses. While her mother stayed home to care for a disabled sibling, Chisomo worked hard every day farming vegetables and doing small jobs to get enough food for the family to eat and money to buy soap and school materials.

Now, GAIA provides hygiene supplies, school fees, books, pens and uniforms to ensure that Chisomo and her siblings are able to continue their studies. Chisomo says she’s grateful for the GAIA Caregivers who visit her and encourage her. She dreams of becoming a doctor and doing health work like them in the community to heal others.

With GAIA’s support, Chisomo is spending her time studying. She’s back on track to finish high school and inspire other girls coming behind her to do the same.

* UN Definition: “Orphans” refer to those who have lost 1 or more parents.
Thursday afternoons are the most exciting time of the week for children at Mpambachulu School in Sadibwa Village. It’s the day GAIA Skillz comes to town.

In fall of 2014, students in grades 4 and 5 participated in an 11-week youth club educating boys and girls on the harmful effects of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. The program, GAIA Skillz, is offered by GAIA in partnership with Grassroot Soccer, an international NGO providing HIV education through the power of sports.

When the school day ends the fun begins. Activities start in home classrooms, encouraging school attendance. Kids and coaches participate in fun “energizers” – dancing and singing in call and response. After reviewing the previous week’s health message, participants move outside onto the soccer pitch where rules for the day’s game are explained. Kids play games like “FIND THE BALL” simulating the importance of HIV testing and “HIV ATTACKS” simulating the dangers of not taking antiretroviral drugs when infected with the virus, or protecting yourself through condom use. To reinforce the health message of the game, the group recites health advice in English and Chichewa before heading inside for roll call and class review.

In remote villages with few organized activities for children, kids in GAIA Skillz are especially motivated to be at school and ready for practice, improving school attendance and reducing early and risky relationships.

This week’s practice was “HIV ATTACKS.” Students were taught how quickly diseases can spread from person to person within small communities when those who have HIV don’t know they do or when those that know they are HIV-positive are not taking ARVs.

Leading by Example

Upile is a 36-year-old widow from Kukada Village. She serves as a GAIA Community Caregiver, going door-to-door providing HIV education, orphan support, home-based care for the ill, and community development for the people of her village. Upile voluntarily shares her HIV-positive status in her village in order to fight stigma and to encourage open, honest discussions about HIV and AIDS. She told GAIA she is having great success motivating people in her village to go for HIV tests. Members of the community have thanked her for starting important conversations about sensitive health topics. Others who are HIV-positive are grateful for Upile’s encouragement and example in how to live a full and healthy life while managing the virus. We thank her as well for her courage and outstanding leadership.

“I never want to miss a day of work.”
- Community Caregiver Upile

GAIA Community Caregivers provide health education, home-based care for the ill, and orphan care and support.
GAIA’s Nursing Scholarship Program Retains Nurses Where They Are Needed Most

Global Health Sciences Masters student, Kelly Schmiedeknecht (far left), GAIA Senior Program Coordinator, Joyce Jere (third from right), GAIA Financial assistant, Gladys Lameck (far right with child) with deployed GAIA Scholars in Zomba district meet for “GAIA Get Together” event in April 2014.

GAIA’s Nursing Scholarship program model is incredibly successful: 97% of graduated GAIA Scholars are currently serving or have served their service commitment to work in the public sector, often in rural areas.

In 2014, GAIA collaborated with UCSF’s Global Health Sciences Department to conduct a study that analyzed GAIA’s retention of Nursing Scholars in Malawi. The aim of the study was to identify job satisfaction and retention factors of scholarship recipients after graduation to evaluate the program, inform stakeholders, and advise future projects. The study showed that GAIA Scholars attributed the close follow-up and cited responsive relationships established by GAIA staff as reasons they remained working in the public sector in Malawi. The complete study will be published in the Global Health Science and Practice Journal and has been accepted as a poster presentation at the 6th Annual Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference in Boston, MA in March 2015.

http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-14-00170

In addition, the GAIA Nursing Scholarship program has served as an example for other organizations in Malawi who have modeled their programs after ours, including MSF (Doctors Without Borders).

Training the Next Generation of Nurses

Passionate about her work, Loveness Mackie sees herself as a person with a mission and an obligation to serve others. Loveness trained as a nurse midwife technician (NMT) and worked for 13 years in that role. However, she longed to go further and wanted to teach nursing to others, so she applied for a GAIA scholarship to upgrade her degree to a Bachelor’s degree at Kamuzu College of Nursing.

Loveness now serves on the faculty of Mulanje Mission College of Nursing, training the newest generation of nurse midwife technicians. Her education and experience have given her the courage to speak up for the rights of patients and to advocate for them. “I can now speak with courage,” she said. She gave the example of convincing a Clinical Officer to perform a c-section that saved the life of the mother and baby. Now she will train hundreds of students to become advocates for the health of their patients.

“Malawians don’t have funding for higher education - GAIA is the tool for higher education.”

GAIA’s Nursing program has supported the educations of 440 nurses to date.
GAIA Nursing Scholars Lead the Way to Better Health for Malawi

GAIA’s Nursing Scholars have emerged as leaders, educators, and life savers. There are currently 195 GAIA Scholars who have graduated and are working in 26 of the 28 districts in Malawi. In addition to working on the frontlines of healthcare delivery in rural hospitals and clinics, 16% of GAIA’s Nursing Scholars are nurse educators, and several Scholars have gone on to attain advanced degrees. Every year we hope to grow the program and thanks to the generosity of GAIA donors we were able to add 23 Nursing Scholars in 2014.

This year one of GAIA’s first scholarship recipients, Fulbright Scholar Kaboni Gondwe completed her first year of a PhD program at Duke University. Previously she worked in the ICU at a busy central hospital in Malawi and taught nurse/midwives at one of the country’s leading nursing colleges. She has emerged as an international nursing leader and will return to Malawi in 2015 to begin research on maternal mental health. Kaboni writes:

“...As nurses our role is to explore health care priorities and also explore how health care can effectively utilize resources. One thing we need to ask ourselves is with the available funding we have, how can we maximize health care… I am often proud of Malawian nurses and midwives who despite the challenges of each day they are committed to patient care. Some have to manage health centers on their own far from any urban structures and even limited opportunities for continuing professional development.”

Follow Kaboni’s blog at http://myreflectionsonnursingandmidwifery.wordpress.com/

Nellipher Lewis in front of the nursing school at University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Nellipher Lewis, a GAIA Scholar, has emerged as a leader, educator, and life saver. She worked as a pediatric nurse at Kamuzu Central Hospital before being accepted into the program at University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Nellipher was drawn to nursing at the age of 9 when she saw many young people in her rural village dying needlessly. While studying in the US she has a teaching assistant position which enables her to pay for her school and upkeep as well as funding the education of her nieces and nephews at home. Her passion for nursing and education is clear: in the spirit of GAIA to give back, she cofounded and runs an organization called Current Impact Malawi currently funding secondary school tuition and supplies for 30 children to empower them to stay in school and continue with their education after secondary school.

Once she completes the program in the U.S. Nellipher plans to return to Malawi and work as a professor at Kamuzu College of Nursing, educating others in pediatric nursing.
Four Additional Mobile Health Clinics Launched in 2014, Reaching 900,000 Villagers

GAIA more than doubled its fleet of mobile health clinics in 2014, growing from 3 vehicles to 7 and ensuring reliable, quality health services for nearly 900,000 rural villagers across two districts.

In January, the expansion added 2 new clinics in Mulanje District funded by the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation.

In July, GAIA launched 2 additional new mobile clinics in neighboring Phalombe District. The Phalombe clinics provide full health coverage in a region without a district hospital where 1 out of 7 adults is HIV-positive.

These new Phalombe clinics, funded by supporters to GAIA’s Campaign to Strengthen Healthcare and Save Lives, honor two GAIA greats. The Dr. Charles Wilson Mobile Clinic honors UCSF’s former Chairman of Neurological Surgery who partnered with the Rev. William Rankin to found GAIA in 2000. The Dr. Don Thomas Family Clinic honors Pasadena luminary James Donald Thomas, M.D., a physician, activist and philanthropist with over ten years’ experience in health-related development work in Malawi.

Combined, GAIA’s 7 clinics now ensure that healthcare is within an hour’s walk for all of Mulanje and Phalombe. With the expansion of its unique, cost-effective, replicable mobile clinic model, GAIA is at the forefront of global efforts to deliver life-saving health services to rural populations.

Man-to-Man: Fighting HIV in Rural Communities

Historically, fewer men than women get tested for HIV at GAIA mobile health clinics, and across sub-Saharan Africa. With support from the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation and St. Margaret’s Church in Annapolis, GAIA led a push to target and test men for HIV in Mulanje District.

On a Saturday morning in November, GAIA mobile clinics held a Men’s Health Testing Day for a local group of men brought together by the devastating effect of HIV/AIDS in their communities. The Chikumbu Man-to-Man Group performed an educational drama where two men tried to explain transmission and prevention of HIV and how to take care of one’s self and family if found to be HIV-positive.

The group encourages each other to live the life of a “modern man” and rethink the traditional “real man.” The traditional “real man” in Malawi is one that is macho and strong, does not need help when sick, and has many children. The group’s idea of a “modern man” is one who provides for his family, is a faithful husband and goes to the health center when he is sick. Most of the current push in HIV testing and prevention is targeted to women, without changing the culture and attitudes about traditional gender roles, these men feel the status quo of mostly women being tested will continue. With help from the Chikumbu Man-to-Man Group, GAIA hopes to encourage more men in nearby communities to be tested for HIV.

+92% GAIA tested 1,149 males for HIV in 2014, a 92% increase over 2013

Four group members perform a drama, dispelling local myths about HIV transmission and providing accurate health promotion strategies.

Jane Kaczmarek, actress and GAIA Global Ambassador.

Dr. Don Thomas was present at the launch of the new clinic bearing his name.

Nurse Ann, Nurse Aide Ester, Driver, Clinical Officer Owen.
Mobile Health Clinics: Connecting to Care

Free Access to Family Planning Supports Women and Families in Malawi

The launch of GAIA’s two newest mobile clinics in Phalombe District means expanding free access to modern family planning methods for thousands of women for the first time. In rural Malawi, access to family planning is limited and often inhibited by social stigma. However, child spacing and use of family planning methods has been proven to benefit women’s health as well as the health and wellbeing of their families. Fewer children means that families have greater resources to spend on children’s nutrition and education.

Halima is 24 and already has two children. Before the GAIA clinics launched, she didn’t have regular access to Depo-Provera, the injectable form of birth control preferred by women in Malawi. The nearest government health center, three hour’s walk, was too far away. Now, she is just a few minutes from preventative and curative care.

The Chiwalo Clinic, named in honor of Dr. Charles Wilson, GAIA’s co-founder, sees over 300 patients a month for family planning, more than any other GAIA clinic. These high numbers reflect lack of rural service and show the importance of GAIA mobile clinics in providing a much demanded service to prevent unplanned pregnancies and provide child spacing options.

By supporting women like Halima with free and accessible family planning methods, GAIA is helping to ensure healthier women and families for the future.

In their first year of operation, GAIA’s new mobile clinics have been greeted by high demand, seeing an average of 2,885 patients a week in 2014.

Follow-up Coordinators: Closing the Loop on Mobile Clinic Care

Patients sometimes need support after their visit to a mobile clinic. To ensure clients receive follow-up care necessary for full recovery, GAIA developed a pilot Follow-up Coordinator Program in 2014. Follow-up Coordinators are community health nurses with experience in rural areas who are charged with monitoring treatment outcomes for the most ill or at-risk patients.

Fanny, 34 and HIV-positive, was one of the over 200 clients followed up with in their home villages by the new Coordinator. Her husband died of AIDS three years ago, leaving her to care for their seven-year-old daughter. At the GAIA mobile clinic, she reported taking antiretroviral drugs, antibiotics to prevent co-infections and an epilepsy treatment regimen. Unfortunately, her adherence to medication was poor and her ability to walk was deteriorating.

Quondia, the GAIA Follow-up Coordinator, visited Fanny at home. Together the women devised a strategy to improve Fanny’s drug adherence, and Quondia visits her weekly to make sure she is on the right track. Quondia also convinced her to have her daughter tested for HIV at the mobile clinic. The two are fortunate: not only did her daughter test HIV-negative but Fanny’s health has been restored through the work of GAIA.

The work of one of GAIA’s Follow-up Coordinators was also profiled in this year’s documentary film, The Far End of the Road.
GAIA meets Target in Campaign to Save Lives

Thanks to special gifts from generous supporters, GAIA officially reached its fundraising goal of $1.5 million in September in the Campaign to Strengthen Healthcare and Save Lives. The special funds raised support expansions in the GAIA Nursing Scholarship Program and the GAIA Elizabeth Taylor Mobile Health Clinic Program, allowing GAIA to meet urgent local health needs.

Campaign funds provide:

1. 100 new GAIA nursing scholarships (including tuition, living allowances, books, clinical supplies and follow up)

2. The purchase and retrofit of two ambulances to expand mobile health clinic operations into Phalombe District (the Dr. Charles Wilson Mobile Clinic and the Dr. Don Thomas Mobile Clinic); and,

3. All operating costs for the two new Phalombe clinics for more than 36 months each.

The two new campaign-funded clinics will conduct over 70,000 patient visits each year, and each nurse educated will treat approximately 300,000 patients in her career.

Special thanks to the campaign’s chair, Dr. Bill Rankin, honorary co-chair Linda Gruber and steering committee members Christine Simpson Brent, John Farmer, Jim Hayes, Sharon Levy, Joy Mistele and Judy Nadel.

We congratulate all our supporters for achieving the campaign’s ambitious goal and thank you for helping us strengthen Malawian healthcare and save lives.

GAIA in Liberia: Response to the Ebola Epidemic

The health story that caught the headlines in 2014 was Ebola. In the affected countries, Ebola has weakened already shaky health care systems because many health care workers, especially nurses, have been lost to the disease. As a member of the global health community, GAIA wanted to contribute to the international response to the epidemic and decided that our successful nursing scholarship program (that helped rebuild a Malawian nurse workforce devastated by HIV) could serve as a model for Liberia.

GAIA is fortunate to have Dr. Art Ammann, a leader in the treatment of pediatric AIDS, on our medical advisory board. The Bay Area nonprofit he founded, Global Strategies, has been working for many years in Liberia and has developed a relationship with the Mother Patern College of Health Science since 2005. Working in partnership with Global Strategies, GAIA will sponsor 8 students at Mother Patern nursing school with a scholarship program based on our Malawi model. The students will begin studies in 2015.

Launch of the Mulanje Government Primary School

GAIA celebrated the official opening of the Mulanje Government Primary School in the village of Namunda, Mulanje District, on September 9. The school will serve 640 students in grades 1-8, providing a beautiful campus in this remote rural area. In the past, children were compelled to walk long distances to attend extremely over-crowded and under-resourced schools. A key feature of the campus is desirable housing for teachers which attracted an excellent applicant pool eager to serve in this rural area. The project is a partnership with the Hamels Foundation of Springfield, Missouri, a nonprofit foundation focused on education. Hamels has provided the funding and GAIA has overseen the project.

One of the new teachers, Hermes Mbendera, told GAIA he had 130 students in his classes at his last post, and noted that “it was very hard to help all the children.” He is thrilled that class size at the new school will be limited to 40, that classrooms will be furnished with desks (in many schools children sit on the floor), and that books will be available to all the children.
In response, Dr. Sidibe expressed his personal gratitude for the visit, and underscored the potential role for mobile clinics in achieving the 90-90-90 goals by 2020, and an end to AIDS by 2030.

In December, GAIA’s CEO Todd Schafer accompanied Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation Managing Director Joel Goldman to Geneva at the invitation of Dr. Michel Sidibe, Executive Director of UNAIDS. The two were invited to present the potential for mobile health clinics to reach remote areas throughout the world, bringing essential tools to areas of critical need.

In his remarks, Joel described the pioneering efforts of the GAIA Elizabeth Taylor Mobile Health Clinic program, and its tremendous impact. Joel said, “This year, with seven clinics in operation, we have achieved an important milestone: every one of the 900,000 residents of these rural districts now lives within one hour’s walk of life-sustaining healthcare services. Each day our seven clinics rotate to a new location providing access throughout the region. With all 7 clinics operational GAIA saw an average of 973 sick patients daily with 40% of them being children under the age of 5.”

GAIA HIGHLIGHTED AT UNAIDS

In December, GAIA’s work was represented at the 2014 International AIDS conference, held in Melbourne, Australia. GAIA’s Monitoring and Evaluation Manager Beth Geoffroy presented a poster on the role of GAIA Mobile clinics in testing rural villagers for HIV. In addition, Joyce Jere, Nursing Scholarship Program Coordinator, presented on the scholarship program’s success at retaining graduate nurses in the public sector where they are needed most. Both programs greatly improve access to free health-care utilized by so many Malawians and both work toward the goal Bill Clinton concluded at the conference: “Early detection is crucial. New data from 51 countries suggests 70% of HIV-related deaths could have been prevented.” He added: “The evidence continues to build that early treatment helps prevent further transmission.”

The article “Bringing care to the community: expanding access to care in rural Malawi through mobile health clinics” authored by Beth Geoffroy and Ellen Schell of GAIA and Tony Harries of The Union was published in the peer reviewed journal, Public Health Action, in December 2014. This operational research study reviewed mobile health clinic records from 2011-2013 to examine how the GAIA Elizabeth Taylor mobile health clinics complement government provided health care in Malawi and expand access to reliable, quality health care for those living far off the healthcare grid.

Access the article at: http://dx.doi.org/10.5588/pha.14.0064
In 2014 GAIA bid goodbye to longtime Director of Development, Amy Rankin-Williams, who was honored at our spring Garden Party at the beautiful Ross home of Tamra and Kurt Mobley. In addition to wine donated by Stone Tree Cellars and wine tastings by Beyond the Bottle, guests enjoyed gourmet appetizers by Paradise Foods and the music of Baba Ken Okulolo and the Nigerian Brothers. Celebrated author and long time supporter Anne Lamott acted as emcee and was joined on stage by renowned HIV specialist Dr. Michael Gottlieb and Malawian trustee Eva Mtika. The event, chaired by Christine Simpson Brent, welcomed 250 guests and raised $248,000 for GAIA Villages in Malawi.

GAIA’s International Programs Director Serves on Preterm Birth Initiative Working Group

Malawi has the highest rate of prematurity in the world. Globally, 15 million babies are born premature each year, and 1 million of these die in the first month of life due to complications.

In 2014, GAIA International Programs Director, Dr. Ellen Schell, was selected to serve on the Global Implementation Working Group for UCSF’s Preterm Birth Initiative (PTBI). This 10 year, $100 million initiative addresses the world-wide epidemic of premature birth, the leading cause of death for children under five. The working group was composed of leading scientists at UCSF, including obstetricians, pediatricians, epidemiologists, and public health experts, facilitated by Dr. Eric Goosby who headed the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) from 2009-2013. Meeting weekly over a 6-month period, the working group provided background and made recommendations for the research agenda for the initiative.
In 2014, GAIA’s work was highlighted in a new documentary film *The Far End of the Road* by the award winning team at MediaStorm. The short film features the work of our Follow-Up Coordinators and Mobile Health Clinics, and GAIA Nursing Scholars. The 17 minute film was sponsored by a generous gift from the Houston Family Foundation and trustee Jane Houston, who was on hand along with GAIA staff during filming in Malawi in April.

The film premiered in New York City’s Yale Club in November to 120 appreciative guests. The event, chaired by trustee Jane Houston, was GAIA’s first New York City event and also featured broadcast journalist Jodi Applegate and Broadway star and former *Days of our Lives* actor Kevin Spirtas. The East Coast premiere was followed by a West Coast screening in San Rafael, CA on December 1, World AIDS Day.

View and share the film at: [www.thegaia.org/film](http://www.thegaia.org/film)

The film is now available for streaming at [www.thegaia.org/film](http://www.thegaia.org/film). We encourage you to view the film online and share it with your friends via social media or by organizing your own screening for friends and coworkers.
GAIA is fortunate to have many generous supporters that care deeply about our work. Some give their time. Some give their resources. Some have even made the decision to remember GAIA in their will. Cathy Clement is one such person.

“When my late husband, Paul, and I created our estate plan, we wanted to include a ministry serving those the Bible talks about the most – the poor. More especially, one that saves the lives of the poorest of the poor. We selected GAIA because it is operated and supported by people we trust and know personally – many of them for decades. We know our annual contributions and eventual bequest to GAIA will be managed with integrity. For us it is truly more blessed to give than to receive. We thank GAIA for the opportunity to make a significant difference in the world – now and in the future.”

While GAIA is a secular nonprofit organization, our name speaks to the importance that GAIA’s founders placed on building bridges among different faith communities in Malawi and the U.S. to address the fight against HIV and AIDS. From the beginning, we have worked together with respected Muslim and Christian faith leaders to gain the trust of villagers to dispel myths about the disease and deliver much needed health services and support to communities ravaged by HIV and AIDS. GAIA has also gained the respect of the faithful back in the U.S. – across all faith traditions – who continue to generously support those in need a world away.

Next Steps in Building Your Legacy:

1. Contact Noelle Colomé at 415-461-7196 or ncolome@thegaia.org about including GAIA in your will or estate plan.

2. Seek the advice of your financial or legal advisor.

3. If you include GAIA in your plans, please use our legal name and Federal Tax ID

Legal Name: Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance
Address: 700 Larkspur Landing Circle, Suite 250, Larkspur CA 94939
Federal Tax ID Number: 94-3364364
In 2014, GAIA’s cash-basis income (after restricted transfers) totaled $3,168,777 and expenses totaled $3,266,888 (unaudited). GAIA has an annual accrual basis independent audit each fiscal year. The 2014 audit report will be available online later in 2015.

GAIA Accomplishments 2014
GAIA STAFF

GAIA Thanks All Its Staff and Trustees for Their Extraordinary Efforts!

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*GAIA currently employs 57 Malawi-based staff

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Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance (GAIA) provides basic health services, targeting prevention, care, and support in communities affected by HIV, AIDS, TB and malaria in Africa.